

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2017-4648, by Representatives Sullivan and Kretz

1 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives adopted permanent rules for
2 the Sixty-Fifth Legislature under House Resolution No. 2017-4610;
3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Rule No. 23 as set forth in
4 House Resolution No. 2017-4610 is amended to read as follows:

5 PERMANENT RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
6 SIXTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE 2017-2018

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23 **Definitions**

24 **Rule 1.** "Absent" means an unexcused failure to attend.

25 "Term" means the two-year term during which the members as a body
26 may act.

27 "Session" means a constitutional gathering of the house in
28 accordance with Article II § 12 of the state Constitution.

29 "Committee" means any standing, conference, joint, or select
30 committee as so designated by rule or resolution.

1 "Fiscal committee" means the appropriations, capital budget,
2 finance, and transportation committees.

3 "Bill" means bill, joint memorial, joint resolution, or
4 concurrent resolution unless the context indicates otherwise.

5 **Chief Clerk to Call to Order**

6 **Rule 2.** It shall be the duty of the chief clerk of the previous
7 term to call the house to order and to conduct the proceedings until
8 a speaker is chosen.

9 **Election of Officers**

10 **Rule 3.** The house shall elect the following officers at the
11 commencement of each term: Its presiding officer, who shall be styled
12 speaker of the house; a speaker pro tempore, who shall serve in
13 absence or in case of the inability of the speaker; a deputy speaker
14 pro tempore, who shall serve in absence or in case of the inability
15 of the speaker and speaker pro tempore; and a chief clerk of the
16 house. Such officers shall hold office during all sessions until the
17 convening of the succeeding term: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That any of
18 these offices may be declared vacant by the vote of a constitutional
19 majority of the house, the members voting viva voce and their votes
20 shall be entered on the journal. If any office is declared vacant,
21 the house shall fill such vacant office as hereinafter provided. In
22 all elections by the house a constitutional majority shall be
23 required, the members shall vote viva voce and their votes shall be
24 entered on the journal. (Art. II § 27)

25 **Powers and Duties of the Speaker**

26 **Rule 4.** The speaker shall have the following powers and duties:

27 (A) The speaker shall take the chair and call the house to order
28 precisely at the hour appointed for meeting and if a quorum be
29 present, shall cause the journal of the preceding day to be read and
30 shall proceed with the order of business.

31 (B) The speaker shall preserve order and decorum, and in case of
32 any disturbance or disorderly conduct within the chamber or
33 legislative area, shall order the sergeant at arms to suppress the

1 same and may order the sergeant at arms to remove any person creating
2 any disturbance within the house chamber or legislative area.

3 (C) The speaker may speak to points of order in preference to
4 other members, arising from the seat for that purpose, and shall
5 decide all questions of order subject to an appeal to the house by
6 any member, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once
7 without leave of the house.

8 (D) The speaker shall sign all bills in open session. (Art. II §
9 32)

10 (E) The speaker shall sign all writs, warrants, and subpoenas
11 issued by order of the house, all of which shall be attested to by
12 the chief clerk.

13 (F) The speaker shall have the right to name any member to
14 perform the duties of the chair, but such substitution shall neither
15 extend beyond adjournment nor authorize the representative so
16 substituted to sign any documents requiring the signature of the
17 speaker.

18 (G) The speaker, in open session, shall appoint committee chairs
19 as selected by the majority party caucus, and shall appoint members
20 to committees in the same ratio as the membership of the respective
21 parties of the house, unless otherwise provided by law or house
22 rules.

23 (H) The speaker shall serve as chair of the rules committee.

24 (I) The speaker shall have charge of and see that all officers,
25 attaches, and clerks perform their respective duties.

26 (J) The speaker pro tempore shall exercise the duties, powers,
27 and prerogatives of the speaker in the event of the speaker's death,
28 illness, removal, or inability to act until the speaker's successor
29 shall be elected.

30 **Chief Clerk**

31 **Rule 5.** The chief clerk shall perform the usual duties pertaining
32 to the office, and shall hold office until a successor has been
33 elected.

1 The chief clerk shall employ, subject to the approval of the
2 speaker, all other house employees; the hours of duty and assignments
3 of all house employees shall be under the chief clerk's directions
4 and instructions, and they may be dismissed by the chief clerk with
5 the approval of the speaker. The speaker shall sign and the chief
6 clerk shall countersign all payrolls and vouchers for all expenses of
7 the house and appropriately transmit the same. In the event of the
8 chief clerk's death, illness, removal, or inability to act, the
9 speaker may appoint an acting chief clerk who shall exercise the
10 duties and powers of the chief clerk until the chief clerk's
11 successor shall be elected.

12 **Duties of Employees**

13 **Rule 6.** Employees of the house shall perform such duties as are
14 assigned to them by the chief clerk. Under no circumstances shall the
15 compensation of any employee be increased for past services. No house
16 employee shall seek to influence the passage or rejection of proposed
17 legislation.

