

Testimony in Favor of HB 1032-FN:

“AN ACT creating an exception to physical attendance and quorum requirements under the right-to-know law for individuals with disabilities and individuals caring for a household member with disabilities.”

Rep. Timothy Horrigan (Strafford 10); January 21, 2026

House Judiciary Committee

This bill makes a small but important change to RSA 91-A:2 (“Meetings Open to Public.”) RSA:91-A:2:III deals with the issue of allowing one or more members of a public body to participate remotely in a meeting. Today, this is usually done via an electronic platform such as Zoom or Microsoft Teams, but in years past, absent members could simply participate via speakerphone. This proposes a narrow exemption from the physical quorum requirement. It applies only to individuals who are themselves experiencing disabilities defined in the American Disabilities Act or have family members experiencing such disabilities.

If passed into law, HB 1032 would allow members who are disabled, or who are caring for an immediate household member who is disabled, to be counted towards the quorum when participating remotely. Under current law, only members who are in the room can be counted towards the quorum. This bill benefits all citizens and all public bodies, but it is especially crucial for the disability community.

Please vote “Ought to Pass” on HB 1032.