

SENATE RESOLUTION

8601

By Senators Pedersen and Short

1 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Rules of the Senate for the ((2019))  
2 2021 Regular Session of the ((66th)) 67th Legislature, as amended in  
3 the ((2019)) 2021 Regular Session and the ((2020)) 2022 Regular  
4 Session, be adopted as amended as the Rules of the Senate for the  
5 ((2021)) 2023 Regular Session of the ((67th)) 68th Legislature, to  
6 read as follows:

7 **PERMANENT RULES**

8 **OF THE**

9 **SENATE**

10 **((~~SIXTY-SEVENTH~~)) SIXTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE**

11 **((2021)) 2023**

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14 **SECTION I**

15 **OFFICERS-MEMBERS-EMPLOYEES**

16 **Duties of the President**

17 **Rule 1.** 1. The president shall take the chair and call the senate  
 18 to order precisely at the hour appointed for meeting, and, if a  
 19 quorum be present, shall cause the journal of the preceding day to be  
 20 read. (See also Art. 3, Sec. 16, State Constitution.)

21 2. The president shall preserve order and decorum, and in case of  
 22 any disturbance or disorderly conduct within the chamber, legislative  
 23 area, legislative offices or buildings, and legislative hearing and  
 24 meeting rooms, shall order the sergeant at arms to suppress the same,  
 25 and may order the arrest of any person creating any disturbance  
 26 within the senate chamber. Cellular phone use within the senate  
 27 chamber during floor session and within a hearing room during a  
 28 committee hearing must be respectful to the members and the public  
 29 and the phone must be kept in silent mode within the senate chamber  
 30 during floor session and within a hearing room during a committee  
 31 hearing.

32 3. The president shall have charge of and see that all officers  
 33 and employees perform their respective duties, and shall have general  
 34 control of the senate chamber and wings. (See also Art. 2, Sec. 10,  
 35 State Constitution.)

1 4. The president may speak to points of order in preference to  
2 members, arising from the president's seat for that purpose, and  
3 shall decide all questions of order subject to an appeal to the  
4 senate by any member, on which appeal no member shall speak more than  
5 once without leave of the senate.

6 5. The president shall, in open session, sign all acts, addresses  
7 and joint resolutions. The president shall sign all writs, warrants  
8 and subpoenas issued by order of the senate, all of which shall be  
9 attested by the secretary. If the senate is operating in a remote  
10 format under the authority of Senate Rule 70, an electronic or  
11 scanned signature is authorized in place of a physical signature.  
12 (See also Art. 2, Sec. 32, State Constitution.)

13 6. The president shall appoint all conference, special, joint and  
14 hereinafter named standing committees on the part of the senate. The  
15 appointment of the conference, special, joint and standing committees  
16 shall be confirmed by the senate. In the event the senate refuses to  
17 confirm any conference, special, joint or standing committee or  
18 committees, such committee or committees shall be elected by the  
19 senate.

20 7. The president shall, on each day, announce to the senate the  
21 business in order, and no business shall be taken up or considered  
22 until the order to which it belongs shall be declared.

23 8. The president shall decide and announce the result of any vote  
24 taken.

25 9. When a vote of the senate is equally divided, the lieutenant  
26 governor, when presiding, shall have the deciding vote as provided  
27 for in the state Constitution. (See also Art. 2, Sec. 10 and 22,  
28 State Constitution.)

#### 29 **President Pro Tempore**

30 **Rule 2.** 1. Upon the organization of the senate the members shall  
31 elect one of their number as president pro tempore who shall have all  
32 the powers and authority and who shall discharge all the duties of  
33 lieutenant governor acting as president when the secretary of the  
34 senate receives notice that the lieutenant governor is unable to  
35 preside or is unable to confirm the lieutenant governor's  
36 availability within a reasonable time. The president pro tempore  
37 shall serve as the vice chair of the committee on rules. The senate

1 shall also elect at least one vice president pro tempore who will  
2 serve in the absence of the lieutenant governor and the president pro  
3 tempore. (See Art. 2, Sec. 10, State Constitution.)

4 2. In the absence of the president pro tempore, and vice  
5 president pro tempore, or with their consent, the president shall  
6 have the right to name any senator to perform the duties of the  
7 chair, but such substitution shall not extend beyond an adjournment,  
8 nor authorize the senator so substituted to sign any documents  
9 requiring the signature of the president.

10 ~~((3. A "majority caucus" is a caucus whose members constitute a  
11 majority of the senate and may include members from different  
12 political caucuses. The establishment of a majority caucus is  
13 evidenced by a majority of the members of the senate demonstrating  
14 the intent to caucus together and to lead the senate. Those members  
15 not part of the majority caucus constitute the minority caucus or  
16 caucuses.))~~

#### 17 **Secretary of the Senate**

18 **Rule 3.** 1. The senate shall elect a secretary, who shall appoint  
19 a deputy secretary, both of whom shall be officers of the senate and  
20 shall perform the usual duties pertaining to their offices, and they  
21 shall hold office until their successors have been elected or  
22 appointed.

23 2. The secretary is the Personnel Officer of the senate and shall  
24 appoint, subject to the approval of the senate, all other senate  
25 employees and the hours of duty and assignments of all senate  
26 employees shall be under the secretary's directions and instructions  
27 and they may be dismissed at the secretary's discretion.

28 3. The secretary of the senate, prior to the convening of the  
29 next regular session, shall prepare the office to receive bills which  
30 the holdover members and members-elect may desire to prefile  
31 commencing with the first Monday in December preceding any regular  
32 session or twenty days prior to any special session of the  
33 legislature.

#### 34 **Sergeant at Arms**

35 **Rule 4.** 1. The director of senate security shall perform the  
36 functions of the sergeant at arms for the senate.



1 3. If any senator in speaking, or otherwise, transgresses the  
2 rules of the senate, the president shall, or any senator may, call  
3 that senator to order, and a senator so called to order shall resume  
4 the senator's seat and not proceed without leave of the senate, which  
5 leave, if granted, shall be upon motion "that the senator be allowed  
6 to proceed in order," when, if carried, the senator shall speak to  
7 the question under consideration.

8 4. No senator shall be absent from the senate without leave,  
9 except in case of accident or sickness, and if any senator or officer  
10 shall be absent the senator's per diem shall not be allowed or paid,  
11 and no senator or officer shall obtain leave of absence or be excused  
12 from attendance without the consent of a majority of the members  
13 present.

