

**SENATE RESOLUTION  
1999-8610**

By Senators Snyder, McDonald, Spanel, B. Sheldon and Johnson

1           BE IT RESOLVED, That the Rules of the Senate for the 1997 Regular  
2 Session of the 55th Legislature be adopted, as amended, as the Rules  
3 for the 1999 Regular Session of the 56th Legislature, to read as  
4 follows:

**PERMANENT RULES  
OF THE  
SENATE**

**((~~FIFTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE~~)) FIFTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE**

**((1997)) 1999**

**SECTION I - OFFICERS-MEMBERS-EMPLOYEES**

11	<b>Rule 1</b>	Duties of the President
12	<b>Rule 2</b>	President Pro Tempore
13	<b>Rule 3</b>	Secretary of the Senate
14	<b>Rule 4</b>	Sergeant at Arms
15	<b>Rule 5</b>	Subordinate Officers
16	<b>Rule 6</b>	Employees
17	<b>Rule 7</b>	Conduct of Members and Officers

**SECTION II - OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT**

- 1       **Rule 8**       Payment of Expenses - Facilities and Operations
- 2       **Rule 9**       Use of Senate Chambers
- 3       **Rule 10**      Admission to the Senate
- 4       **Rule 11**      Printing of Bills
- 5       **Rule 12**      Furnishing Full File of Bills
- 6       **Rule 13**      Regulation of Lobbyists
- 7       **Rule 14**      Security Management

8       **SECTION III - RULES AND ORDER**

- 9       **Rule 15**      Time of Convening
- 10      **Rule 16**      Quorum
- 11      **Rule 17**      Order of Business
- 12      **Rule 18**      Special Order
- 13      **Rule 19**      Unfinished Business
- 14      **Rule 20**      Motions and Senate Floor Resolutions (How Presented)
- 15      **Rule 21**      Precedence of Motions
- 16      **Rule 22**      Voting
- 17      **Rule 23**      Announcement of Vote
- 18      **Rule 24**      Call of the Senate
- 19      **Rule 25**      One Subject in a Bill
- 20      **Rule 26**      No Amendment by Mere Reference to Title of Act
- 21      **Rule 27**      Reading of Papers
- 22      **Rule 28**      Comparing Enrolled and Engrossed Bills

23      **SECTION IV - PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

- 24      **Rule 29**      Rules of Debate
- 25      **Rule 30**      Recognition by the President
- 26      **Rule 31**      Call for Division of a Question
- 27      **Rule 32**      Point of Order - Decision Appealable
- 28      **Rule 33**      Question of Privilege
- 29      **Rule 34**      Protests
- 30      **Rule 35**      Suspension of Rules
- 31      **Rule 36**      Previous Question
- 32      **Rule 37**      Reconsideration
- 33      **Rule 38**      Motion to adjourn
- 34      **Rule 39**      Yeas and Nays - When Must be Taken
- 35      **Rule 40**      Reed's Parliamentary Rules

36      **SECTION V - COMMITTEES**

1	<b>Rule 41</b>	Committees - Appointment and Confirmation
2	<b>Rule 42</b>	Subcommittees
3	<b>Rule 43</b>	Subpoena Power
4	<b>Rule 44</b>	Duties of Committees
5	<b>Rule 45</b>	Committee Rules
6	<b>Rule 46</b>	Committee Meetings During Sessions
7	<b>Rule 47</b>	Reading of Reports
8	<b>Rule 48</b>	Recalling Bills from Committees
9	<b>Rule 49</b>	Bills Referred to Rules Committee
10	<b>Rule 50</b>	Rules Committee
11	<b>Rule 51</b>	Employment Committee
12	<b>Rule 52</b>	Committee of the Whole
13	<b>Rule 53</b>	Appropriation Budget Bills
14	<b>SECTION VI - BILLS, RESOLUTIONS, MEMORIALS AND GUBERNATORIAL</b>	
15	<b>APPOINTMENTS</b>	
16	<b>Rule 54</b>	Definitions
17	<b>Rule 55</b>	Prefiling
18	<b>Rule 56</b>	Introduction of Bills
19	<b>Rule 57</b>	Amendatory Bills
20	<b>Rule 58</b>	Joint Resolutions and Memorials
21	<b>Rule 59</b>	Senate Concurrent Resolutions
22	<b>Rule 60</b>	Committee Bills
23	<b>Rule 61</b>	Committee Reference
24	<b>Rule 62</b>	Reading of Bills
25	<b>Rule 63</b>	First Reading
26	<b>Rule 64</b>	Second Reading/Amendments
27	<b>Rule 65</b>	Third Reading
28	<b>Rule 66</b>	Scope and Object of Bill Not to be Changed
29	<b>Rule 67</b>	Matter Related to Disagreement Between the Senate and
30		House
31	<b>Rule 68</b>	Bills Committed for Special Amendment
32	<b>Rule 69</b>	Confirmation of Gubernatorial Appointees



1 committees, such committee or committees shall be elected by the  
2 senate.