18 **Admission to the House**

19 **Rule 7.** It shall be the general policy of the house to keep the
20 chamber clear as follows:

21 (A) The sergeant at arms shall admit only the following
22 individuals to the wings and adjacent areas of the house chamber for
23 the period of time beginning one-half hour prior to convening and
24 ending one-half hour following the adjournment of the house's daily
25 session:

26 The governor or designees, or both;

27 Members of the senate;

28 State elected officials;

29 Officers and authorized employees of the legislature;

30 Former members of the house who are not advocating any pending or
31 proposed legislation;

32 Representatives of the press;

33 Other persons with the consent of the speaker.

34 (B) Only members of the house, pages, sergeants at arms, and
35 clerks are permitted on the floor while the house is in session.

1 (C) Lobbying in the house chamber or in any committee room or
2 lounge room is prohibited when the house or committee is in session
3 unless expressly permitted by the house or committee. Anyone
4 violating this rule will forfeit his or her right to be admitted to
5 the house chamber or any of its committee rooms.

6 **Absentees and Courtesy**

7 **Rule 8.** No member shall be absent from the service of the house
8 without leave from the speaker. When the house is in session, only
9 the speaker shall recognize visitors and former members.

10 **Bills, Memorials and Resolutions - Introductions**

11 **Rule 9.** Any member desiring to introduce a bill shall file the
12 same with the chief clerk. Bills filed by 10:00 a.m. shall be
13 introduced at the next daily session, in the order filed: PROVIDED,
14 That if such introduction is within the last ten days of a regular
15 session, it cannot be considered without a direct vote of two-thirds
16 (2/3) of all the members elected to each house with such vote
17 recorded and entered upon the journal. (Art. II § 36)

18 Any returning member or member-elect may prefile a bill with the
19 chief clerk commencing the first Monday in December preceding any
20 regular session or twenty (20) days before any special session.
21 Prefiled bills shall be introduced on the first legislative day.

22 All bills shall be endorsed with a statement of the title and the
23 name of the member or members introducing the same. The chief clerk
24 shall attach to all bills a substantial cover bearing the title and
25 sponsors and shall number each bill in the order filed. All bills
26 shall be printed unless otherwise ordered by the house.

27 Any bill introduced at any session during the term shall be
28 eligible for action at all subsequent sessions during the term.

29 No house bill may be introduced that is identical to any other
30 pending house bill.

31 **Reading of Bills**

32 **Rule 10.** Every bill shall be read on three separate days:
33 PROVIDED, That this rule may be temporarily suspended at any time by
34 a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present; and that on and after
35 the fifth day prior to the day of adjournment sine die of any
36 session, as determined pursuant to Article II, Section 12 of the

1 state Constitution or concurrent resolution, or on and after the
2 third day prior to the day a bill must be reported from the house as
3 established by concurrent resolution, this rule may be suspended by a
4 majority vote.

5 A bill may be returned to second reading for the purpose of
6 amendment by a suspension of the rules: PROVIDED, That on and after
7 the fifth day prior to the day of adjournment sine die of any
8 session, as determined pursuant to Article II, section 12 of the
9 state Constitution or concurrent resolution, or on and after the
10 third day prior to the day a bill must be reported from the house as
11 established by concurrent resolution, this rule may be suspended and
12 a bill returned to second reading for the purpose of amendment by a
13 majority vote.

14 (A) FIRST READING. The first reading of a bill shall be by title
15 only, unless a majority of the members present demand a reading in
16 full.

17 After the first reading the bill shall be referred to an
18 appropriate committee.

19 Upon being reported out of committee, all bills shall be referred
20 to the rules committee, unless otherwise ordered by the house.

21 The rules committee may, by majority vote, refer any bill in its
22 possession to a committee for further consideration. Such referral
23 shall be reported to the house and entered in the journal under the
24 fifth order of business.

25 (B) SECOND READING. Upon second reading, the bill number and
26 short title and the last line of the bill shall be read unless a
27 majority of the members present shall demand its reading in full. The
28 bill shall be subject to amendment section by section. No amendment
29 shall be considered by the house until it has been sent to the chief
30 clerk's desk in writing, distributed to the desk of each member, and
31 read by the clerk. All amendments adopted during second reading shall
32 be securely fastened to the original bill. All amendments rejected by
33 the house shall be passed to the minute clerk, and the journal shall
34 show the disposition of such amendments.

35 When no further amendments shall be offered, the speaker shall
36 declare the bill has passed its second reading.

1 (C) SUBSTITUTE BILLS. When a committee reports a substitute for
2 an original bill with the recommendation that the substitute bill do
3 pass, it shall be in order to read the substitute the first time and
4 have the same printed. A motion for the substitution shall not be in
5 order until the second reading of the original bill.

6 (D) THIRD READING. Only the last line of bills shall be read on
7 third reading unless a majority of the members present demand a
8 reading in full. No amendments to a bill shall be received on third
9 reading but it may be referred or recommitted for the purpose of
10 amendment.

