

Municipal Alert
June 11, 2021

**HALFWAY THERE: THE MASSACHUSETTS SENATE PASSES TEMPORARY
EXTENSION FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION; WILL THE MASSACHUSETTS
HOUSE FOLLOW SUIT?**

Thursday afternoon, June 10, 2021, the Senate, acting at warp speed, voted on amendments to S. 2467, the municipal relief legislation which includes provisions continuing the authority to allow remote meetings for all public bodies. The Senate passed several amendments, and then passed the bill to be engrossed, with an Emergency Preamble, so it could be effective immediately if passed by both chambers and signed by the Governor. The engrossed bill, reprinted as S. 2472, was sent over to the House later on Thursday afternoon.

The House got through a first reading, and referred the bill to House Ways and Means. The House session ended without further action. Both chambers will be back in session on Monday.

The State of Emergency will terminate at 12:01AM on June 15, 2021, and with it, any authority to hold meetings of any public body by remote means. As a result, unless and until legislation is passed further authorizing remote participation, any meetings of a public body that are to take place on or after June 15, 2021 must be posted for an in-person meeting.

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This Client Alert was prepared by Karis North and reviewed with Kevin Bresnahan. If you have any questions about this issue, please contact Karis North or the attorney responsible for your account, or call (617) 479-5000.

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