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

6 8. The president shall decide and announce the result of any vote  
7 taken.

8 9. When a vote of the senate is equally divided, the lieutenant  
9 governor, when presiding, shall have the deciding vote on questions  
10 other than the final passage of a bill. (See also Art. 2, Sec. 10 and  
11 22, State Constitution.)

## 12 **President Pro Tempore**

13 **Rule 2.** 1. Upon the organization of the senate the members shall  
14 elect one of their number as president pro tempore who shall have all  
15 the powers and authority and who shall discharge all the duties of  
16 lieutenant governor acting as president during the lieutenant  
17 governor's absence. The senate shall also elect a vice-president pro  
18 tempore who will serve in the absence of the lieutenant governor and  
19 the president pro tempore. (See Art. 2, Sec. 10, State Constitution.)

20 2. In the absence of the president pro tempore, and vice president  
21 pro tempore, or with their consent, the president shall have the right  
22 to name any senator to perform the duties of the chair, but such  
23 substitution shall not extend beyond an adjournment, nor authorize the  
24 senator so substituted to sign any documents requiring the signature of  
25 the president.

## 26 **Secretary of the Senate**

27 **Rule 3.** 1. The senate shall elect a secretary, who shall appoint  
28 a deputy secretary, both of whom shall be officers of the senate and  
29 shall perform the usual duties pertaining to their offices, and they  
30 shall hold office until their successors have been elected or  
31 appointed.

1 2. The secretary is the Personnel Officer of the senate and shall  
2 appoint, subject to the approval of the senate, all other senate  
3 employees and the hours of duty and assignments of all senate employees  
4 shall be under the secretary's directions and instructions and they may  
5 be dismissed at the secretary's discretion.

6 3. The secretary of the senate, prior to the convening of the next  
7 regular session, shall prepare his office to receive bills which the  
8 holdover members and members-elect may desire to prefile commencing  
9 with the first Monday in December preceding any regular session or  
10 twenty days prior to any special session of the legislature.

11 **Sergeant at Arms**

12 **Rule 4.** 1. The senate shall elect a sergeant at arms who shall  
13 perform the usual duties pertaining to that office, and shall hold  
14 office until a successor has been elected.

15 2. The sergeant at arms shall not admit to the floor of the senate  
16 during the time the senate is not convened any person other than  
17 specifically requested by a senator, the president, or the secretary of  
18 the senate, in writing or when personally accompanied by a senator.

19 **Subordinate Officers**

20 **Rule 5.** The subordinate officers of the senate shall perform such  
21 duties as usually pertain to their respective positions in legislative  
22 bodies under the direction of the president, and such other duties as  
23 the senate may impose upon them. Under no circumstances shall the  
24 compensation of any employee be increased for past services. (See also  
25 Art. 2, Sec. 25, State Constitution.)

26 **Employees**

27 **Rule 6.** 1. No senate employee shall lobby in favor of or against  
28 any matter under consideration.

1 2. Senate employees are governed by joint rules and chapters 42.17  
2 (the Public Disclosure Act) and 42.52 RCW (the Ethics in Public Service  
3 Act.

4 **Conduct of Members and Officers**

5 **Rule 7.** 1. Indecorous conduct, boisterous or unbecoming language  
6 will not be permitted in the senate at any time.

7 2. In cases of breach of decorum or propriety, any senator, officer  
8 or other person shall be liable to such censure or punishment as the  
9 senate may deem proper, and if any senator be called to order for  
10 offensive or indecorous language or conduct, the person calling the  
11 senator to order shall report the language excepted to which shall be  
12 taken down or noted at the secretary's desk. No member shall be held  
13 to answer for any language used upon the floor of the senate if  
14 business has intervened before exception to the language was thus taken  
15 and noted.

16 3. If any senator in speaking, or otherwise, transgresses the rules  
17 of the senate, the president shall, or any senator may, call that  
18 senator to order, and a senator so called to order shall resume the  
19 senator's seat and not proceed without leave of the senate, which  
20 leave, if granted, shall be upon motion "that the senator be allowed to  
21 proceed in order," when, if carried, the senator shall speak to the  
22 question under consideration.

