

SENATE RESOLUTION

8601

By Senator Liias

1 WHEREAS, The Facilities and Operations Committee has determined  
2 that physically convening all members and staff at a single location  
3 for the sixty-seventh legislature presents a danger to the health and  
4 safety of the participants and is impractical because of a publicly  
5 declared statewide emergency under RCW 43.06.010; and

6 WHEREAS, Permanent Senate Rule 70 establishes a process by which  
7 the Senate will adopt a resolution establishing the rules and  
8 procedures to govern floor and committee action for such a  
9 legislative session;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Senate of the state of  
11 Washington, That the following be adopted as the Emergency  
12 Parliamentary Rules of the Sixty-Seventh Legislature:

13 **EMERGENCY PARLIAMENTARY RULES**  
14 **OF THE SENATE**  
15 **SIXTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE**  
16 **2021**

17 **SECTION I: GENERAL**

- |    |               |                                           |
|----|---------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 18 | <b>Rule A</b> | Public Health Measures.                   |
| 19 | <b>Rule B</b> | Filing of Bills.                          |
| 20 | <b>Rule C</b> | Electronic Signatures.                    |
| 21 | <b>Rule D</b> | Interpretation of Permanent Senate Rules. |

1     **SECTION II: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES**

- 2     **Rule E**                             Physical Distancing Required.
- 3     **Rule F**                             Remote Voting.
- 4     **Rule G**                             Attendance and Quorum.
- 5     **Rule H**                             Floor Motions.
- 6     **Rule I**                             Call of the Senate.
- 7     **Rule J**                             Referral of Bills to Committee.
- 8     **Rule K**                             Consideration of Bills and Amendments.

9     **SECTION III: COMMITTEES**

- 10    **Rule L**                             Committee Procedures.

11                                     **SECTION I**

12                                     **GENERAL**

13                                     **Public Health Measures**

14         **A.** (1) Senate members and employees must wear a mask in all  
15 Senate buildings. This requirement does not apply if the member  
16 or employee is in an office or room by themselves. While  
17 physically present on the Senate floor, members and employees  
18 must wear masks provided by the Senate.

19         (2) Members and employees will be provided with a self-  
20 screening health tool to assist them in determining whether it  
21 is safe for them to be on campus. If a member or employee  
22 answers any of the self-screening questions in the affirmative,  
23 the member or employee should remain off campus and contact the  
24 human resource officer.

25         (3) For the duration of the 2021 legislative session, Senate  
26 buildings will be open to authorized members and staff only.  
27 Members of the capitol press corps will be permitted access to  
28 observe floor action with preapproval from the Secretary of the  
29 Senate. No member or employee may escort a member of the public  
30 into Senate buildings.

31         (4) All committee and floor proceedings will be broadcast to  
32 the public via streaming or televised platforms to ensure public  
33 access. (See Article II, Section 11 of the state Constitution.)

1 **Filing of Bills**

2 **B.** (1) Any member desiring to introduce a bill shall email  
3 the bill to the office of the code reviser by noon of the day  
4 before the convening of the session at which the bill is to be  
5 introduced. Only bills that have been emailed by a member or the  
6 member's legislative assistant may be considered for  
7 introduction.

8 (2) Sponsor sheets will be electronically available for  
9 introducing the bill. The member emailing the bill and  
10 corresponding sponsor sheet shall be considered the sponsor of  
11 the bill. The sponsoring member may designate one cosponsor of  
12 the bill by providing the cosponsor's name in the email and by  
13 including the cosponsor's name in the cc line of the email.

14 (3) Additional members may add themselves as cosponsors to  
15 the bill by emailing the Senate workroom by 5:00 p.m. of the day  
16 of its introduction.

17 (4) Agency and governor request legislation shall follow  
18 this process and the sponsoring member or member's legislative  
19 assistant must email such legislation to the office of the code  
20 reviser.

21 (5) The introduction of title-only bills is prohibited. For  
22 the purposes of this subsection, a title-only bill is a bill  
23 containing a title or short summary of the intended subject  
24 matter, without laying forth the full changes intended to any  
25 act or sections of law.

26 **Electronic Signatures**

27 **C.** Electronic or scanned signatures are authorized in place  
28 of any physical signatures that are otherwise required in order  
29 for a member to conduct legislative business.

30 **Interpretation of Permanent Senate Rules**

31 **D.** To the extent that a matter is not addressed in this  
32 Resolution, the Permanent Rules of the Senate adopted January  
33 11, 2021, will govern. The President will interpret all rules  
34 and procedures to facilitate legislative business in a fair and  
35 efficient manner in light of the ongoing emergency and remote  
36 session.



1 participating in the session through a remote access program  
2 established by the Secretary of the Senate as provided in Senate  
3 Rule 70.

