There has been an overwhelming desire from the Academic Senate Executive Committee and the wider De Anza faculty body to continue to hold Academic Senate meetings online via Zoom for myriad reasons.  If you are concerned about the expiration of the Brown Act emergency orders and would like to contact your state representatives, below are templates you may find helpful.  You can find your representatives at <http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/> and you can contact Governor Newsom via <https://govapps.gov.ca.gov/gov40mail/>

Dear Congressperson/Senator \_\_\_\_,

I am writing today to request that you ask for and support a further extension to the Brown Act alterations put forward in the Governor's Executive Order N-08-21 of June 11th this year. This executive order allowed for meetings to be held at a distance without committee members needing to invite the public into their homes. In the last two years I have seen public participation in meetings increase as people were allowed to attend from anywhere. This opens the meetings to people with mobility issues, parents who need to care for children in the evenings, and people lacking transportation. In addition, given the hazard of the delta variant, the end of this month seems to be an unwise time to require people to crowd into small meeting chambers on a regular basis. I urge you to ask the governor to extend his order or to take up legislation to update the Brown Act to allow for more modern forms of gathering and discussing important information. We have progressed far beyond the "teleconferencing" originally imagined by the law and need to adapt it to our modern infrastructure.

Thank you,

(NAME)

Dear Governor Newsom,

I am writing today to request that you consider a further extension to the Brown Act alterations put forward in your Executive Order N-08-21 of June 11th this year. Among other items, this executive order allowed for meetings to be held at a distance without committee members needing to invite the public into their homes. In the last two years I have seen public participation in meetings increase as people were allowed to attend from anywhere. This opens the meetings to people with mobility issues, parents who need to care for children in the evenings, and people lacking transportation. In addition, given the hazard of the delta variant, the end of this month seems to be an unwise time to require people to crowd into small meeting chambers on a regular basis. These allowances being removed will have a marked impact on the accessibility of school board meetings as well as the functional execution of the duties of the Brown Act committees I sit on at De Anza Community College. While the Santa Clara Unified School Board has not made any announcements yet, the Academic Senate of De Anza College is struggling to find a way to meet safely on campus and remain accessible to our community given that few classes are being held in person once again this semester.

Thank you,

(NAME)