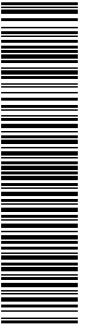


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An act to add Section 367.7 to the Code of Civil Procedure, relating to civil actions.

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## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 367.7 is added to the Code of Civil Procedure, to read:  
367.7. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a court may, as appropriate and practicable, do the following:

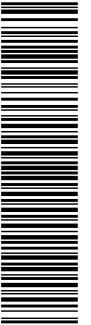
(1) Conduct proceedings remotely through the use of technology in civil actions, including trials and evidentiary hearings.

(2) Allow any person, including a court user, court participant, court personnel, or judicial officer to participate in a civil proceeding without being physically present in the courtroom.

(b) Consistent with its constitutional rulemaking authority, the Judicial Council may adopt rules to implement the policies and provisions in this section.

(c) It is the intent of the Legislature that this section be interpreted broadly to provide safe and reliable access to justice.

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## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

Bill No.  
as introduced, \_\_\_\_\_.  
General Subject: Civil actions: remote conduct of proceedings.

Existing law authorizes a party in a civil case to appear by telephone at specified conferences, hearings, and proceedings, if the party has provided notice, unless the court determines that a personal appearance would materially assist in the determination of the proceeding or in the effective management or resolution of the particular case. Existing law requires the Judicial Council to adopt rules to effectuate these provisions.

This bill would authorize a court to conduct proceedings in civil actions, including trials and evidentiary hearings, remotely through the use of technology and to allow any person to participate in a proceeding without being physically present in a courtroom. The bill would authorize the Judicial Council to adopt rules to implement these provisions, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