23 4. No senator shall be absent from the senate without leave, except  
24 in case of accident or sickness, and if any senator or officer shall be  
25 absent the senator's per diem shall not be allowed or paid, and no  
26 senator or officer shall obtain leave of absence or be excused from  
27 attendance without the consent of a majority of the members present.

28 5. In the event of a motion or resolution to censure or punish, or  
29 any procedural motion thereto involving a senator, that senator shall  
30 not vote thereon. The senator shall be allowed to answer to such  
31 motion or resolution. An election or vote by the senate on a motion to  
32 censure or punish a senator shall require the vote of a majority of all  
33 senators elected or appointed to the senate. A vote to expel a member

1 shall require a two-thirds concurrence of all members elected or  
2 appointed to the senate. All votes shall be taken by yeas and nays and  
3 the votes shall be entered upon the journal. (See also Art. 2, Sec. 9,  
4 State Constitution.)

## 5 SECTION II

### 6 OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

#### 7 Payment of Expenses - Facilities and Operations

8 **Rule 8.** 1. After the reorganization caucuses of the Senate, the  
9 majority caucus shall designate four members and the minority caucus  
10 shall designate three members to serve on the Facilities and Operations  
11 Committee. The chair of the majority caucus shall be the chair of the  
12 Facilities and Operations Committee. The operation of the Senate shall  
13 transfer to the newly designated members after the reorganization  
14 caucuses of the Senate.

15 2. All necessary expenses of the senate incurred during the session  
16 shall be signed for by the secretary and approved by a majority of the  
17 committee on facilities and operations. The committee on facilities  
18 and operations shall carefully consider all items of expenditure  
19 ordered or contracted on the part of the senate, and report upon the  
20 same prior to the voucher being signed by the secretary of the senate  
21 authorizing the payment thereof. The committee on facilities and  
22 operations shall issue postage only as follows:

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

25 b) To the secretary of the senate in an amount sufficient to carry  
26 out the business of the senate.

#### 27 Use of Senate Chambers

28 **Rule 9.** The senate chamber and its facilities shall not be used for  
29 any but legislative business, except by permission of the senate while



1 in session, or by the facilities and operations committee when not in  
2 session.

3 **Admission to the Senate**

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

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

18 **Printing of Bills**

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

22 **Furnishing Full File of Bills**

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

1 **Regulation of Lobbyists**

2 **Rule 13.** All persons who engage in lobbying of any kind as defined in  
3 chapter 42.17 RCW shall be subject to the rules of the senate and  
4 legislature when lobbying before the senate. Any person who fails to  
5 conform to the senate or joint rules may have their privilege to lobby  
6 and all other privileges revoked upon a majority vote of the committee  
7 on rules for such time as is deemed appropriate by the committee.

8 Any person registered as a lobbyist pursuant to chapter 42.17 RCW who  
9 intervenes in or attempts to influence any personnel decision of the  
10 senate regarding any employee may suffer an immediate revocation of all  
11 privileges before the senate or such other privileges and for such time  
12 as may be deemed appropriate by the senate committee on rules. This  
13 restriction shall not prohibit a registered lobbyist from making  
14 written recommendations for staff positions.

15 **Security Management**

16 **Rule 14.** The sergeant at arms may develop methods to protect the  
17 Senate, including its members, staff, and the visiting public, by  
18 establishing procedures to curtail the use or possession of any weapon  
19 in a manner that is prohibited by law or by the rules of the Department  
20 of General Administration.

21 **SECTION III**

22 **RULES AND ORDER**

23 **Time of Convening**

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

1 **Quorum**

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

6 **Order of Business**

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

9 FIRST. Reports of standing committees.

10 SECOND. Reports of select committees.

11 THIRD. Messages from the governor and other state officers.

12 FOURTH. Messages from the house of representatives.

13 FIFTH. Introduction, first reading and reference of bills, joint  
14 memorials, joint resolutions and concurrent resolutions.

15 SIXTH. Second reading of bills.

16 SEVENTH. Third reading of bills.

17 EIGHTH. Presentation of petitions, memorials and floor resolutions.

18 NINTH. Presentation of motions.

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

22 All questions relating to the priority of business shall be decided  
23 without debate.

24 Messages from the governor, other state officers, and from the house  
25 of representatives may be considered at any time with the consent of  
26 the senate.