11 (E) SUSPENSION CALENDAR. Bills may be placed on the second
12 reading suspension calendar by the rules committee if at least two
13 minority party members of the rules committee join in such motion.
14 Bills on the second reading suspension calendar shall not be subject
15 to amendment or substitution except as recommended in the committee
16 report. When a bill is before the house on the suspension calendar,
17 the question shall be to adopt the committee recommendations and
18 advance the bill to third reading. If the question fails to receive a
19 two-thirds vote of the members present, the bill shall be referred to
20 the rules committee for second reading.

21 (F) HOUSE RESOLUTIONS. House resolutions shall be filed with the
22 chief clerk who shall transmit them to the rules committee. If a
23 rules committee meeting is not scheduled to occur prior to a time
24 necessitated by the purpose of a house resolution, the majority
25 leader and minority leader by agreement may waive transmission to the
26 rules committee to permit consideration of the resolution by the
27 house. The rules committee may adopt house resolutions by a sixty
28 percent majority vote of its entire membership or may, by a majority
29 vote of its members, place them on the motions calendar for
30 consideration by the house. House resolutions are not subject to
31 debate, except for resolutions necessary for the operation of the
32 house, and resolutions commemorating Children's Day, Day of
33 Remembrance, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, National Guard Day, and
34 President's Day.

35 (G) CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS. Reading of concurrent resolutions may
36 be advanced by majority vote.

1 **Amendments**

2 **Rule 11.** The right of any member to offer amendments to proposed
3 legislation shall not be limited except as provided in Rule 10(E) and
4 as follows:

5 (A) AMENDMENTS TO BE OFFERED IN PROPER FORM. The chief clerk
6 shall establish the proper form for amendments and all amendments
7 offered shall bear the name of the member who offers the same, as
8 well as the number and section of the bill to be amended.

9 (B) COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS. When a bill is before the house on
10 second reading, amendments adopted by committees and recommended to
11 the house shall be acted upon by the house before any amendments that
12 may be offered from the floor.

13 (C) SENATE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILLS. A house bill, passed by the
14 senate with amendment or amendments which shall change the scope and
15 object of the bill, upon being received in the house, shall be
16 referred to the appropriate committee and shall take the same course
17 as for original bills unless a motion not to concur is adopted prior
18 to the bill being referred to committee.

19 (D) AMENDMENTS TO BE GERMANE. No motion or proposition on a
20 subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted
21 under color of amendment; and no bill or resolution shall at any time
22 be amended by annexing thereto or incorporating therein any other
23 bill or resolution pending before the house.

24 (E) SCOPE AND OBJECT NOT TO BE CHANGED. No amendment to any bill
25 shall be allowed which shall change the scope and object of the bill.
26 This objection may be raised at any time an amendment is under
27 consideration. The speaker may allow the person raising the objection
28 and the mover of the amendment to provide brief arguments as to the
29 merits of the objection. (Art. II § 38)

30 (F) NO AMENDMENT BY REFERENCE. No act shall ever be revised or
31 amended without being set forth at full length. (Art. II § 37)

32 (G) TITLE AMENDMENTS. The subject matter portion of a bill title
33 shall not be amended in committee or on second reading. Changes to
34 that part of the title after the subject matter statement shall

1 either be presented with the text amendment or be incorporated by the
2 chief clerk in the engrossing process.

3 **Final Passage**

4 **Rule 12.** Rules relating to bills on final passage are as follows:

5 (A) BUDGET BILLS. No final passage vote may be taken on an
6 operating budget, transportation budget, or capital budget bill until
7 twenty-four (24) hours after the bill is placed on the third reading
8 calendar. The twenty-four (24) hour requirement does not apply to
9 conference reports, which are governed by Joint Rule 20, or to bills
10 placed on the third reading calendar by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of
11 the members present.

12 (B) RECOMMITMENT BEFORE FINAL PASSAGE. A bill may be recommitted
13 at any time before its final passage.

14 (C) FINAL PASSAGE. No bill shall become a law unless on its final
15 passage the vote be taken by yeas and nays, the names of the members
16 voting for and against the same be entered on the journal of each
17 house, and a majority of the members elected to each house be
18 recorded thereon as voting in its favor. (Art. II § 22)

19 (D) BILLS PASSED - CERTIFICATION. When a bill passes, it shall be
20 certified to by the chief clerk, said certification to show the date
21 of its passage together with the vote thereon.

22 **Hour of Meeting, Roll Call and Quorum**

23 **Rule 13.** (A) HOUR OF MEETING. The speaker shall call the house to
24 order each day of sitting at 10:00 A.M., unless the house shall have
25 adjourned to some other hour.