14 5. Members of the senate are subject to the senate's policy on  
15 appropriate workplace conduct. Conduct in violation of the policy may  
16 result in disciplinary action.

17 6. In the event of a motion or resolution to censure or punish,  
18 or any procedural motion thereto involving a senator, that senator  
19 shall not vote thereon. The senator shall be allowed to answer to  
20 such motion or resolution. An election or vote by the senate on a  
21 motion to censure or punish a senator shall require the vote of a  
22 majority of all senators elected or appointed to the senate. A vote  
23 to expel a member shall require a two-thirds concurrence of all  
24 members elected or appointed to the senate. All votes shall be taken  
25 by yeas and nays and the votes shall be entered upon the journal.  
26 (See also Art. 2, Sec. 9, State Constitution.)

## 27 SECTION II

### 28 OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

#### 29 Facilities and Operations

30 **Rule 8.** 1. After the election of new caucus leadership at the  
31 beginning of the first regular session during a legislative biennium  
32 (~~(or anytime during the legislative biennium that a different caucus~~  
33 ~~becomes the majority caucus)), the majority caucus shall designate  
34 four members and the minority caucus shall designate three members to  
35 serve on the facilities and operations committee. Each caucus may  
36 also designate an alternate. The chair of the facilities and  
37 operations committee must be selected by a majority vote of the  
38 members of the committee. If a different caucus becomes the majority~~

1 caucus anytime during the legislative biennium, the operation of the  
2 senate shall transfer to the newly designated members after the  
3 leadership of the new majority caucus is determined.

4 2. All necessary expenses of the senate incurred during the  
5 session shall be signed for by the secretary and approved by a  
6 majority of the committee on facilities and operations. The committee  
7 on facilities and operations shall carefully consider all items of  
8 expenditure ordered or contracted on the part of the senate, and  
9 report upon the same prior to the voucher being signed by the  
10 secretary of the senate authorizing the payment thereof. The  
11 committee on facilities and operations shall issue postage only as  
12 follows:

13 (a) To elected or appointed members of the senate in an amount  
14 sufficient to allow performance of their legislative duties.

15 (b) To the secretary of the senate in an amount sufficient to  
16 carry out the business of the senate.

17 3. The facilities and operations committee is authorized to adopt  
18 respectful workplace policies.

19 4. The facilities and operations committee may determine the  
20 rules by which an individual senator may vote on the floor using a  
21 remote access program established by the secretary of the senate. A  
22 maximum of six members, three from each caucus, are permitted to vote  
23 remotely under this rule during any single day of floor action in the  
24 event of illness or emergency. The leader of each caucus may approve  
25 up to three members from his or her respective caucus and must give  
26 notice to the secretary of the senate of which members are authorized  
27 to participate remotely at least two hours prior to the convening of  
28 the floor action. Members authorized to participate remotely under  
29 this rule may participate in debate according to the provisions of  
30 Senate Rule 29 but may not make motions or points of order during  
31 floor action. The remote access program must meet the requirements of  
32 Senate Rule 70.

### 33 **Use of Senate Chambers**

34 **Rule 9.** The senate chamber and its facilities shall not be used  
35 for any but legislative business, except by permission of the senate  
36 while in session, or by the facilities and operations committee when  
37 not in session.

1 **Admission to the Senate**

2 **Rule 10.** The sergeant at arms shall admit only the following  
3 individuals to the floor and adjacent areas of the senate for the  
4 period of time beginning one-half hour before convening and ending  
5 when the senate has adjourned or recessed for an hour or more:

- 6 The governor and/or designees,
- 7 Members of the house of representatives,
- 8 State elected officials,
- 9 Officers and authorized employees of the legislature,
- 10 Honored guests being presented to the senate,
- 11 Former members of the senate who are not registered lobbyists  
12 pursuant to chapter 42.17 RCW,
- 13 Representatives of the press,
- 14 Persons specifically requested by a senator to the president in  
15 writing or only as long as accompanied by a senator.

16 **Printing of Bills**

17 **Rule 11.** The number of bills printed and reprinted shall be at  
18 the discretion of the secretary of the senate, with the approval of  
19 the facilities and operations committee.

20 **Furnishing Full File of Bills**

21 **Rule 12.** Persons, firms, corporations and organizations within  
22 the state, desirous of receiving copies of all printed senate bills,  
23 shall make application therefor to the secretary of the senate. The  
24 bill clerk shall send copies of all printed senate bills to such  
25 persons, firms, corporations and organizations as may be ordered by  
26 the secretary of the senate. The secretary of the senate is  
27 authorized to recoup costs.

28 **Regulation of Lobbyists**

29 **Rule 13.** All persons who engage in lobbying of any kind as  
30 defined in chapter 42.17 RCW are subject to the senate's policy on  
31 appropriate workplace conduct. Conduct that constitutes prohibited  
32 conduct under the policy may result in restrictions, including, but  
33 not limited to, prohibitions on unaccompanied movement within the  
34 senate.

35 Any person registered as a lobbyist pursuant to chapter 42.17 RCW  
36 who intervenes in or attempts to influence any personnel decision of

1 the senate regarding any employee may suffer an immediate revocation  
2 of all privileges before the senate or such other privileges and for  
3 such time as may be deemed appropriate by the senate committee on  
4 rules. This restriction shall not prohibit a registered lobbyist from  
5 making written recommendations for staff positions.

#### 6 **Security Management**

7 **Rule 14.** The sergeant at arms shall develop security procedures  
8 to protect the senate, including its members, staff, and the visiting  
9 public.

### 10 **SECTION III**

#### 11 **RULES AND ORDER**

##### 12 **Time of Convening**

13 **Rule 15.** The senate shall convene at 10:00 a.m. each working day,  
14 unless adjourned to a different hour. The senate shall adjourn not  
15 later than 10:00 p.m. of each working day. The senate shall recess  
16 ninety minutes for lunch each working day. When reconvening on the  
17 same day the senate shall recess ninety minutes for dinner each  
18 working evening. This rule may be suspended by a majority.

##### 19 **Quorum**

20 **Rule 16.** A majority of all members elected or appointed to the  
21 senate shall be necessary to constitute a quorum to do business. Less  
22 than a quorum may adjourn from day to day until a quorum can be had.  
23 (See Art. 2, Sec. 8, State Constitution.)

