

February 23, 2021



Oregon Progressive Party Independent Party of Oregon

Position on Bill at 2021 Session of Oregon Legislature:

SCR 9: Support

Dear Committee:

The Oregon Progressive Party (OPP) and Independent Party of Oregon (IPO) support this Senate Concurrent Resolution, which would requires committees and subcommittees of Senate and House of Representatives, and joint committees and subcommittees of Legislative Assembly, to accept remote testimony given by telephonic or electronic means.

An important element is that it would forbid any committee or subcommittee from requiring a witness to "give notice of the witness's intent to testify earlier than two hours before commencement of the committee or subcommittee meeting at which the witness is to testify." Near the end of each legislative session, however, hearings are often called with less than 2 hours notice. If the committee provides less than 4 hours of notice before conducting a hearing, the committee should not be allowed to require any advance notice of the witness's intent to testify. All public notices should be required to be posted on the internet, not merely on a sheet of paper tacked up to the wall outside the hearing room, and witnesses should be allowed to state their intent to testify by means of the internet.

SCR 9 states that it applies to committee and subcommittee "meetings." That term includes public hearings and work sessions.

Oregon Progressive Party

Daniel Meek

authorized legal representative

dan@meeek.net

503-293-9021