26 (B) ROLL CALL AND QUORUM. Before proceeding with business, the
27 roll of the members shall be called and the names of those absent or
28 excused shall be entered on the journal. A majority of all the
29 members elected must be present to constitute a quorum for the
30 transaction of business. In the absence of a quorum, seven members
31 with the speaker, or eight members in the speaker's absence, having
32 chosen a speaker pro tempore, shall be authorized to demand a call of
33 the house and may compel the attendance of absent members in the
34 manner provided in Rule 21(B). For the purpose of determining if a

1 quorum be present, the speaker shall count all members present,
2 whether voting or not. (Art. II § 8)

3 (C) The house shall adjourn not later than 10:00 P.M. of each
4 working day. This rule may be suspended by a majority vote.

5 **Daily Calendar and Order of Business**

6 **Rule 14.** The rules relating to the daily calendar and order of
7 business are as follows:

8 (A) DAILY CALENDAR. Business of the house shall be disposed of in
9 the following order:

10 First: Roll call, presentation of colors, prayer, and approval of
11 the journal of the preceding day.

12 Second: Introduction of visiting dignitaries.

13 Third: Messages from the senate, governor, and other state
14 officials.

15 Fourth: Introduction and first reading of bills, memorials, joint
16 resolutions, and concurrent resolutions.

17 Fifth: Committee reports.

18 Sixth: Second reading of bills.

19 Seventh: Third reading of bills.

20 Eighth: Floor resolutions and motions.

21 Ninth: Presentation of petitions, memorials, and remonstrances
22 addressed to the Legislature.

23 Tenth: Introduction of visitors and other business to be
24 considered.

25 Eleventh: Announcements.

26 (B) UNFINISHED BUSINESS. The unfinished business at which the
27 house was engaged preceding adjournment shall not be taken up until
28 reached in regular order, unless the previous question on such
29 unfinished business has been ordered prior to said adjournment.

30 (C) EXCEPTIONS. Exceptions to the order of business are as
31 follows:

32 (1) The order of business may be changed by a majority vote of
33 those present.

1 (2) By motion under the eighth order of business, a bill in the
2 rules committee may be placed on the calendar by the affirmative vote
3 of a majority of all members of the house.

4 (3) House resolutions and messages from the senate, governor, or
5 other state officials may be read at any time.

6 **Motions**

7 **Rule 15.** Rules relating to motions are as follows:

8 (A) MOTIONS TO BE ENTERTAINED OR DEBATED. No motion shall be
9 entertained or debated until announced by the speaker and every
10 motion shall be deemed to have been seconded. A motion shall be
11 reduced to writing and read by the clerk, if desired by the speaker
12 or any member, before it shall be debated and by the consent of the
13 house may be withdrawn before amendment or action.

14 (B) MOTIONS IN ORDER DURING DEBATE. When a motion has been made
15 and seconded and stated by the chair, the following motions are in
16 order, in the rank named:

17 (1) Privileged motions:

- 18 Adjourn
- 19 Adjourn to a time certain
- 20 Recess to a time certain
- 21 Reconsider
- 22 Demand for division
- 23 Question of privilege
- 24 Orders of the day

25
26 (2) Subsidiary motions:

- 27 First rank: Question of consideration
- 28 Second rank: To lay on the table
- 29 Third rank: For the previous question
- 30 Fourth rank: To postpone to a day certain
- 31 To commit or recommit
- 32 To postpone indefinitely

1 Fifth rank: To amend

2

3 (3) Incidental motions:

4 Points of order and appeal

5 Method of consideration

6 Suspension of the rules

7 Reading papers

8 Withdraw a motion

9 Division of a question

10 (C) THE EFFECT OF POSTPONEMENT - MOTIONS TO POSTPONE OR COMMIT.
11 Once decided, no motion to postpone to a day certain, to commit, or
12 to postpone indefinitely shall again be allowed on the same day and
13 at the same stage of the proceedings. When a question has been
14 postponed indefinitely, it shall not again be introduced during the
15 session. The motion to postpone indefinitely may be made at any stage
16 of the bill except when on first reading.

17 (D) MOTIONS DECIDED WITHOUT DEBATE. A motion to adjourn, to
18 recess, to lay on the table and to call for the previous question
19 shall be decided without debate.

20 All incidental motions shall be decided without debate, except
21 that members may speak to points of order and appeal as provided in
22 Rule 22.

23 Motions to adopt house resolutions shall be decided without
24 debate, except as provided in Rule 10(F).

25 A motion for suspension of the rules shall not be debatable
26 except that the mover of the motion may briefly explain the purpose
27 of the motion and one member may briefly state the opposition to the
28 motion.

29 (E) MOTION TO ADJOURN. A motion to adjourn shall always be in
30 order, except when the house is voting or is working under the call
31 of the house; but this rule shall not authorize any member to move
32 for adjournment when another member has the floor.

33 **Members Right to Debate**

1 **Rule 16.** The methods by which a member may exercise his or her
2 right to debate are as follows:

3 (A) RECOGNITION OF MEMBER. When any member desires to speak in
4 debate or deliver any matter to the house, the member shall rise and
5 respectfully address the speaker and pause until recognized.