##### 24 **Order of Business**

25 **Rule 17.** After the roll is called and journal read and approved,  
26 business shall be disposed of in the following order:

- 27 FIRST. Reports of ~~((standing))~~ committees ~~((and standing subcommittees))~~.
- 28 SECOND. ~~((Reports of select committees))~~ Motions for reconsideration.
- 29 THIRD. Messages from the governor and other state officers.
- 30 FOURTH. Messages from the house of representatives and concurrence and dispute motions.
- 31 FIFTH. Introduction, first reading and reference of bills, joint memorials, joint resolutions and concurrent  
32 resolutions.
- 33 SIXTH. Second reading of bills.
- 34 SEVENTH. Third reading of bills.
- 35 EIGHTH. Presentation of petitions, memorials and floor resolutions.
- 36 NINTH. Presentation of motions.

1 The order of business established by this rule may be changed and  
2 any order of business already dealt with may be reverted or advanced  
3 to by a majority vote of those present.

4 All questions relating to the priority of business shall be  
5 decided without debate.

6 Messages from the governor, other state officers, and from the  
7 house of representatives may be considered at any time with the  
8 consent of the senate.

### 9 **Special Order**

10 **Rule 18.** The president shall call the senate to order at the hour  
11 fixed for the consideration of a special order, and announce that the  
12 special order is before the senate, which shall then be considered  
13 unless it is postponed by a majority vote of the members present, and  
14 any business before the senate at the time of the announcement of the  
15 special order shall take its regular position in the order of  
16 business, except that if a cutoff established by concurrent  
17 resolution occurs during the special order, the senate may complete  
18 the measure that was before the senate when consideration of the  
19 special order was commenced.

### 20 **Unfinished Business**

21 **Rule 19.** The unfinished business at the preceding adjournment  
22 shall have preference over all other matters, excepting special  
23 orders, and no motion or any other business shall be received without  
24 special leave of the senate until the former is disposed of.

### 25 **Motions and Senate Floor Resolutions**

#### 26 **(How Presented)**

27 **Rule 20.** 1. No motion shall be entertained or debated until  
28 announced by the president and every motion shall be deemed to have  
29 been seconded. It shall be reduced to writing and read by the  
30 secretary, if desired by the president or any senator, before it  
31 shall be debated, and by the consent of the senate may be withdrawn  
32 before amendment or action.

33 2. The senate shall consider no more than one floor resolution  
34 per day in session: Provided, That this rule shall not apply to floor  
35 resolutions essential to the operation of the senate; and further  
36 Provided, That there shall be no limit on the number of floor  
37 resolutions considered on senate pro forma session days. Senate floor

1 resolutions shall be acted upon in the same manner as motions. All  
2 senate floor resolutions shall be on the secretary's desk at least  
3 twenty-four hours prior to consideration. Members' names shall be  
4 added to the resolution only if the member signs the resolution,  
5 except by unanimous consent of the senate. Members shall have until  
6 thirty minutes after the senate is convened the following day the  
7 senate is in a regular or pro forma session to add or remove their  
8 names to the floor resolution. A motion may be made to close the  
9 period for signatures at an earlier time. If the senate is operating  
10 in a remote format under the authority of Senate Rule 70, an  
11 electronic or scanned signature is authorized in place of a physical  
12 signature.

### 13 **Precedence of Motions**

14 **Rule 21.** When a motion has been made and stated by the chair the  
15 following motions are in order, in the rank named:

#### 16 PRIVILEGED MOTIONS

17 Adjourn, recess, or go at ease

18 Reconsider

19 Demand for call of the senate

20 Demand for roll call

21 Demand for division

22 Question of privilege

23 Orders of the day

#### 24 INCIDENTAL MOTIONS

25 Points of order and appeal

26 Method of consideration

27 Suspend the rules

28 Reading papers

29 Withdraw a motion

30 Division of a question

#### 31 SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS

32 1st Rank: To lay on the table

33 2nd Rank: For the previous question

34 3rd Rank: To postpone to a day certain

35 To commit or recommit

36 To postpone indefinitely

2 No motion to postpone to a day certain, to commit, or to postpone  
3 indefinitely, being decided, shall again be allowed on the same day  
4 and at the same stage of the proceedings, and when a question has  
5 been postponed indefinitely it shall not again be introduced during  
6 the session.

7 A motion to lay an amendment on the table shall not carry the  
8 main question with it unless so specified in the motion to table.

9 At no time shall the senate entertain a Question of  
10 Consideration.

### 11 **Voting**

12 **Rule 22.** 1. In all cases of election by the senate, the votes  
13 shall be taken by yeas and nays, and no senator or other person shall  
14 remain by the secretary's desk while the roll is being called or the  
15 votes are being counted. No senator shall be allowed to vote except  
16 when within the bar of the senate, or upon any question upon which he  
17 or she is in any way personally or directly interested, nor be  
18 allowed to explain a vote or discuss the question while the yeas and  
19 nays are being called, nor change a vote after the result has been  
20 announced. A member of the senate voting remotely is considered in  
21 attendance within the bar of the senate if the member is  
22 participating in the session through a remote access program  
23 established by the secretary of the senate as provided in Senate Rule  
24 70. (See also Art. 2, Secs. 27 and 30, State Constitution.)

25 2. A member not voting by reason of personal or direct interest,  
26 or by reason of an excused absence, or a member having inadvertently  
27 voted contrary to the member's intent, may explain the reason for not  
28 voting or the member's intended vote by a brief statement not to  
29 exceed fifty words in the journal.

30 3. The yeas and nays shall be taken when called for by one-sixth  
31 of all the senators present, and every senator within the bar of the  
32 senate shall vote unless excused by the unanimous vote of the members  
33 present, except as provided for in Senate Rule 7, subsection 4, and  
34 the votes shall be entered upon the journal. (See also Art. 2, Sec.  
35 21, State Constitution.)



1 locked and the sergeant at arms directed to take into custody all who  
2 may be absent without leave, and all the senators so taken into  
3 custody shall be presented at the bar of the senate for such action  
4 as the senate may deem proper.

#### 5 **One Subject in a Bill**

6 **Rule 25.** No bill shall embrace more than one subject and that  
7 shall be expressed in the title. (See also Art. 2, Sec. 19, State  
8 Constitution.)

#### 9 **No Amendment by Mere Reference to Title of Act**

10 **Rule 26.** No act shall ever be revised or amended by mere  
11 reference to its title, but the act revised or the section amended  
12 shall be set forth at full length. (See also Art. 2, Sec. 37, State  
13 Constitution.)

#### 14 **Reading of Papers**

15 **Rule 27.** When the reading of any paper is called for, and is  
16 objected to by any senator, it shall be determined by a vote of the  
17 senate, without debate.