27 **Special Order**

28 **Rule 18.** The president shall call the senate to order at the hour  
29 fixed for the consideration of a special order, and announce that the  
30 special order is before the senate, which shall then be considered

1 unless it is postponed by a majority vote of the members present, and  
2 any business before the senate at the time of the announcement of the  
3 special order shall take its regular position in the order of business,  
4 except that if a cutoff established by concurrent resolution occurs  
5 during the special order, the senate may complete the order of business  
6 that was before the senate when consideration of the special order was  
7 commenced.

8 **Unfinished Business**

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

13 **Motion and Senate Floor Resolutions**  
14 **(How Presented)**

15 **Rule 20.** 1. No motion shall be entertained or debated until  
16 announced by the president and every motion shall be deemed to have  
17 been seconded. It shall be reduced to writing and read by the  
18 secretary, if desired by the president or any senator, before it shall  
19 be debated, and by the consent of the senate may be withdrawn before  
20 amendment or action.

21 2. Senate floor resolutions shall be acted upon in the same manner  
22 as motions. All senate floor resolutions shall be on the secretary's  
23 desk at least twenty-four hours prior to consideration.

24 **Precedence of Motions**

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

27 **PRIVILEGED MOTIONS**

- 28 Adjourn or recess
- 29 Reconsider
- 30 Demand for call of the senate

- 1 Demand for roll call
- 2 Demand for division
- 3 Question of privilege
- 4 Orders of the day

5 INCIDENTAL MOTIONS

- 6 Points of order and appeal
- 7 Method of consideration
- 8 Suspend the rules
- 9 Reading papers
- 10 Withdraw a motion
- 11 Division of a question

12 SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS

- 13 1st Rank: To lay on the table
- 14 2nd Rank: For the previous question
- 15 3rd Rank: To postpone to a day certain
- 16 To commit or recommit
- 17 To postpone indefinitely
- 18 4th Rank: To amend

19 No motion to postpone to a day certain, to commit, or to postpone  
20 indefinitely, being decided, shall again be allowed on the same day and  
21 at the same stage of the proceedings, and when a question has been  
22 postponed indefinitely it shall not again be introduced during the  
23 session.

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

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

27 **Voting**

28 **Rule 22.** 1. In all cases of election by the senate, the votes shall  
29 be taken by yeas and nays, and no senator or other person shall remain  
30 by the secretary's desk while the roll is being called or the votes are

1 being counted. No senator shall be allowed to vote except when within  
2 the bar of the senate, or upon any question upon which he or she is in  
3 any way personally or directly interested, nor be allowed to explain a  
4 vote or discuss the question while the yeas and nays are being called,  
5 nor change a vote after the result has been announced. (See also Art.  
6 2, Secs. 27 and 30, State Constitution.)

7 2. A member not voting by reason of personal or direct interest, or  
8 by reason of an excused absence, may explain the reason for not voting  
9 by a brief statement not to exceed fifty words in the journal.

10 3. The yeas and nays shall be taken when called for by one-sixth of  
11 all the senators present, and every senator within the bar of the  
12 senate shall vote unless excused by the unanimous vote of the members  
13 present, and the votes shall be entered upon the journal. (See also  
14 Art. 2, Sec. 21. State Constitution.)

15 When once begun the roll call may not be interrupted for any purpose  
16 other than to move a call of the senate. (See also Rule 24.)

17 4. A senator having been absent during roll call may ask to have his  
18 or her name called. Such a request must be made before the result of  
19 the roll call has been announced by the president.

20 5. The passage of a bill or action on a question is lost by a tie  
21 vote, but when a vote of the senate is equally divided, the lieutenant  
22 governor, when presiding, shall have the deciding vote on questions  
23 other than the final passage of a bill. (See also Art. 2, Secs. 10 and  
24 22, State Constitution.)

25 6. The order of the names on the roll call shall be alphabetical by  
26 last name.

27 7. All votes in a committee shall be recorded, and the record shall  
28 be preserved as prescribed by the secretary of the senate. One-sixth of  
29 the committee may demand an oral roll call.

1 **Announcement of Vote**

2 **Rule 23.** The announcement of all votes shall be made by the  
3 president.

4 **Call of the Senate**

5 **Rule 24.** Although a roll call is in progress, a call of the senate  
6 may be moved by three senators, and if carried by a majority of all  
7 present the secretary shall call the roll, after which the names of the  
8 absentees shall again be called. The doors shall then be locked and  
9 the sergeant at arms directed to take into custody all who may be  
10 absent without leave, and all the senators so taken into custody shall  
11 be presented at the bar of the senate for such action as the senate may  
12 deem proper.

13 **One Subject in a Bill**

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

17 **No Amendment by Mere Reference to Title of Act**

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

21 **Reading of Papers**

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

25 Any and all copies of reproductions of newspaper or magazine  
26 editorials, articles or cartoons or publications or material of any  
27 nature distributed to senators' desks must bear the name of at least  
28 one senator granting permission for the distribution. This shall not

1 apply to materials normally distributed by the secretary of the senate  
2 or the majority or minority caucuses.

3 **Comparing Enrolled and Engrossed Bills**

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

6 **SECTION IV**

7 **PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

8 **Rules of Debate**

9 **Rule 29.** When any senator is about to speak in debate, or submit any  
10 matter to the senate, the senator shall rise, and standing in place,  
11 respectfully address the President, and when recognized shall, in a  
12 courteous manner, speak to the question under debate, avoiding  
13 personalities. No senator shall impeach the motives of any other  
14 member or speak more than twice (except for explanation) during the  
15 consideration of any one question, on the same day or a second time  
16 without leave, when others who have not spoken desire the floor, but  
17 incidental and subsidiary questions arising during the debate shall not  
18 be considered the same question. A majority of the members present may  
19 further limit the number of times a member may speak on any question  
20 and may limit the length of time a member may speak but, unless a  
21 demand for the previous question has been sustained, a member shall not  
22 be denied the right to speak at least once on each question, nor shall  
23 a member be limited to less than three minutes on each question. In  
24 any event, the senator who presents the motion may open and close  
25 debate on the question.

26 **Recognition by the President**

27 **Rule 30.** When two or more senators rise at the same time to address  
28 the chair, the president shall name the one who shall speak first,  
29 giving preference, when practicable, to the mover or introducer of the  
30 subject under consideration.



1 **Call for Division of a Question**

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

6 **Point of Order - Decision Appealable**

7 **Rule 32.** Every decision of points of order by the president shall be  
8 subject to appeal by any senator, and discussion of a question of order  
9 shall be allowed. In all cases of appeal the question shall be:  
10 "Shall the decision of the chair stand as the judgment of the senate?"

11 **Question of Privilege**

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

1 subsequently convened during the same legislative biennium. Adoption  
2 of permanent rules may be by majority of the senate without notice and  
3 a majority of the senate may change a permanent rule without notice at  
4 the beginning of any session, as determined pursuant to Article 2,  
5 Section 12 of the State Constitution. No permanent rule or order of  
6 the senate shall be rescinded or changed without a majority vote of the  
7 members, and one day's notice of the motion.

8 2. A permanent rule or order may be temporarily suspended for a  
9 special purpose by a vote of two-thirds of the members present unless  
10 otherwise specified herein. When the suspension of a rule is called,  
11 and after due notice from the president no objection is offered, the  
12 president may announce the rule suspended, and the senate may proceed  
13 accordingly. Motion for suspension of the rules shall not be  
14 debatable, except, the mover of the motion may briefly explain the  
15 purpose of the motion and at the discretion of the president a rebuttal  
16 may be allowed.

17 **Previous Question**

18 **Rule 36.** The previous question shall not be put unless demanded by  
19 three senators, and it shall then be in this form: "Shall the main  
20 question be now put?" When sustained by a majority of senators present  
21 it shall preclude all debate, except the senator who presents the  
22 motion may open and close debate on the question and the vote shall be  
23 immediately taken on the question or questions pending before the  
24 senate, and all incidental question or questions of order arising after  
25 the motion is made shall be decided whether on appeal or otherwise  
26 without debate.

27 **Reconsideration**

28 **Rule 37.** 1. After the final vote on any measure, before the  
29 adjournment of that day's session, any member who voted with the  
30 prevailing side may give notice of reconsideration unless a motion to  
31 immediately transmit the measure to the house has been decided in the  
32 affirmative and the measure is no longer in possession of the senate.  
33 Such motion to reconsider shall be in order only under the order of  
34 motions of the day immediately following the day upon which such notice

1 of reconsideration is given, and may be made by any member who voted  
2 with the prevailing side.

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

16 **Motion to Adjourn**

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

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

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

27 When once begun the roll call may not be interrupted for any purpose  
28 other than to move a call of the senate. (See also Senate Rules 22 and  
29 24.)

30 **Reed's Parliamentary Rules**

31 **Rule 40.** The rules of parliamentary practice as contained in Reed's  
32 Parliamentary Rules shall govern the senate in all cases to which they

1 are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the rules  
2 and orders of this senate and the joint rules of this senate and the  
3 house of representatives.

4 **SECTION V**

5 **COMMITTEES**

6 **Committees - Appointment and Confirmation**

7 **Rule 41.** The president shall appoint all conference, special, joint  
8 and standing committees on the part of the senate. The appointment of  
9 the conference, special, joint and standing committees shall be  
10 confirmed by the senate.

11 In the event the senate shall refuse to confirm any conference,  
12 special, joint or standing committee or committees, such committee or  
13 committees shall be elected by the senate.

14 The following standing committees shall constitute the standing  
15 committees of the senate:

- 16 1. Agriculture and ~~((Environment))~~ Rural  
17 Economic Development . . . . . ((7)) 9  
18 2. Commerce ~~((and Labor))~~, Trade, Housing and  
19 Financial Institutions . . . . . ((7)) 11  
20 3. Education . . . . . ((7)) 13  
21 4. Energy ~~((and Utilities))~~, Technology  
22 and Telecommunications . . . . . 7  
23 5. ~~((Financial Institutions, Insurance and Housing))~~  
24 Environmental Quality and Water Resources . . . . . 7  
25 6. ~~((Government Operations~~ . . . . . 7  
26 ~~7-))~~ Health and Long-Term Care . . . . . 7  
27 ~~((8-))~~ 7. Higher Education . . . . . ((9)) 11  
28 ~~((9-))~~ 8. Human Services and Corrections . . . . . ((7)) 9  
29 9. Judiciary . . . . . 12  
30 10. ~~((Law and Justice))~~ Labor and Workforce  
31 Development . . . . . ((11)) 6  
32 11. Natural Resources ~~((and))~~, Parks and

1	<u>Recreation</u> . . . . .	((11)) 9
2	12. <u>Rules</u> . . . . .	((19)) 16
3	13. <u>State and Local Government</u> . . . . .	7
4	14. <u>Transportation</u> . . . . .	((15)) 20
5	((14.)) 15. <u>Ways and Means</u> . . . . .	21

6 **Subcommittees**

7 **Rule 42.** Committee chairs may create subcommittees of the standing  
8 committee and designate subcommittee chairs thereof to study subjects  
9 within the jurisdiction of the standing committee. The committee chair  
10 shall approve the use of committee staff and equipment assigned to the  
11 subcommittee. Subcommittee activities shall further be subject to  
12 facilities and operations committee approval to the same extent as are  
13 the actions of the standing committee from which they derive their  
14 authority.

15 **Subpoena Power**

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

30 **Duties of Committees**

31 **Rule 44.** The several committees shall fully consider measures  
32 referred to them.

1 The committees shall acquaint themselves with the interest of the  
2 state specially represented by the committee, and from time to time  
3 present such bills and reports as in their judgment will advance the  
4 interests and promote the welfare of the people of the state:  
5 PROVIDED, That no executive action on bills may be taken during an  
6 interim.

7

### Committee Rules

8 **Rule 45.** 1. At least five days notice shall be given of all public  
9 hearings held by any committee other than the rules committee. Such  
10 notice shall contain the date, time and place of such hearing together  
11 with the title and number of each bill, or identification of the  
12 subject matter, to be considered at such hearing. By a majority vote  
13 of the committee members present at any committee meeting such notice  
14 may be dispensed with. The reason for such action shall be set forth  
15 in a written statement preserved in the records of the meeting.

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

22 3. During its consideration of or vote on any bill, resolution or  
23 memorial, the deliberations of any committee or subcommittee of the  
24 senate shall be open to the public. In case of any disturbance or  
25 disorderly conduct at any such deliberations, the chair shall order the  
26 sergeant at arms to suppress the same and may order the meeting closed  
27 to any person or persons creating such disturbance.

28 4. A majority of any committee shall constitute a quorum. Committees  
29 shall be considered to have a quorum present unless the question is  
30 raised. No committee shall transact official business absent a quorum  
31 except to conduct a hearing.

32 5. Bills reported to the senate from a standing committee must have  
33 a majority report, which shall be prepared upon a printed standing

1 committee report form; shall carry one, or more as appropriate, of the  
2 following recommendations, shall be adopted at a regularly or specially  
3 called meeting during a legislative session and shall be signed by a  
4 majority of the committee:

- 5 a. Do pass.
- 6 b. Do pass as amended.
- 7 c. That a substitute bill be substituted therefor, and the  
8 substitute bill do pass.
- 9 d. That the bill be referred to another committee.
- 10 e. Without recommendation.