6 (B) ORDER OF SPEAKING. When two or more members arise at once,
7 the speaker shall name the one who is to speak.

8 (C) LIMITATION OF DEBATE. No member shall speak longer than ten
9 (10) minutes without consent of the house: PROVIDED, That on and
10 after the fifth day prior to the day of adjournment sine die of any
11 session, as determined pursuant to Article II, Section 12 of the
12 state Constitution or concurrent resolution, or on and after the
13 third day prior to the day any bill must be reported from the house
14 as established by concurrent resolution, no member shall speak more
15 than three (3) minutes without the consent of the house. No member
16 shall speak more than twice on the same question without leave of the
17 house: PROVIDED, That the chair of the committee or the mover of the
18 question may close debate if it is consistent with Rule 18 (Previous
19 Question).

20 **Rules of Debate**

21 **Rule 17.** The rules for debate in the house are as follows:

22 (A) QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE. Any member may rise to a question of
23 privilege and explain a personal matter, by leave of the speaker, but
24 the member shall not discuss any pending question in such
25 explanations.

26 (B) WITHDRAWAL OF MOTION, BILL, ETC. After a motion is stated by
27 the speaker or a bill, memorial, resolution, petition, or
28 remonstrance is read by the clerk, it shall be deemed to be in
29 possession of the house, but may be withdrawn by consent of the house
30 at any time before decision or amendment.

31 (C) READING OF A PAPER. When the reading of any paper is called
32 for and is objected to by any member, it shall be determined by a
33 vote of the house.

34 (D) DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS. Any materials of any nature
35 distributed to the members' desks on the floor shall be subject to

1 approval by the speaker and shall bear the name of at least one
2 member granting permission for the distribution. This shall not apply
3 to materials normally distributed by the chief clerk.

4 (E) ORDER OF QUESTIONS. All questions, whether in committee or in
5 the house, shall be propounded in the order in which they are named
6 except that in filling blanks, the largest sum and the longest time
7 shall be put first.

8 (F) DIVISION OF POINTS OF DEBATE. Any member may call for a
9 division of a question which shall be divided if it embraces subjects
10 so distinct that one being taken away a substantive proposition shall
11 remain for the decision of the house; but a motion to strike out and
12 to insert shall not be divided. The rejection of a motion to strike
13 out and to insert one proposition shall not prevent a motion to
14 strike out and to insert a different proposition.

15 (G) DECORUM OF MEMBERS. While the speaker is putting the
16 question, no member shall walk across or out of the house; nor when a
17 member is speaking shall any member entertain private discourse or
18 pass between the speaking member and the rostrum.

19 (H) REMARKS CONFINED. A member shall confine all remarks to the
20 question under debate and avoid personalities. No member shall impugn
21 the motive of any member's vote or argument.

22 (I) EXCEPTION TO WORDS SPOKEN IN DEBATE. If any member be called
23 to order for words spoken in debate, the person calling the member to
24 order shall repeat the words excepted to and they shall be taken down
25 in writing at the clerk's table. No member shall be held in answer or
26 be subject to the censure of the house for words spoken in debate if
27 any other member has spoken before exception to them shall have been
28 taken.

29 (J) TRANSGRESSION OF RULES - APPEAL. If any member, in speaking
30 or otherwise, transgresses the rules of the house the speaker shall,
31 or any member may, call the member to order, in which case the member
32 so called to order shall immediately sit down unless permitted to
33 explain; and the house shall, if appealed to, decide the case without
34 debate; if there be no appeal, the decision of the chair shall
35 prevail.

1 If the decision be in favor of the member called to order, the
2 member shall be at liberty to proceed; if otherwise, and the case
3 shall require it, the member shall be liable to the censure of the
4 house.

5 **Ending of Debate - Previous Question**

6 **Rule 18.** The previous question may be ordered by a two-thirds
7 (2/3) vote of the members present on all recognized motions or
8 amendments which are debatable.

9 The previous question is not debatable and cannot be amended.

10 The previous question shall be put in this form: "Representative
11 _____ demands the previous question. As many as are in favor of
12 ordering the previous question will say 'Aye'; as many as are opposed
13 will say 'No'."

14 The results of the motion are as follows: If determined in the
15 negative, the consideration goes on as if the motion had never been
16 made; if decided in the affirmative it shall have the effect of
17 cutting off all debate and bringing the house to a direct vote upon
18 the motion or amendment on which it has been ordered: PROVIDED
19 HOWEVER, That when a bill is on final passage or when the motion to
20 postpone indefinitely is pending, one of the sponsors of the bill or
21 the chair of the committee may have the privilege of closing debate
22 after the previous question has been ordered.

23 If an adjournment is had after the previous question is ordered,
24 the motion or proposition on which the previous question was ordered
25 shall be put to the house immediately following the approval of the
26 journal on the next working day, thus making the main question
27 privileged over all other business, whether new or unfinished.