18 Any and all copies of reproductions of newspaper or magazine  
19 editorials, articles or cartoons or publications or material of any  
20 nature distributed to senators' desks must bear the name of at least  
21 one senator granting permission for the distribution. This shall not  
22 apply to materials normally distributed by the secretary of the  
23 senate or the majority or minority caucuses.

#### 24 **Comparing Enrolled and Engrossed Bills**

25 **Rule 28.** Any senator shall have the right to compare an enrolled  
26 bill with the engrossed bill and may note any objections in the  
27 Journal.

### 28 **SECTION IV**

#### 29 **PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

##### 30 **Rules of Debate**

31 **Rule 29.** When any senator is about to speak in debate, or submit  
32 any matter to the senate, the senator shall rise, and standing in  
33 place, respectfully request recognition by the President, and when  
34 recognized shall, in a courteous manner, speak to the question under  
35 debate, avoiding personalities; provided that a senator may refer to  
36 another member using the title "Senator" and the surname of the other

1 member. With respect to any senators participating remotely under the  
2 authority of Senate Rule 8, each caucus shall designate a single  
3 member who is charged with seeking recognition on behalf of a senator  
4 from that caucus who is participating remotely and wishes to speak.  
5 Any senator participating remotely who wishes to speak in debate or  
6 submit any matter permitted by Senate Rule 8 to the senate, shall  
7 notify the designated member of the senator's desire to speak. The  
8 designated member shall seek recognition under the provisions of this  
9 section on behalf of the senator participating remotely and, upon  
10 recognition, the designated member shall defer to the senator  
11 participating remotely. No senator shall impeach the motives of any  
12 other member or speak more than twice (except for explanation) during  
13 the consideration of any one question, on the same day or a second  
14 time without leave, when others who have not spoken desire the floor,  
15 but incidental and subsidiary questions arising during the debate  
16 shall not be considered the same question. A majority of the members  
17 present may further limit the number of times a member may speak on  
18 any question and may limit the length of time a member may speak but,  
19 unless a demand for the previous question has been sustained, a  
20 member shall not be denied the right to speak at least once on each  
21 question, nor shall a member be limited to less than two minutes on  
22 each question. In any event, the senator who presents the motion may  
23 open and close debate on the question.

#### 24 **Recognition by the President**

25 **Rule 30.** When two or more senators rise at the same time to  
26 address the chair, the president shall name the one who shall speak  
27 first, giving preference, when practicable, to the mover or  
28 introducer of the subject under consideration. (See also Reed's Rule  
29 214).

#### 30 **Call for Division of a Question**

31 **Rule 31.** Any senator may call for a division of a question, which  
32 shall be divided if it embraces subjects so distinct that one being  
33 taken away a substantive proposition shall remain for the decision of  
34 the senate; but a motion to strike out and insert shall not be  
35 divided.

#### 36 **Point of Order - Decision Appealable**

37 **Rule 32.** 1. Every decision of points of order by the president  
38 shall be subject to appeal by any senator, and discussion of a

1 question of order shall be allowed. In all cases of appeal the  
2 question shall be: "Shall the decision of the president stand as the  
3 judgment of the senate?"

4 2. When a member appeals the decision of the presiding officer,  
5 the presiding officer may not preside over the appeal.

6 3. An appeal from the decision of the presiding officer is timely  
7 if brought before the body on the day the decision was made unless  
8 the decision affected a measure that is no longer in possession of  
9 the senate.

#### 10 **Question of Privilege**

11 **Rule 33.** Any senator may rise to a question of privilege and  
12 explain a personal matter by leave of the president, but shall not  
13 discuss any pending question in such explanations, nor shall any  
14 question of personal privilege permit any senator to introduce any  
15 person or persons in the galleries. The president upon notice  
16 received may acknowledge the presence of any distinguished person or  
17 persons.

18 A question of privilege shall involve only subject matter which  
19 affects the particular senator personally and in a manner unique and  
20 peculiar to that senator.

#### 21 **Protests**

22 **Rule 34.** Any senator or senators may protest against the action  
23 of the senate upon any question. Such protest may be entered upon the  
24 journal if it does not exceed 200 words. The senator protesting shall  
25 file the protest with the secretary of the senate within 48 hours  
26 following the action protested.

#### 27 **Adoption and Suspension of Rules**

28 **Rule 35.** 1. The permanent senate rules adopted at the first  
29 regular session during a legislative biennium shall govern any  
30 session subsequently convened during the same legislative biennium.  
31 Adoption of permanent rules may be by majority of the senate without  
32 notice and a majority of the senate may change a permanent rule  
33 without notice at the beginning of any session, as determined  
34 pursuant to Article 2, Section 12 of the State Constitution. No  
35 permanent rule or order of the senate shall be rescinded or changed  
36 without a majority vote of the members of the senate, and one day's  
37 notice of the motion.



1 of motions, the right to move a reconsideration shall continue to the  
2 next day of sitting. On and after the tenth day prior to adjournment  
3 sine die of any session, as determined pursuant to Article 2, Section  
4 12, or concurrent resolution, or in the event that the measure is  
5 subject to a senate rule or resolution or a joint rule or concurrent  
6 resolution, which would preclude consideration on the next day of  
7 sitting a motion to reconsider shall only be in order on the same day  
8 upon which notice of reconsideration is given and may be made at any  
9 time that day. Motions to reconsider a vote upon amendments to any  
10 pending question may be made and decided at once.

11 **Motion to Adjourn**

12 **Rule 38.** Except when under call of the senate, a motion to  
13 adjourn shall always be in order. The name of the senator moving to  
14 adjourn and the time when the motion was made shall be entered upon  
15 the journal.

16 **Yeas and Nays - When Must be Taken**

17 **Rule 39.** The yeas and nays shall be taken when called for by one-  
18 sixth of all the senators present, and every senator within the bar  
19 of the senate shall vote unless excused by the unanimous vote of the  
20 members present, and the votes shall be entered upon the journal.  
21 (See also Art. 2, Sec. 21, State Constitution.)

22 When once begun the roll call may not be interrupted for any  
23 purpose other than to move a call of the senate. (See also Senate  
24 Rules 22 and 24.)

25 **Reed's Parliamentary Rules**

26 **Rule 40.** The rules of parliamentary practice as contained in  
27 Reed's Parliamentary Rules shall govern the senate in all cases to  
28 which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent  
29 with the rules and orders of this senate and the joint rules of this  
30 senate and the house of representatives.

