
By: Chairman, Judicial Proceedings Committee (Departmental - Admin. Hearings, Office of)

Requested: November 8, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Administrative Procedure Act - Telephone and Video Conferencing**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the authority to hold contested case hearings by telephone
4 and other electronic means to include specifically the holding of hearings by video
5 conferencing; requiring good cause for objections to the holding of hearings by
6 certain means; clarifying the alternatives for holding hearings if certain objections
7 are established; and generally relating to the Administrative Procedure Act.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - State Government
10 Section 10-211
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1995 Replacement Volume)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article - State Government**

16 10-211.

17 (A) [If a party does not object,] IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF
18 THIS SECTION, a hearing may be conducted by telephone, VIDEO CONFERENCING, or
19 other electronic means.

20 (B) (1) FOR GOOD CAUSE, A PARTY MAY OBJECT TO THE HOLDING OF A
21 HEARING BY TELEPHONE, VIDEO CONFERENCING, OR OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS.

22 (2) IF A PARTY ESTABLISHES GOOD CAUSE IN OPPOSITION TO THE
23 HOLDING OF A HEARING BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER SIMILAR AUDIO ELECTRONIC
24 MEANS, THE HEARING SHALL BE HELD IN PERSON OR BY VIDEO CONFERENCING OR
25 OTHER SIMILAR AUDIOVISUAL ELECTRONIC MEANS.

26 (3) IF A PARTY ESTABLISHES GOOD CAUSE IN OPPOSITION TO THE
27 HOLDING OF A HEARING BY VIDEO CONFERENCING OR OTHER SIMILAR

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1 AUDIOVISUAL ELECTRONIC MEANS, THE HEARING SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN
2 PERSON.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 June 1, 1996.