28 **Voting**

29 **Rule 19.** (A) PUTTING OF QUESTION. The speaker shall put the
30 question in the following form: "The question before the house is
31 (state the question). As many as are in favor say 'Aye'; and after
32 the affirmative vote is expressed, "as many as are opposed say 'No'."

33 (B) ALL MEMBERS TO VOTE. Every member who was in the house when
34 the question was put shall vote unless, for special reasons, excused
35 by the house.

1 All motions to excuse a member shall be made before the house
2 divides or before the call for yeas and nays is commenced; and any
3 member requesting to be excused from voting may make a brief and
4 verbal statement of the reasons for making such request, and the
5 question shall then be taken without further debate.

6 Upon a division and count of the house on the question, only
7 members at their desks within the bar of the house shall be counted.

8 (C) CHANGE OF VOTE. When the electric roll call machine is used,
9 no member shall be allowed to vote or change a vote after the speaker
10 has locked the roll call machine. When an oral roll call is taken, no
11 member shall be allowed to vote or change a vote after the result has
12 been announced.

13 (D) PRIVATE INTEREST. No member shall vote on any question which
14 affects that member privately and particularly. A member who has a
15 private interest in any bill or measure proposed or pending before
16 the legislature shall disclose the fact to the house of which he is a
17 member, and shall not vote thereon. (Art. II § 30)

18 (E) INTERRUPTION OF ROLL CALL. Once begun, the roll call may not
19 be interrupted. No member or other person shall visit or remain at
20 the clerk's desk while the yeas and nays are being called.

21 (F) YEAS AND NAYS - RECORDED VOTES. Upon the final passage of any
22 bill, the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays and shall be recorded
23 by the electric voting system: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That an oral roll
24 call shall be ordered when demanded by one-sixth (1/6) of the members
25 present. (Art. II § 21)

26 The speaker may vote last when the yeas and nays are called.

27 When the vote is by electric voting machine or by oral roll call
28 on any question, it shall be entered upon the journal of the house. A
29 recorded vote may be compelled by one-sixth (1/6) of the members
30 present. A request for a recorded vote must be made before the vote
31 is commenced.

32 (G) TIE VOTE, QUESTION LOSES. In case of an equal division, the
33 question shall be lost.

34 (H) DIVISION. If the speaker is in doubt, or if division is
35 called for by any member, the house shall divide.

1 (I) STATEMENT FOR JOURNAL. A member whose recorded vote does not
2 accurately reflect his or her intent may submit a written statement
3 for the journal clarifying their intent to vote aye or nay. The
4 statement must be submitted to the chief clerk on the same day the
5 vote is taken. A member who is excused for one or more days of
6 recorded votes may submit a written statement for the journal
7 explaining the reason for his or her absence. The statement may not
8 exceed fifty words and must be submitted to the chief clerk on the
9 same day the member returns.

10 **Reconsideration**

11 **Rule 20.** Notice of a motion for reconsideration on the final
12 passage of bills shall be made on the day the vote to be reconsidered
13 was taken and before the house has voted to transmit the bill to the
14 senate.

15 Reconsideration of the votes on the final passage of bills must
16 be taken on the next working day after such vote was taken: PROVIDED,
17 That on and after the fifth day prior to the day of adjournment sine
18 die of any session, as determined pursuant to Article II, Section 12
19 of the state Constitution, or concurrent resolution, or on and after
20 the third day prior to the day a bill must be reported from the house
21 as established by concurrent resolution, then reconsideration of
22 votes on the final passage of bills must be taken on the same day as
23 the original vote was taken.

24 A motion to reconsider an amendment may be made at any time the
25 bill remains on second reading.

26 Any member who voted on the prevailing side may move for
27 reconsideration or give notice thereof.

28 A motion to reconsider can be decided only once when decided in
29 the negative.

30 When a motion to reconsider has been carried, its effect shall be
31 to place the original question before the house in the exact position
32 it occupied before it was voted upon.

33 **Call of the House**

34 **Rule 21.** One-sixth (1/6) of the members present may demand a call
35 of the house at any time before the house has divided or the voting
36 has commenced by yeas and nays.

1 (A) DOORS TO BE CLOSED. When call of the house has been ordered,
2 the sergeant at arms shall close and lock the doors, and no member
3 shall be allowed to leave the chamber: PROVIDED, That the rules
4 committee shall be allowed to meet, upon request of the speaker,
5 while the house stands at ease: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That the
6 speaker may permit members to use such portions of the fourth floor
7 as may be properly secured.

8 (B) SERGEANT AT ARMS TO BRING IN THE ABSENTEES. The clerk shall
9 immediately call a roll of the members and note the absentees, whose
10 names shall be read and entered upon the journal in such manner as to
11 show who are excused and who are absent without leave.