31 **SECTION V**

32 **COMMITTEES**

33 **Committees - Appointment and Confirmation**

34 **Rule 41.** The president shall appoint all conference, special,  
35 joint and standing committees (~~and standing subcommittees~~) on the  
36 part of the senate. The appointment of the conference, special, joint

1 and standing committees (~~and standing subcommittees~~) shall be  
2 confirmed by the senate.

3 In the event the senate shall refuse to confirm any conference,  
4 special, joint or standing committee (~~or standing subcommittee~~),  
5 such committee (~~or standing subcommittee~~) shall be elected by the  
6 senate.

7 The following standing committees shall constitute the standing  
8 committees of the senate:

9	<b>Standing Committee</b>	<b>Total Membership</b>
10	1. Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks. . . . .	((7)) <u>9</u>
11	2. Business, Financial Services, <u>Gaming</u> & Trade. . . . .	((7)) <u>9</u>
12	3. Early Learning & K-12 Education. . . . .	9
13	4. Environment, Energy((7)) & Technology. . . . .	((13)) <u>8</u>
14	5. Health & Long-Term Care. . . . .	((12)) <u>10</u>
15	6. Higher Education & Workforce Development. . . . .	5
16	7. Housing ( <del>&amp; Local Government</del> ). . . . .	11
17	8. Human Services( <del>(7 Reentry &amp; Rehabilitation)</del> ). . . . .	7
18	9. Labor((7)) & Commerce ( <del>&amp; Tribal Affairs</del> ). . . . .	9
19	10. Law & Justice. . . . .	((9)) <u>11</u>
20	11. <u>Local Government, Land Use &amp; Tribal Affairs</u> . . . . .	<u>5</u>
21	<u>12. Rules</u> . . . . .	16 (plus the Lieutenant Governor)
22	((12-)) <u>13. State Government &amp; Elections</u> . . . . .	((5)) <u>7</u>
23	((13-)) <u>14. Transportation</u> . . . . .	17
24	((14-)) <u>15. Ways &amp; Means</u> . . . . .	24

25 (~~The following constitutes a standing subcommittee of the~~  
26 ~~senate:~~

27 ~~1. Behavioral Health Subcommittee to Health & Long-Term Care. 5))~~

28 **Subcommittees**

29 **Rule 42.** (~~1. A standing subcommittee has authority to hold work~~  
30 ~~sessions and public hearings and take executive action on measures~~  
31 ~~referred to it by the relevant standing committee. The committee~~  
32 ~~requirements in Senate Rules 44 through 49 apply equally to standing~~  
33 ~~subcommittees created under Senate Rule 41.~~

34 ~~2. In addition to standing subcommittees created under Senate~~  
35 ~~Rule 41, committee) Committee chairs may create subcommittees of the~~  
36 ~~standing committee and designate subcommittee chairs thereof to study~~  
37 ~~subjects within the jurisdiction of the standing committee. These~~  
38 ~~subcommittees do not have executive action authority (~~and are not~~~~

1 ~~considered standing subcommittees for purposes of senate rules~~). The  
2 committee chair shall approve the use of committee staff and  
3 equipment assigned to the subcommittee. Subcommittee activities shall  
4 further be subject to facilities and operations committee approval to  
5 the same extent as are the actions of the standing committee from  
6 which they derive their authority.

#### 7 **Subpoena Power**

8 **Rule 43.** Any (~~of the above referenced committees, including~~  
9 ~~subcommittees thereof~~) standing committee, or any special  
10 (~~committees~~) committee created by the senate, may have the powers  
11 of subpoena, the power to administer oaths, and the power to issue  
12 commissions for the examination of witnesses in accordance with the  
13 provisions of chapter 44.16 RCW. The committee chair shall file with  
14 the committee on rules, prior to issuance of any process, a statement  
15 of purpose setting forth the name or names of those subject to  
16 process. The rules committee shall consider every proposed issuance  
17 of process at a meeting of the rules committee immediately following  
18 the filing of the statement with the committee. The process shall not  
19 be issued prior to consideration by the rules committee. The process  
20 shall be limited to the named individuals and the committee on rules  
21 may overrule the service on an individual so named.

#### 22 **Duties of Committees**

23 **Rule 44.** The several committees shall fully consider measures  
24 referred to them.

25 The committees shall acquaint themselves with the interest of the  
26 state specially represented by the committee, and from time to time  
27 present such bills and reports as in their judgment will advance the  
28 interests and promote the welfare of the people of the state:  
29 PROVIDED, That no executive action on bills may be taken during an  
30 interim.

#### 31 **Committee Rules**

32 **Rule 45.** 1. At least five days' notice shall be given of all  
33 public hearings held by any committee other than the rules committee.  
34 Such notice shall contain the date, time and place of such hearing  
35 together with the title and number of each bill, or identification of  
36 the subject matter, to be considered at such hearing. By a majority  
37 vote of the committee members present at any committee meeting such

1 notice may be dispensed with. The reason for such action shall be set  
2 forth in a written statement preserved in the records of the meeting.

3 2. No committee may hold a public hearing during a regular or  
4 extraordinary session on a proposal identified as a draft unless the  
5 draft has been made available to the public at least twenty-four  
6 hours prior to the hearing. This rule does not apply during the five  
7 days prior to any cutoff established by concurrent resolution nor  
8 does it apply to any measure exempted from the resolution.

9 3. During its consideration of or vote on any bill, resolution or  
10 memorial, the deliberations of any committee or subcommittee of the  
11 senate shall be open to the public. In case of any disturbance or  
12 disorderly conduct at any such deliberations, the chair shall order  
13 the sergeant at arms to suppress the same and may order the meeting  
14 closed to any person or persons creating such disturbance.

15 4. No committee shall amend a measure, adopt a substitute bill,  
16 or vote upon any measure or appointment absent a quorum. A committee  
17 may conduct a hearing absent a quorum. A majority of any committee  
18 shall constitute a quorum and committees shall be considered to have  
19 a quorum present unless the question is raised. Any question as to  
20 quorum not raised at the time of the committee action is deemed  
21 waived.

22 5. Bills reported to the senate from a standing committee must  
23 have a majority report, which shall be prepared upon a printed  
24 standing committee report form; shall be adopted at a regularly or  
25 specially called meeting during a legislative session and shall be  
26 signed by a majority of the committee; and shall carry only one of  
27 the following recommendations:

- 28 a. Do pass;  
29 b. Do pass as amended;  
30 c. That a substitute bill be substituted therefor, and the  
31 substitute bill do pass; or  
32 d. Without recommendation.