#### 4 **Floor Motions**

5 **H.** Members are permitted to move a bill, resolution, or  
6 amendment; rise to a parliamentary inquiry; request a roll call  
7 vote; and rise to a point of order. The floor leaders of the  
8 majority and minority caucuses will make all other motions. A  
9 floor leader may yield to a member for a question of privilege.

#### 10 **Call of the Senate**

11 **I.** A call of the Senate may be moved by the majority or  
12 minority floor leader and sustained by three Senators. If  
13 carried by a majority of those present, the Secretary shall call  
14 the roll, after which the names of the absentees shall again be  
15 called. The business of the Senate will be suspended until the  
16 absent senators are considered within the bar of the Senate for  
17 such action as the Senate may deem proper. A call of the Senate  
18 may not interrupt a roll call vote, and no penalties shall be  
19 sustained for members experiencing connectivity issues.

#### 20 **Referral of Bills to Committee**

21 **J.** (1) Draft bill referrals will be electronically published  
22 by 8:00 p.m. the evening before any session to consider them.  
23 All objections or requests for rereferral must be communicated  
24 in writing by a member to the majority floor leader by 8:00 a.m.  
25 the day of convening.

26 (2) The Senate may relieve the Rules Committee of a bill  
27 with the consent of a majority of the Senate, provided that two  
28 hours' notice has been given to the President and all members of  
29 the Senate by the majority leader. The majority leader will  
30 consult with the President prior to giving such notice.

#### 31 **Consideration of Bills and Amendments**

32 **K.** (1) The majority floor leader will provide draft orders  
33 of consideration for the Second Reading Calendar to the minority  
34 floor leader by 5:00 p.m. two days before scheduled floor

1 action. Bills may be added to orders of consideration with the  
2 consent of the majority and minority floor leaders.

3 (2) Once a bill is listed on a draft order of consideration  
4 submitted to the minority floor leader, any amendments must be  
5 submitted electronically to the Secretary of the Senate for  
6 consideration by 8:00 p.m. the day before scheduled floor action  
7 to be in order.

8 (3) On and after the third day preceding adjournment Sine  
9 Die of any session, or two days prior to any cut-off date for  
10 consideration of bills, as determined pursuant to Article II,  
11 Section 12 of the state Constitution or concurrent resolution,  
12 or during any special session of the legislature, this rule may  
13 be suspended by a majority vote.

### 14 **SECTION III**

### 15 **COMMITTEES**

#### 16 **Committee Procedures**

17 **L.** (1) All committees will meet remotely. A member shall be  
18 considered in attendance at a committee hearing if the member is  
19 participating through a remote access program established by the  
20 Secretary of the Senate as provided in Senate Rule 70.

21 (2) All committees will rely upon and use the Electronic  
22 Bill Book. Committee staff should add all materials relating to  
23 hearings, work sessions, or executive sessions to the Electronic  
24 Bill Book as early as possible or when the material has been  
25 made public. Paper copies will not be provided to members.

26 (3) All committees will use the Committee Sign-In system  
27 used in the past by the public, which has been modified to allow  
28 universal remote testimony sign-in for all committee hearings.  
29 All committee members will be able to view the list of  
30 individuals who have signed in to testify on each bill. All  
31 testimony will be taken remotely or in writing. Members of the  
32 public wishing to testify may sign up remotely up to one hour  
33 before the committee is scheduled to meet.

34 (4) Chairs must publish the list of bills that may be  
35 considered for executive session by 4:00 p.m. two days preceding  
36 executive session. A chair with the consent of the ranking

1 member has discretion to waive this deadline in extraordinary  
2 circumstances.

3 (5) Members must have amendment requests to nonpartisan  
4 committee staff by noon the day before scheduled executive  
5 action. Members should be considerate of staff and turn in  
6 amendment requests earlier if they are long or complex, keeping  
7 in mind the final deadline for consideration of amendments.

8 (6) All amendments, including substitutes, must be sponsored  
9 by a committee member. All amendments and effect statements must  
10 be either drafted or reviewed, or both, by nonpartisan committee  
11 staff. To be eligible for consideration at an executive session,  
12 amendments must be released from confidentiality and posted to  
13 the Electronic Bill Book for committee members by 4:00 p.m. the  
14 day before the executive session or the amendments will be  
15 considered out of order. A chair with the consent of the ranking  
16 member has discretion to waive this deadline in extraordinary  
17 circumstances.

18 (7) Committee voting will be done through recorded roll call  
19 votes with the results transmitted to the Secretary of the  
20 Senate via electronic means. Members must be present and visible  
21 to be eligible to vote during the executive session. Voting will  
22 not be allowed "subject to signatures."

23 (8) Electronic reports of standing committees must be  
24 received one hour prior to convening of the session in order to  
25 be read at said session. This requirement may be suspended by a  
26 majority of the Senate.

27 I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate,  
28 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
29 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8601,  
30 adopted by the Senate  
31 January 11, 2021

32 BRAD HENDRICKSON  
33 Secretary of the Senate