

SENATE RESOLUTION  
8601

By Senator Schoesler

1 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Rules of the Senate for the 2013 Regular  
2 Session of the 63rd Legislature, as amended in the 2013 Regular  
3 Session and the 2014 Regular Session, be adopted as amended as the  
4 Rules of the Senate for the 2015 Regular Session of the 64th  
5 Legislature, to read as follows:

6 **PERMANENT RULES**  
7 **OF THE**  
8 **SENATE**  
9 **SIXTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE**  
10 **2015**

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14 **Rule 2** President Pro Tempore  
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25                             **SECTION I**  
 26                             **OFFICERS-MEMBERS-EMPLOYEES**  
 27                             **Duties of the President**

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

33     2. The president shall preserve order and decorum, and in  
 34     case of any disturbance or disorderly conduct within the  
 35     chamber, legislative area, legislative offices or buildings, and  
 36     legislative hearing and meeting rooms, shall order the sergeant  
 37     at arms to suppress the same, and may order the arrest of any  
 38     person creating any disturbance within the senate chamber. The  
 39     use of cellular or digital telephones is prohibited within the  
 40     senate chamber during floor session and within a hearing room  
 41     during a committee hearing, and this prohibition shall be  
 42     enforced in the same manner as any other breach of order and  
 43     decorum.

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

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

6 5. The president shall, in open session, sign all acts,  
7 addresses and joint resolutions. The president shall sign all  
8 writs, warrants and subpoenas issued by order of the senate, all  
9 of which shall be attested by the secretary. (See also Art. 2,  
10 Sec. 32, State Constitution.)

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

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

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

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

#### 28 **President Pro Tempore**

29 **Rule 2.** 1. Upon the organization of the senate the members  
30 shall elect one of their number as president pro tempore who  
31 shall have all the powers and authority and who shall discharge  
32 all the duties of lieutenant governor acting as president during  
33 the lieutenant governor's absence. The president pro tempore  
34 shall serve as the vice chair of the committee on rules. The  
35 senate shall also elect a vice president pro tempore who will  
36 serve in the absence of the lieutenant governor and the  
37 president pro tempore. (See Art. 2, Sec. 10, State  
38 Constitution.)

39 2. In the absence of the president pro tempore, and vice  
40 president pro tempore, or with their consent, the president  
41 shall have the right to name any senator to perform the duties  
42 of the chair, but such substitution shall not extend beyond an  
43 adjournment, nor authorize the senator so substituted to sign  
44 any documents requiring the signature of the president.

45 3. A "majority caucus" is a caucus whose members constitute  
46 a majority of the senate and may include members from different  
47 political caucuses. The establishment of a majority caucus is  
48 evidenced by a majority of the members of the senate  
49 demonstrating the intent to caucus together and to lead the  
50 senate. Those members not part of the majority caucus constitute  
51 the minority caucus or caucuses.





1 signed by the secretary of the senate authorizing the payment  
2 thereof. The committee on facilities and operations shall issue  
3 postage only as follows:

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

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

#### 9 **Use of Senate Chambers**

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

#### 14 **Admission to the Senate**

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

20 The governor and/or designees,  
21 Members of the house of representatives,  
22 State elected officials,  
23 Officers and authorized employees of the legislature,  
24 Honored guests being presented to the senate,  
25 Former members of the senate who are not registered  
26 lobbyists pursuant to chapter 42.17 RCW,  
27 Representatives of the press,  
28 Persons specifically requested by a senator to the president  
29 in writing or only as long as accompanied by a senator.

#### 30 **Printing of Bills**

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

#### 34 **Furnishing Full File of Bills**

35 **Rule 12.** Persons, firms, corporations and organizations  
36 within the state, desirous of receiving copies of all printed  
37 senate bills, shall make application therefor to the secretary  
38 of the senate. The bill clerk shall send copies of all printed  
39 senate bills to such persons, firms, corporations and  
40 organizations as may be ordered by the secretary of the senate.  
41 The secretary of the senate is authorized to recoup costs.

#### 42 **Regulation of Lobbyists**

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

1 Any person registered as a lobbyist pursuant to chapter  
2 42.17 RCW who intervenes in or attempts to influence any  
3 personnel decision of the senate regarding any employee may  
4 suffer an immediate revocation of all privileges before the  
5 senate or such other privileges and for such time as may be  
6 deemed appropriate by the senate committee on rules. This  
7 restriction shall not prohibit a registered lobbyist from making  
8 written recommendations for staff positions.