33 In addition to one of the above-listed recommendations, a report  
34 may also recommend that a bill be referred to another committee.

35 6. A majority report of a committee must carry the signatures of  
36 a majority of the members of the committee. In the event a committee  
37 has a quorum pursuant to subsection 4 of this rule, (~~subject to the~~

1 ~~limitation of subsection 12 of this rule,~~) a majority of the members  
2 present may act on a measure, subject to obtaining the signatures of  
3 a majority of the members of the committee on the majority report.  
4 If, after executive action on a measure, the signatures of all  
5 members are not included on either a majority or minority report, the  
6 committee shall hold the signature sheets for the measure for 24  
7 hours, not counting Saturdays or Sundays, from adjournment of the  
8 committee hearing at which executive action was taken on the measure.  
9 This 24-hour hold period applies even if a majority of the members of  
10 the committee has signed the majority report. After the 24-hour hold  
11 period, the signature sheets must be submitted to the workroom if  
12 there is a majority of signatures on the majority report. Once  
13 signature sheets have been submitted to the senate workroom by  
14 committee staff, a member may not sign or remove his or her signature  
15 from a majority or minority signature sheet. If a majority of members  
16 of the committee have not signed the majority report, the measure or  
17 appointment remains in the possession of the committee. The 24-hour  
18 hold period does not apply within the five days preceding any cutoff  
19 date and does not apply to a biennial or supplemental omnibus  
20 operating budget, omnibus capital budget, or omnibus transportation  
21 budget.

22 7. Any measure, appointment, substitute bill, or amendment still  
23 within a committee's possession before it has been reported out to  
24 the full senate may be reconsidered to correct an error, change  
25 language, or otherwise accurately reflect the will of the committee  
26 in its majority and minority reports to the full senate. Any such  
27 reconsideration may be made at any time, by any member of the  
28 committee, provided that the committee has not yet reported the  
29 measure, appointment, substitute bill, or amendment out to the full  
30 senate. Any such reconsideration made after a vote has been taken or  
31 signatures obtained will require a new vote and signature sheet. Any  
32 measure which does not receive a majority vote of the members present  
33 may be reconsidered at that meeting and may again be considered upon  
34 motion of any committee member if one day's notice of said motion is  
35 provided to all committee members. (~~For purposes of this rule, a~~  
36 ~~committee is deemed to have reported a measure, appointment,~~  
37 ~~substitute bill, or amendment out when it has delivered its majority~~  
38 ~~and minority reports to the senate workroom. After such delivery, the~~  
39 ~~committee no longer has possession of the measure, appointment,~~

1 ~~substitute bill, or amendment and no further committee action,~~  
2 ~~including reconsideration, may be taken.))~~

3 8. Any member of the committee not concurring in the majority  
4 report may sign a minority report containing a recommendation of "do  
5 not pass" or "without recommendation," which shall be signed by those  
6 members of the committee subscribing thereto, and submitted with the  
7 majority report. Unless the signatory of a minority report expressly  
8 indicates a "do not pass" recommendation, the member's vote shall be  
9 deemed to be "without recommendation." In every case where a majority  
10 report form is circulated for signature, a minority report form shall  
11 also be circulated.

12 9. When a committee reports a substitute for an original bill  
13 with the recommendation that the substitute bill do pass, it shall be  
14 in order to read the substitute bill the first time and have the same  
15 ordered printed.

16 A motion for the substitution of the substitute bill for the  
17 original bill shall not be in order until the committee on rules  
18 places the original bill on the second reading calendar.

19 10. No vote in any committee shall be taken by secret ballot nor  
20 shall any committee have a policy of secrecy as to any vote on action  
21 taken in such committee.

22 11. All reports of standing committees must be on the secretary's  
23 desk one hour prior to convening of the session in order to be read  
24 at said session. During any special session of the legislature or  
25 within the three days ((of)) preceding any cut-off date or sine die,  
26 this rule may be suspended by a majority vote of those present. This  
27 rule does not apply to reports of biennial or supplemental omnibus  
28 operating budget, omnibus capital budget, or omnibus transportation  
29 budget bill.

30 12. ~~((When a standing committee is operated by cochairs, the~~  
31 ~~committee may not vote upon any measure or appointment without the~~  
32 ~~consent of each cochair.~~

33 13. ~~When a standing committee has a standing subcommittee~~  
34 ~~established under Senate Rule 41, the chair of the committee may~~  
35 ~~rerefer any measures referred to the committee to the standing~~  
36 ~~subcommittee with the consent of the ranking member of the committee~~  
37 ~~or, in the event of a dispute between the chair and ranking member,~~

1 ~~referral may occur with a majority vote of the committee)~~ For  
2 purposes of this rule, a committee is deemed to have reported a  
3 measure, appointment, substitute bill, or amendment out when it has  
4 delivered its majority and minority reports to the senate workroom.  
5 After such delivery, the committee no longer has possession of the  
6 measure, appointment, substitute bill, or amendment and no further  
7 committee action, including reconsideration or a member adding or  
8 removing his or her signature to a majority or minority report, may  
9 be taken.

10 13. All committees will rely upon and use the Electronic Bill  
11 Book. Committee staff should add all materials relating to hearings,  
12 work sessions, or executive sessions to the Electronic Bill Book as  
13 early as possible or when the material has been made public. Paper  
14 copies will not be provided to members. All materials submitted by  
15 the public shall be submitted electronically.

16 14. All committees will use the online Committee Sign-In system.  
17 All committee members will be able to view the list of individuals  
18 who have signed in to testify on each measure or appointment. Members  
19 of the public wishing to testify in-person or remotely may sign up  
20 remotely no later than one hour before the committee is scheduled to  
21 meet.

22 15. With the exception of the ways and means and transportation  
23 committees, the chairs of standing committees must publish the list  
24 of measures and appointments that may be considered for executive  
25 session by 4:00 p.m. two days preceding executive session. The chairs  
26 of the ways and means committee and the transportation committee must  
27 publish the list of measures and appointments that may be considered  
28 for executive session by 7:00 p.m. two days preceding executive  
29 session. A chair, with the consent of the ranking member, has  
30 discretion to waive this deadline in extraordinary circumstances. A  
31 published measure or appointment may be rescheduled for executive  
32 action at the committee's next meeting without additional notice,  
33 provided no additional amendments are considered.