12 The clerk shall furnish the sergeant at arms with a list of those
13 who are absent without leave, and the sergeant at arms shall proceed
14 to bring in such absentees; but arrests of members for absence shall
15 not be made unless ordered by a majority of the members present.

16 (C) HOUSE UNDER CALL. While the house is under a call, no
17 business shall be transacted except to receive and act on the report
18 of the sergeant at arms; and no other motion shall be in order except
19 a motion to proceed with business under the call of the house, a
20 motion to excuse absentees, or a motion to dispense with the call of
21 the house. The motion to proceed with business under the call of the
22 house and the motion to excuse absent members shall not be adopted
23 unless a majority of the members elected vote in favor thereof. The
24 motion to dispense with the call of the house may be adopted by a
25 majority of the members present.

26 **Appeal from Decision of Chair**

27 **Rule 22.** The decision of the chair may be appealed from by any
28 member, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once unless
29 by leave of the house. In all cases of appeal, the question shall be:
30 "Shall the decision of the chair stand as the judgment of the house?"

31 **Standing Committees**

32 **Rule 23.** The standing committees of the house and the number of
33 members that shall serve on each committee shall be as follows:

- 34 1. Agriculture & Natural Resources. 15
35 2. Appropriations. 33

1 3. Business & Financial Services. 11
2 4. Capital Budget. 19
3 5. Commerce & Gaming. ((11)) 9
4 6. Community Development, Housing & Tribal Affairs. 7
5 7. Early Learning & Human Services. 13
6 8. Education. 19
7 9. Environment. 9
8 10. Finance. 11
9 11. Health Care & Wellness. 17
10 12. Higher Education. 9
11 13. Judiciary. 13
12 14. Labor & Workplace Standards. 7
13 15. Local Government. 7
14 16. Public Safety. 11
15 17. Rules. 25
16 18. State Government, Elections & Information Technology. 9
17 19. Technology & Economic Development. 17
18 20. Transportation. 25

19 Committee members shall be selected by each party's caucus. The
20 majority party caucus shall select all committee chairs.

21 **Duties of Committees**

22 **Rule 24.** House committees shall operate as follows:

23 (A) NOTICE OF COMMITTEE MEETING. The chief clerk shall make
24 public the time, place and subjects to be discussed at committee
25 meetings. All public hearings held by committees shall be scheduled
26 at least five (5) days in advance and shall be given adequate
27 publicity: PROVIDED, That when less than eight (8) days remain for
28 action on a bill, the Speaker may authorize a reduction of the five-
29 day notice period when required by the circumstances, including but
30 not limited to the time remaining for action on the bill, the nature
31 of the subject, and the number of prior hearings on the subject.

32 (B) COMMITTEE QUORUM. A majority of any committee shall
33 constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

34 (C) SESSION MEETINGS. No committee shall sit while the house is
35 in session without special leave of the speaker.

1 (D) DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

2 (1) Only such bills as are included on the written notice of a
3 committee meeting may be considered at that meeting except upon the
4 vote of a majority of the entire membership of the committee to
5 consider another bill.

6 (2) A majority recommendation of a committee must be signed by a
7 majority of the entire membership of the committee in a regularly
8 called meeting before a bill, memorial, or resolution may be reported
9 out: PROVIDED, That by motion under the eighth order of business, a
10 majority of the members elected to the house may relieve a committee
11 of a bill and place it on the second reading calendar.

12 Majority recommendations of a committee can only be "do pass,"
13 "do pass as amended," or that "the substitute bill be substituted
14 therefor and that the substitute bill do pass."

15 (3) Members of the committee not concurring in the majority
16 report may prepare a written minority report containing a
17 recommendation of "do not pass" or "without recommendation," which
18 shall be signed by those members of the committee subscribing
19 thereto, and submitted with the majority report.

20 (4) All committee reports shall be spread upon the journal. The
21 journal of the house shall contain an exact copy of all committee
22 reports, together with the names of the members signing such reports.

23 (5) Every vote to report a bill out of committee shall be taken
24 by the yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for and
25 against, as well as the names of members absent, shall be recorded on
26 the committee report. Any member may call for a recorded vote, which
27 shall include the names of absent members, on any substantive
28 question before the committee. A copy of all recorded committee votes
29 shall be kept by the chief clerk and shall be available for public
30 inspection.

31 (6) All bills having a direct appropriation shall be referred to
32 the appropriate fiscal committee before their final passage.

33 (7) No standing committee shall vote by secret written ballot on
34 any issue.

35 (8) During its consideration of or vote on any bill, resolution,
36 or memorial, the deliberations of any standing committee of the house
37 of representatives shall be open to the public.

1 (9) A standing committee to which a bill was originally referred
2 shall, prior to voting the bill out of committee, consider whether
3 the bill authorizes rule-making powers or requires the exercise of
4 rule-making powers and, if so, consider:

5 (a) The nature of the new rule-making powers; and

6 (b) To which agencies the new rule-making powers would be
7 delegated and which agencies, if any, may have related rule-making
8 powers.

