



## S7261 (Hoylman) / A8155 (Paulin)

*Relates to videoconferencing at public meetings and requiring that the minutes of a public meeting at which videoconferencing is used reflect such fact and the extent of such participation*

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The Pioneer Library System supports legislative bill S7261 (Hoylman) / A8155 (Paulin).

Public Libraries are in full support of transparent meetings open to the public. The amendments outlined in the legislation named above will offer the flexibility of continuing to hold virtual or inperson/virtual hybrid meetings in accordance with the requirements of New York's Open Meetings Law.

The summary of provisions in this amendment include:

- Section 1 of the bill repeals subdivision (c) of Section 103 of the Public Officers Law.
  - Current provision: “A public body that uses videoconferencing to conduct its meetings shall provide an opportunity for the public to attend, listen and observe at any site at which a member participates.”
- Section 2 of the bill amends subdivision 4 of Section 104 of the Public Officers Law to require meetings of public bodies to provide public notice when a meeting is held virtually and to provide public notice identifying physical locations that are open to the public when a meeting is inperson/virtual hybrid.
  - Current provision: “If videoconferencing is used to conduct a meeting, the public notice for the meeting shall inform the public that videoconferencing will be used, identify the locations for the meeting, and state that the public has the right to attend the meeting at any of the locations.”
- Section 3 of the bill amends Section 106 of the Public Officers Law to require the minutes of a meeting subject to the Open Meetings Law to reflect whether the meeting was conducted by electronic means in whole or in part, the type of electronic means used, which members participated by electronic means, and other pertinent information.

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