34 16. Members must have amendment requests to nonpartisan committee  
35 staff by 12:00 p.m. the day before scheduled executive action. A  
36 chair, with the consent of the ranking member, has discretion to  
37 wave this deadline in extraordinary circumstances or to accept  
38 technical revisions to perfect an amendment. Members should be

1 considerate of staff and turn in amendment requests earlier if they  
2 are long or complex, keeping in mind the final deadline for  
3 consideration of amendments.

4 17. All amendments, including substitutes, must be sponsored by a  
5 committee member. All amendments and effect statements must be either  
6 drafted or reviewed, or both, by nonpartisan committee staff. To be  
7 eligible for consideration at an executive session in a committee  
8 meeting scheduled to begin prior to 12:00 p.m., amendments must be  
9 released from confidentiality and posted to the Electronic Bill Book  
10 for committee members and the public by 4:00 p.m. the day before the  
11 executive session or the amendments will be considered out of order.  
12 To be eligible for consideration at an executive session in a  
13 committee meeting scheduled to begin on or after 12:00 p.m.,  
14 amendments must be released from confidentiality and posted to the  
15 Electronic Bill Book for committee members and the public by 7:00  
16 p.m. the day before the executive session or the amendments will be  
17 considered out of order. A chair with the consent of the ranking  
18 member has discretion to waive this deadline in extraordinary  
19 circumstances or to accept technical revisions to perfect an  
20 amendment.

21 18. A committee chair may choose to allow other committee members  
22 to participate remotely in committee meetings. The committee chair  
23 shall notify the secretary of the senate prior to the first day of  
24 the legislative session if the chair will allow committee members to  
25 participate remotely. A chair that initially chooses to allow only  
26 in-person participation may later choose to allow remote  
27 participation but must provide the secretary of the senate with  
28 notice of the change at least 24 hours prior to the committee hearing  
29 in which the change will become effective. Once a chair has chosen to  
30 allow members to participate remotely, this choice cannot be changed  
31 during the remainder of the session. If a chair allows committee  
32 members to participate remotely, those members will be considered  
33 "present" for the purposes of this rule and Senate Rule 49. A chair  
34 may not participate remotely in a committee meeting. Members  
35 participating remotely shall be allowed to participate in committee  
36 activities to the same extent as those attending in person.

37 **Committee Meetings During Sessions**



1 reading calendar of the senate and shall direct the secretary of the  
2 senate the order in which the bills shall (~~be considered by the~~  
3 ~~senate~~) appear on the calendars and the committee on rules shall  
4 have the authority to directly refer any bill before them to any  
5 other standing committee. Such referral shall be reported out to the  
6 senate on the next day's business.

7 The order of consideration of bills on the second or third  
8 reading calendar will be set by the floor leader of the majority  
9 caucus. A majority of members present may vote to change the order.

10 The calendar, except in emergent situations, as determined by the  
11 committee on rules, shall be (~~on the desks and in the offices of~~  
12 ~~the~~) available electronically to senators each day and shall cover  
13 the bills for consideration on the next following day.

#### 14 **Employment Committee**

15 **Rule 51.** The employment committee for committee staff shall  
16 consist of six members, three from the majority party and three from  
17 the minority party. The chair shall be appointed by the majority  
18 leader. All decisions shall be determined by majority vote. The  
19 committee shall operate within staffing, budget levels and guidelines  
20 as authorized and adopted by the facilities and operations committee.

#### 21 **Committee of the Whole**

22 **Rule 52.** At no time shall the senate sit as a committee of the  
23 whole.

24 The senate may at any time, by the vote of the majority of the  
25 members present, sit as a body for the purpose of taking testimony on  
26 any measure before the senate.

#### 27 **Appropriation Budget Bills**

28 **Rule 53.** No biennial or supplemental omnibus operating budget,  
29 omnibus capital budget, or omnibus transportation budget bill may be  
30 acted upon in second reading until twenty-four hours after the bill  
31 has been placed on the second reading calendar by the rules  
32 committee. This rule does not apply to conference committee reports  
33 of biennial or supplemental omnibus budget bills, which are governed  
34 by joint rules. This rule may be suspended with a majority vote of  
35 those present within three days of sine die. The rules committee  
36 shall establish by separate motion the time at which a bill has been  
37 placed on the second reading calendar for purposes of this rule.



1 process and the sponsoring member or member's legislative assistant  
2 must email such legislation to the office of the code reviser.

3 3. Provided that a vote has not been taken on final passage of a  
4 bill, joint resolution, or joint memorial, a member may add his or  
5 her name as a cosponsor until ((2:00)) 5:00 p.m. of the day of its  
6 introduction. For any bill, joint resolution, or joint memorial that  
7 has been prefiled for a regular session, a member has until ((2:00))  
8 5:00 p.m. of the day following introduction to add his or her name as  
9 a cosponsor.

10 4. To be considered during a regular session, a bill must be  
11 introduced at least ten days before final adjournment of the  
12 legislature, unless the legislature directs otherwise by a vote of  
13 two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, said vote to be  
14 taken by yeas and nays and entered upon the journal. The time  
15 limitation for introduction of bills shall not apply to substitute  
16 bills reported by standing committees for bills pending before such  
17 committees and general appropriation and revenue bills. (See also  
18 Art. 2, Sec. 36, State Constitution.)

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

### 23 **Amendatory Bills**

24 **Rule 57.** Bills introduced in the senate intended to amend  
25 existing statutes shall have the words which are amendatory to such  
26 existing statutes underlined. Any matter to be deleted from the  
27 existing statutes shall be indicated by setting such matter forth in  
28 full, enclosed by double parentheses, and such deleted matter shall  
29 be lined out with hyphens. No bill shall be printed or acted upon  
30 until the provisions of this rule shall have been complied with.

31 Sections added by amendatory bill to an existing act, or chapter  
32 of the official code, need not be underlined but shall be designated  
33 "NEW SECTION" in upper case type and such designation shall be  
34 underlined. New enactments need not be underlined.

35 When statutes are being repealed, the Revised Code of Washington  
36 section number to be repealed, the section caption and the session  
37 law history, from the most current to the original, shall be cited.

1 **Joint Resolutions and Memorials**

2 **Rule 58.** Joint resolutions and joint memorials, up to the signing  
3 thereof by the president of the senate, shall be subject to the rules  
4 governing the course of bills.