9 (10) Standing committee subcommittees established in Rule 23 have
10 the same powers and duties as standing committees.

11 (11) Insofar as practicable, testimony in public hearings should
12 be balanced between those in support of and in opposition to proposed
13 legislation, with consideration given to providing an opportunity for
14 members of the public to testify within available time.

15 **Standing Committees - Expenses - Subpoena Power**

16 **Rule 25.** Regardless of whether the legislature is in session,
17 members of the house may receive from moneys appropriated for the
18 legislature, reimbursement for necessary travel expenses, and
19 payments in lieu of subsistence and lodging for conducting official
20 business of the house.

21 The standing committees of the house may have the powers of
22 subpoena, the power to administer oaths, and the power to issue
23 commissions for the examination of witnesses in accordance with the
24 provisions of chapter 44.16 RCW. Before a standing committee of the
25 house may issue any process, the committee chairperson shall submit
26 for approval of the executive rules committee a statement of purpose
27 setting forth the name or names of those subject to process. The
28 process shall not be issued prior to approval by the executive rules
29 committee. The process shall be limited to the named individuals.

30 **Vetoed Bills**

31 **Rule 26.** Veto messages of the governor shall be read in the house
32 and entered upon the journal. It shall then be in order to proceed to
33 reconsider the bill, refer it, lay it on the table, or postpone its
34 consideration to a day certain.

35 The merits of the bill may be debated before the vote is taken,
36 but the vote on a vetoed bill cannot be reconsidered.

1 In case of a bill containing several sections or items, one or
2 more of which has been objected to by the governor, each section or
3 item so objected to shall be voted upon separately by the house.
4 Action by the house upon all vetoed bills shall be endorsed upon the
5 bill and certified by the speaker.

6 Vetoed bills originating in the house, which have not been passed
7 notwithstanding the veto of the governor, shall remain in the custody
8 of the officers of the house until the close of the term, after which
9 they shall be filed with the secretary of state.

10 **Suspension of Compensation**

11 **Rule 27.** (1) Any member of the house of representatives convicted
12 and sentenced for any felony punishable by death or by imprisonment
13 in a Washington state penal institution shall, as of the time of
14 sentencing, be denied the legislative salary for future service and
15 be denied per diem, compensation for expenses, office space
16 facilities, and assistance. Any member convicted of a felony and
17 sentenced therefor under any federal law or the law of any other
18 state shall, as of the time of sentencing, be similarly denied such
19 salary, per diem, expenses, facilities, and assistance if either (a)
20 such crime would also constitute a crime punishable under the laws of
21 Washington by death or by imprisonment in a state penal institution,
22 or (b) the conduct resulting in the conviction and sentencing would
23 also constitute a crime punishable under the laws of Washington by
24 death or by imprisonment in a state penal institution.

25 (2) At any time, the house may vote by a constitutional majority
26 to restore the salary, per diem, expenses, facilities, and assistance
27 denied a member under subsection (1). If the conviction of a member
28 is reversed, then the salary, per diem, and expense amounts denied
29 the member since sentencing shall be forthwith paid, and the member
30 shall thereafter have the rights and privileges of other members.

31 **Smoking**

32 **Rule 28.** Smoking of cigarettes, pipes, or cigars shall not be
33 permitted at any public meeting of any committee of the house of
34 representatives or within House facilities.

35 "No smoking" signs shall be posted so as to give notice of this
36 rule.

1 **Liquor**

2 **Rule 29.** The House of Representatives shall strictly adhere to
3 the liquor laws of the state of Washington, including provisions
4 relating to banquet and special occasion permits. The proper permits
5 must always be obtained before consumption of liquor in any house
6 facility.

7 **Parliamentary Rules**

8 **Rule 30.** The rules of parliamentary practice comprised in Reed's
9 Parliamentary Rules shall govern all cases in which they are not
10 inconsistent with the standing rules and orders of the house.

11 **Standing Rules Amendment**

12 **Rule 31.** Any standing rule may be rescinded or changed by a
13 majority vote of the members elected: PROVIDED, That the proposed
14 change or changes be submitted at least one day in advance in writing
15 to the members together with notice of the consideration thereof. Any
16 standing rule may be suspended temporarily by a two-thirds (2/3) vote
17 of the members present except as provided in Rule 10.

18 **Rules to Apply for Assembly**

19 **Rule 32.** The permanent house rules adopted at the beginning of
20 the term are to govern all acts of the house during the course of the
21 term unless amended or repealed.

22 **Legislative Publications**

23 **Rule 33.** The House of Representatives directs the house executive
24 rules committee to adopt procedures and guidelines to ensure that all
25 legislative publications at public expense are for legitimate
26 legislative purposes.

27
28 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
29 Resolution 4648 adopted by the House of Representatives
30 June 28, 2017
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33
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Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk