

Committee on Judiciary

CS/HB 1571 — Juvenile Court Proceedings

by Judiciary Committee and Reps. Silvers, Gottlieb, and others (CS/SB 1440 by Rules Committee and Senator Book)

The bill amends several statutes to authorize the use of audio or audio-video communication technology in dependency and delinquency proceedings. This technology allows people to appear in proceedings remotely, rather than in person. When the parties agree or a court authorizes someone to appear remotely, he or she must be provided instructions for the use of the technology.

The bill also requires each party in a dependency case to provide a primary e-mail address that, in addition to a permanent mailing address, will be used by the court for notice purposes.

The bill is based on procedures for using audio or audio-video technology which were used by the state court system during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 116-0