5 **Senate Concurrent Resolutions**

6 **Rule 59.** Concurrent resolutions shall be subject to the rules  
7 governing the course of bills and may be adopted without a roll call.  
8 Concurrent resolutions authorizing investigations and authorizing the  
9 expenditure or allocation of any money must be adopted by roll call  
10 and the yeas and nays recorded in the journal. Concurrent resolutions  
11 are subject to final passage on the day of the first reading without  
12 regard to Senate Rules 62, 63, and 64.

13 **Committee Bills**

14 **Rule 60.** Committee bills introduced by a standing committee  
15 during a legislative session may be filed with the secretary of the  
16 senate and introduced, and the signature of each member of the  
17 committee shall be endorsed upon the cover of the original bill.

18 Committee bills shall be read the first time by title, ordered  
19 printed, and referred to the committee on rules for second reading.

20 **Committee Reference**

21 **Rule 61.** When a motion is made to refer a subject, and different  
22 committees are proposed, the question shall be taken in the following  
23 order:

24 **FIRST:** A standing committee.

25 **SECOND:** A select committee.

26 **Reading of Bills**

27 **Rule 62.** Every bill shall be read on three separate days unless  
28 the senate deems it expedient to suspend this rule. On and after the  
29 tenth day preceding adjournment sine die of any session, or three  
30 days prior to any cut-off date for consideration of bills, as  
31 determined pursuant to Article 2, Section 12 of the Constitution or  
32 concurrent resolution, or during any special session of the  
33 legislature, this rule may be suspended by a majority vote. (See also  
34 Senate Rules 59 and 64).

35 **First Reading**



1 When no further amendments shall be offered, the president shall  
2 declare the bill has passed its second reading, and shall be referred  
3 to the committee on rules for third reading.

#### 4 **Third Reading**

5 **Rule 65.** Bills on third reading shall be read in full by  
6 sections, and no amendment shall be entertained.

7 When a bill shall pass, it shall be certified to by the  
8 secretary, together with the vote upon final passage, noting the day  
9 of its passage thereon.

10 The vote must be taken by yeas and nays, the names of the  
11 senators voting for and against the same to be entered upon the  
12 journal and the majority of the members elected to the senate must be  
13 recorded thereon as voting in its favor to secure its passage by the  
14 senate.

#### 15 **Scope and Object of Bill Not to be Changed**

16 **Rule 66.** No amendment to any bill shall be allowed which shall  
17 change the scope and object of the bill. (See also Art. 2, Sec. 38,  
18 State Constitution.) Substitute bills shall be considered amendments  
19 for the purposes of this rule. A point of order raising the question  
20 of scope and object may be raised at any time during consideration of  
21 an amendment prior to voting on the amendment. (~~A proposed amendment  
22 to an unamended title-only bill shall be within the scope and object  
23 of the bill if the subject of the amendment fits within the language  
24 in the title.~~)

#### 25 **Matters Related to Disagreement Between the Senate and House**

26 **Rule 67.** When there is a disagreement between the senate and  
27 house on a measure before the senate, the senate may act upon the  
28 measure with the following motions which have priority in the  
29 following order:

30 To concur

31 To non-concur

32 To recede

33 To insist

34 To adhere

35 These motions are in order as to any single amendment or to a  
36 series of amendments. (See Reed's Rules 247 through 254.)

1 A senate bill, passed by the house with amendment or amendments  
2 which shall change the scope and object of the bill, upon being  
3 received in the senate, shall be referred to an appropriate committee  
4 and shall take the same course as for original bills, unless a motion  
5 to ask the house to recede, to insist or to adhere is made prior to  
6 the measure being referred to committee.

#### 7 **Bills Committed for Special Amendment**

8 **Rule 68.** A bill may be committed with or without special  
9 instructions to amend at any time before taking the final vote.

#### 10 **Confirmation of Gubernatorial Appointees**

11 **Rule 69.** When the names of appointees to state offices are  
12 transmitted to the secretary of the senate for senate confirmation,  
13 the communication from the governor shall be recorded and referred to  
14 the appropriate standing committee.

15 The standing committee, or subcommittee, pursuant to Senate Rule  
16 42, shall require each appointee referred to the committee for  
17 consideration to complete the standard questionnaire to be used to  
18 ascertain the appointee's general background and qualifications. The  
19 committee may also require the appointee to complete a supplemental  
20 questionnaire related specifically to the qualifications for the  
21 position to which he has been appointed.

22 Any hearing on a gubernatorial appointment, held by the standing  
23 committee, or subcommittees, pursuant to Senate Rule 42, shall be a  
24 public hearing. The appointee may be required to appear before the  
25 committee on request. When appearing, the appointee shall be required  
26 to testify under oath or affirmation. The chair of the committee or  
27 the presiding member shall administer the oath or affirmation in  
28 accordance with RCW 44.16. (See also Article 2, Sec. 6 of the State  
29 Constitution.)

30 Nothing in this rule shall be construed to prevent a standing  
31 committee, or subcommittee, pursuant to Senate Rule 42, upon a two-  
32 thirds vote of its members, from holding executive sessions when  
33 considering an appointment.

34 When the committee on rules presents the report of the standing  
35 committee before the senate, the question shall be the confirmation  
36 of the name proposed, and the roll shall then be called and the yeas  
37 and nays entered upon the journal. In the event a message is received

1 from the governor requesting return of an appointment or appointments  
2 to the office of the governor prior to confirmation, the senate shall  
3 vote upon the governor's request and the appointment or appointments  
4 shall be returned to the governor if the request is approved by a  
5 majority of the members elected or appointed. (Article 13 of the  
6 State Constitution.)

7 **Emergency Resolution Authorized**

8 **Rule 70.** 1. If the Facilities and Operations Committee determines  
9 through a majority vote that physically convening all members and  
10 staff in a single location presents a danger to the health or safety  
11 of the participants or is impractical because of a publicly declared  
12 statewide emergency or catastrophic incident under RCW 43.06.010, the  
13 senate shall adopt a resolution establishing the rules and procedures  
14 governing any special or regular legislative session.

15 2. For purposes of adopting the senate resolution required by  
16 this rule, some or all members may vote using a remote access program  
17 established by the Secretary of the Senate. The remote access program  
18 must provide a mechanism approved by the President of the Senate by  
19 which the President can verify a member's remote presence. Members  
20 are considered in attendance within the bar of the senate when using  
21 the remote access program, including for purposes of establishing  
22 quorum. To the extent practicable, a member participating remotely  
23 under this rule has the same privileges, rights, and responsibilities  
24 under the Senate Rules as if the member were physically present.

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