11 6. A majority report of a committee must carry the signatures of a  
12 majority of the members of the committee. In the event a committee has  
13 a quorum pursuant to subsection 3 of this rule, a majority of the  
14 members present may act on a measure, subject to obtaining the  
15 signatures of a majority of the members of the committee on the  
16 majority report.

17 7. Any measure which does not receive a majority vote of the members  
18 present may be reconsidered at that meeting and may again be considered  
19 upon motion of any committee member if one day's notice of said motion  
20 is provided to all committee members.

21 8. Members of the committee not concurring in the majority report  
22 may prepare a written minority report containing a different  
23 recommendation which shall be signed by those members of the committee  
24 subscribing thereto.

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

29 A motion for the substitution of the substitute bill for the original  
30 bill shall not be in order until the committee on rules places the  
31 original bill on the second reading calendar.

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

4 11. All reports of standing committees must be on the secretary's  
5 desk one hour prior to convening of the session in order to be read at  
6 said session.

#### 7 **Committee Meetings During Sessions**

8 **Rule 46.** No committee shall sit during the daily session of the  
9 senate unless by special leave.

10 No committee shall sit during any scheduled caucus.

#### 11 **Reading of Reports**

12 **Rule 47.** The majority report, and minority report, if there be one,  
13 together with the names of the signers thereof, shall be read by the  
14 secretary, unless the reading be dispensed with by the senate, and all  
15 committee reports shall be spread upon the journal.

#### 16 **Recalling Bills from Committees**

17 **Rule 48.** Any standing committee of the senate may be relieved of  
18 further consideration of any bill, regardless of prior action of the  
19 committee, by a majority vote of the senators elected or appointed.  
20 The senate may then make such orderly disposition of the bill as they  
21 may direct by a majority vote of the members of the senate.

#### 22 **Bills Referred to Rules Committee**

23 **Rule 49.** All bills reported by a committee to the senate shall then  
24 be referred to the committee on rules for second reading without action  
25 on the report unless otherwise ordered by the senate. (See also Rules  
26 63 and 64.)



1 **Rules Committee**

2 **Rule 50.** The lieutenant governor shall be a voting member and the  
3 chair of the committee on rules. The committee on rules shall have  
4 charge of the daily second and third reading calendar of the senate and  
5 shall direct the secretary of the senate the order in which the bills  
6 shall be considered by the senate and the committee on rules shall have  
7 the authority to directly refer any bill before them to any other  
8 standing committee. Such referral shall be reported out to the senate  
9 on the next day's business.

10 The senate may change the order of consideration of bills on the  
11 second or third reading calendar.

12 The calendar, except in emergent situations, as determined by the  
13 committee on rules, shall be on the desks and in the offices of the  
14 senators each day and shall cover the bills for consideration on the  
15 next following day.

16 **Employment Committee**

17 **Rule 51.** The employment committee for committee staff shall consist  
18 of five members, three from the majority party and two from the  
19 minority party. The chair shall be appointed by the majority leader.  
20 The committee shall, in addition to its other duties, appoint a staff  
21 director for committee services with the concurrence of four of its  
22 members. All other decisions shall be determined by majority vote.  
23 The committee shall operate within staffing, budget levels and  
24 guidelines as authorized and adopted by the facilities and operations  
25 committee.

26 **Committee of the Whole**

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

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



1 session at which said bill, joint resolution or joint memorial is to be  
2 introduced.

3 After the expiration of deadlines for bill introductions provided for  
4 by resolution, no bill shall be introduced, except as the legislature  
5 shall direct by a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each  
6 house, said vote to be taken by yeas and nays and entered upon the  
7 journal, or unless the same be at a special session. The time  
8 limitation for introduction of bills shall not apply to substitute  
9 bills reported by standing committees for bills pending before such  
10 committees and general appropriation and revenue bills. (See also Art.  
11 2, Sec. 36, State Constitution.)

## 12 **Amendatory Bills**

13 **Rule 57.** Bills introduced in the senate intended to amend existing  
14 statutes shall have the words which are amendatory to such existing  
15 statutes underlined. Any matter to be deleted from the existing  
16 statutes shall be indicated by setting such matter forth in full,  
17 enclosed by double parentheses, and such deleted matter shall be lined  
18 out with hyphens. No bill shall be printed or acted upon until the  
19 provisions of this rule shall have been complied with.

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

## 24 **Joint Resolutions and Memorials**

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

## 28 **Senate Concurrent Resolutions**

29 **Rule 59.** Concurrent resolutions shall be subject to the rules  
30 governing the course of bills and may be adopted without a roll call.  
31 Concurrent resolutions authorizing investigations and authorizing the

1 expenditure or allocation of any money must be adopted by roll call and  
2 the yeas and nays recorded in the journal. Concurrent resolutions are  
3 subject to final passage on the day of the first reading without regard  
4 to Senate Rule 62.

5 **Committee Bills**

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

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

12 **Committee Reference**

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

- 16 FIRST: A standing committee.  
17 SECOND: A select committee.

18 **Reading of Bills**

19 **Rule 62.** Every bill shall be read on three separate days unless the  
20 senate deems it expedient to suspend this rule. On and after the tenth  
21 day preceding adjournment sine die of any session, or three days prior  
22 to any cut-off date for consideration of bills, as determined pursuant  
23 to Article 2, Section 12 of the Constitution or concurrent resolution,  
24 this rule may be suspended by a majority vote. (See also Rule 59).

25 **First Reading**

26 **Rule 63.** The first reading of a bill shall be by title only, unless  
27 a majority of the members present demand a reading in full.

1 After the first reading, bills shall be referred to an appropriate  
2 committee pursuant to Rule 61.

3 Upon being reported back by committee, all bills shall be referred to  
4 the committee on rules for second reading, unless otherwise ordered by  
5 the senate. (See Rule 49.)

6 A bill shall be reported back by the committee chair upon written  
7 petition therefor signed by a majority of its members. The petition  
8 shall designate the recommendation as provided in Rule 45, Sub. 4.

9 No committee chair shall exercise a pocket veto of any bill.

10 Should there be a two-thirds majority report of the committee  
11 membership against the bill, a vote shall be immediately ordered for  
12 the indefinite postponement of the bill.

13 **Second Reading/Amendments**

14 **Rule 64.** Upon second reading, the bill shall be read section by  
15 section, in full, and be subject to amendment.

16 Any member may, if sustained by three members, remove a bill from the  
17 consent calendar as constituted by the committee on rules. A bill  
18 removed from the consent calendar shall take its place as the last bill  
19 in the order of consideration of bills on the second reading calendar.

20 No amendment shall be considered by the senate until it shall have  
21 been sent to the secretary's desk in writing and read by the secretary.

22 All amendments adopted on the second reading shall then be securely  
23 fastened to the original bill.

24 All amendments rejected by the senate shall be spread upon the  
25 journal, and the journal shall show the disposition of all amendments.

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

1 **Third Reading**

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

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

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

11 **Scope and Object of Bill Not to be Changed**

12 **Rule 66.** No amendment to any bill shall be allowed which shall change  
13 the scope and object of the bill. (See also Art. 2, Sec. 38, State  
14 Constitution.) Substitute bills shall be considered amendments for the  
15 purposes of this rule. A point of order raising the question of scope  
16 and object may be raised at any time during consideration of an  
17 amendment prior to voting on the amendment.

18 **Matters Related to Disagreement Between the Senate and House**

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

- 22 To concur
- 23 To non-concur
- 24 To recede
- 25 To insist
- 26 To adhere

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

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

7 **Bills Committed for Special Amendment**

8 **Rule 68.** A bill may be committed with or without special instructions  
9 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, the  
13 communication from the governor shall be recorded and referred to the  
14 appropriate standing committee.

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

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

30 Nothing in this rule shall be construed to prevent a standing  
31 committee, or subcommittee, pursuant to rule 42, upon a two-thirds vote

1 of its members, from holding executive sessions when considering an  
2 appointment.

3 When the committee on rules presents the report of the standing  
4 committee before the senate, the question shall be the confirmation of  
5 the name proposed, and the roll shall then be called and the yeas and  
6 nays entered upon the journal. In the event a message is received from  
7 the governor requesting return of an appointment or appointments to the  
8 office of the governor prior to confirmation, the senate shall vote  
9 upon the governor's request and the appointment or appointments shall  
10 be returned to the governor if the request is approved by a majority of  
11 the members elected or appointed. (Article 13 of the State  
12 Constitution.)

13 I, Tony M. Cook, Secretary of the Senate,  
14 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
15 correct copy of Senate Resolution 1999-8610,  
16 adopted by the Senate January 27, 1999.

17 TONY M. COOK  
18 Secretary of the Senate