### 9 Security Management

10 **Rule 14.** The sergeant at arms may develop methods to protect  
11 the senate, including its members, staff, and the visiting  
12 public, by establishing procedures to curtail the use or  
13 possession of any weapon in a manner that is prohibited by law  
14 or by the rules of the Department of General Administration.

### 15 SECTION III 16 RULES AND ORDER 17 Time of Convening

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

### 25 Quorum

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

### 30 Order of Business

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

- 33 FIRST. Reports of standing committees.
- 34 SECOND. Reports of select committees.
- 35 THIRD. Messages from the governor and other state officers.
- 36 FOURTH. Messages from the house of representatives.
- 37 FIFTH. Introduction, first reading and reference of bills, joint memorials, joint resolutions and concurrent  
38 resolutions.
- 39 SIXTH. Second reading of bills.
- 40 SEVENTH. Third reading of bills.
- 41 EIGHTH. Presentation of petitions, memorials and floor resolutions.
- 42 NINTH. Presentation of motions.

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

46 All questions relating to the priority of business shall be  
47 decided without debate.

1 Messages from the governor, other state officers, and from  
2 the house of representatives may be considered at any time with  
3 the consent of the senate.

#### 4 **Special Order**

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

#### 16 **Unfinished Business**

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

#### 22 **Motions and Senate Floor Resolutions** 23 **(How Presented)**

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

30 2. The senate shall consider no more than one floor  
31 resolution per day in session: Provided, That this rule shall  
32 not apply to floor resolutions essential to the operation of the  
33 senate; and further Provided, That there shall be no limit on  
34 the number of floor resolutions considered on senate pro forma  
35 session days. Senate floor resolutions shall be acted upon in  
36 the same manner as motions. All senate floor resolutions shall  
37 be on the secretary's desk at least twenty-four hours prior to  
38 consideration. Members' names shall only be added to the  
39 resolution if the member signs the resolution. Members shall  
40 have until thirty minutes after the senate is convened the  
41 following day the senate is in a regular or pro forma session to  
42 add their names to the floor resolution. A motion may be made to  
43 close the period for signatures at an earlier time.

#### 44 **Precedence of Motions**

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

#### 47 **PRIVILEGED MOTIONS**

48 Adjourn, recess, or go at ease  
49 Reconsider  
50 Demand for call of the senate  
51 Demand for roll call

1 Demand for division  
2 Question of privilege  
3 Orders of the day  
4 INCIDENTAL MOTIONS  
5 Points of order and appeal  
6 Method of consideration  
7 Suspend the rules  
8 Reading papers  
9 Withdraw a motion  
10 Division of a question

11 SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS

12 1st Rank: To lay on the table  
13 2nd Rank: For the previous question  
14 3rd Rank: To postpone to a day certain  
15 To commit or recommit  
16 To postpone indefinitely  
17 4th Rank: To amend

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

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

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

28 **Voting**

29 **Rule 22.** 1. In all cases of election by the senate, the  
30 votes shall be taken by yeas and nays, and no senator or other  
31 person shall remain by the secretary's desk while the roll is  
32 being called or the votes are being counted. No senator shall be  
33 allowed to vote except when within the bar of the senate, or  
34 upon any question upon which he or she is in any way personally  
35 or directly interested, nor be allowed to explain a vote or  
36 discuss the question while the yeas and nays are being called,  
37 nor change a vote after the result has been announced. (See also  
38 Art. 2, Secs. 27 and 30, State Constitution.)

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

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

1 When once begun the roll call may not be interrupted for any  
2 purpose other than to move a call of the senate. (See also Rule  
3 24.)

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

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

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

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

17 8. If a member of the majority is going to be absent due to  
18 a health matter or other emergency, then a member of the  
19 minority may publicly announce on the floor of the senate that  
20 he or she will cast votes as he or she believes the absent  
21 member would have voted in order to avoid results that would  
22 only occur because of the unanticipated absence.

#### 23 **Announcement of Vote**

24 **Rule 23.** The announcement of all votes shall be made by the  
25 president.

#### 26 **Call of the Senate**

27 **Rule 24.** Although a roll call is in progress, a call of the  
28 senate may be moved by three senators, and if carried by a  
29 majority of all present the secretary shall call the roll, after  
30 which the names of the absentees shall again be called. The  
31 doors shall then be locked and the sergeant at arms directed to  
32 take into custody all who may be absent without leave, and all  
33 the senators so taken into custody shall be presented at the bar  
34 of the senate for such action as the senate may deem proper.

#### 35 **One Subject in a Bill**

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

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

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

#### 44 **Reading of Papers**

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

1 Any and all copies of reproductions of newspaper or magazine  
2 editorials, articles or cartoons or publications or material of  
3 any nature distributed to senators' desks must bear the name of  
4 at least one senator granting permission for the distribution.  
5 This shall not apply to materials normally distributed by the  
6 secretary of the senate or the majority or minority caucuses.

#### 7 **Comparing Enrolled and Engrossed Bills**

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

### 11 **SECTION IV** 12 **PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE** 13 **Rules of Debate**

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

#### 34 **Recognition by the President**

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

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

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

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

46 **Rule 32.** Every decision of points of order by the president  
47 shall be subject to appeal by any senator, and discussion of a  
48 question of order shall be allowed. In all cases of appeal the  
49 question shall be: "Shall the decision of the president stand as  
50 the judgment of the senate?"

#### 51 **Question of Privilege**



1 prevailing side may give notice of reconsideration unless a  
2 motion to immediately transmit the measure to the house has been  
3 decided in the affirmative. Such motion to reconsider shall be  
4 in order only under the order of motions of the day immediately  
5 following the day upon which such notice of reconsideration is  
6 given, and may be made by any member who voted with the  
7 prevailing side.

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

### 23 **Motion to Adjourn**

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

### 28 **Yeas and Nays - When Must be Taken**

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

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

### 37 **Reed's Parliamentary Rules**

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

## 43 **SECTION V**

### 44 **COMMITTEES**

#### 45 **Committees - Appointment and Confirmation**

46 **Rule 41.** The president shall appoint all conference,  
47 special, joint and standing committees on the part of the  
48 senate. The appointment of the conference, special, joint and  
49 standing committees shall be confirmed by the senate.

50 In the event the senate shall refuse to confirm any  
51 conference, special, joint or standing committee or committees,  
52 such committee or committees shall be elected by the senate.

1 The following standing committees shall constitute the  
 2 standing committees of the senate:

<b>Standing Committee</b>	<b>Total Membership</b>
3 1. <u>Accountability &amp; Reform.</u> . . . . .	5
4 2. <u>Agriculture, Water &amp; Rural Economic Development.</u> . . . . .	((6))5
5 ((2-))3. <u>Commerce &amp; Labor.</u> . . . . .	7
6 ((3-))4. <u>Early Learning &amp; K-12 Education.</u> . . . . .	((11))9
7 ((4-))5. <u>Energy, Environment &amp; Telecommunications.</u> . . . . .	9
8 ((5-))6. <u>Financial Institutions(<del>(-Housing))</del> &amp; Insurance.</u> . . . . .	9
9 ((8))9	
10 ((6- <del>Governmental</del> ))7. <u>Government Operations &amp; State Security</u>	7
11 . . . . .	7
12 ((7-))8. <u>Health Care.</u> . . . . .	((8))13
13 ((8-))9. <u>Higher Education.</u> . . . . .	7
14 ((9-))10. <u>Human Services (<del>(&amp; Corrections))</del>, <u>Mental Health &amp;</u></u>	
15 <u>Housing.</u> . . . . .	5
16 ((10-))11. <u>Law &amp; Justice.</u> . . . . .	7
17 ((11-))12. <u>Natural Resources &amp; Parks.</u> . . . . .	7
18 ((12-))13. <u>Rules.</u> . . . . .	((21))17 (plus the Lieutenant Governor)
19 ((13-))14. <u>Trade &amp; Economic Development.</u> . . . . .	7
20 ((14-))15. <u>Transportation.</u> . . . . .	15
21 ((15-))16. <u>Ways &amp; Means.</u> . . . . .	23

23 **Subcommittees**

24 **Rule 42.** Committee chairs may create subcommittees of the  
 25 standing committee and designate subcommittee chairs thereof to  
 26 study subjects within the jurisdiction of the standing  
 27 committee. The committee chair shall approve the use of  
 28 committee staff and equipment assigned to the subcommittee.  
 29 Subcommittee activities shall further be subject to facilities  
 30 and operations committee approval to the same extent as are the  
 31 actions of the standing committee from which they derive their  
 32 authority.

33 **Subpoena Power**

34 **Rule 43.** Any of the above referenced committees, including  
 35 subcommittees thereof, or any special committees created by the  
 36 senate, may have the powers of subpoena, the power to administer  
 37 oaths, and the power to issue commissions for the examination of  
 38 witnesses in accordance with the provisions of chapter 44.16  
 39 RCW. The committee chair shall file with the committee on rules,  
 40 prior to issuance of any process, a statement of purpose setting  
 41 forth the name or names of those subject to process. The rules  
 42 committee shall consider every proposed issuance of process at a  
 43 meeting of the rules committee immediately following the filing  
 44 of the statement with the committee. The process shall not be  
 45 issued prior to consideration by the rules committee. The  
 46 process shall be limited to the named individuals and the  
 47 committee on rules may overrule the service on an individual so  
 48 named.

49 **Duties of Committees**

50 **Rule 44.** The several committees shall fully consider  
 51 measures referred to them.

52 The committees shall acquaint themselves with the interest  
 53 of the state specially represented by the committee, and from

1 time to time present such bills and reports as in their judgment  
2 will advance the interests and promote the welfare of the people  
3 of the state: PROVIDED, That no executive action on bills may be  
4 taken during an interim.

#### 5 **Committee Rules**

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

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

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

29 4. No committee shall amend a measure, adopt a substitute  
30 bill, or vote upon any measure or appointment absent a quorum. A  
31 committee may conduct a hearing absent a quorum. A majority of  
32 any committee shall constitute a quorum and committees shall be  
33 considered to have a quorum present unless the question is  
34 raised. Any question as to quorum not raised at the time of the  
35 committee action is deemed waived.

36 5. Bills reported to the senate from a standing committee  
37 must have a majority report, which shall be prepared upon a  
38 printed standing committee report form; shall be adopted at a  
39 regularly or specially called meeting during a legislative  
40 session and shall be signed by a majority of the committee; and  
41 shall carry only one of the following recommendations:

- 42 a. Do pass;
- 43 b. Do pass as amended;
- 44 c. That a substitute bill be substituted therefor, and the  
45 substitute bill do pass; or
- 46 d. Without recommendation.

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

50 6. A majority report of a committee must carry the  
51 signatures of a majority of the members of the committee. In the  
52 event a committee has a quorum pursuant to subsection 4 of this

1 rule, subject to the limitation of subsection 12 of this rule, a  
2 majority of the members present may act on a measure, subject to  
3 obtaining the signatures of a majority of the members of the  
4 committee on the majority report.

5 7. Any measure, appointment, substitute bill, or amendment  
6 still within a committee's possession before it has been  
7 reported out to the full senate may be reconsidered to correct  
8 an error, change language, or otherwise accurately reflect the  
9 will of the committee in its majority and minority reports to  
10 the full senate. Any such reconsideration may be made at any  
11 time, by any member of the committee, provided that the  
12 committee has not yet reported the measure, appointment,  
13 substitute bill, or amendment out to the full senate. Any such  
14 reconsideration made after a vote has been taken or signatures  
15 obtained will require a new vote and signature sheet. Any  
16 measure which does not receive a majority vote of the members  
17 present may be reconsidered at that meeting and may again be  
18 considered upon motion of any committee member if one day's  
19 notice of said motion is provided to all committee members. For  
20 purposes of this rule, a committee is deemed to have reported a  
21 measure, appointment, substitute bill, or amendment out when it  
22 has delivered its majority and minority reports to the senate  
23 workroom. After such delivery, the committee no longer has  
24 possession of the measure, appointment, substitute bill, or  
25 amendment and no further committee action, including  
26 reconsideration, may be taken.

27 8. Any member of the committee not concurring in the  
28 majority report may sign a minority report containing a  
29 recommendation of "do not pass" or "without recommendation,"  
30 which shall be signed by those members of the committee  
31 subscribing thereto, and submitted with the majority report.  
32 Unless the signatory of a minority report expressly indicates a  
33 "do not pass" recommendation, the member's vote shall be deemed  
34 to be "without recommendation." In every case where a majority  
35 report form is circulated for signature, a minority report form  
36 shall also be circulated.

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

41 A motion for the substitution of the substitute bill for the  
42 original bill shall not be in order until the committee on rules  
43 places the original bill on the second reading calendar.

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

47 11. All reports of standing committees must be on the  
48 secretary's desk one hour prior to convening of the session in  
49 order to be read at said session. During any special session of  
50 the legislature, this rule may be suspended by a majority vote.

51 12. When a standing committee is operated by cochairs, the  
52 committee may not vote upon any measure or appointment without  
53 the consent of each cochair.

1                                   **Committee Meetings During Sessions**

2           **Rule 46.** No committee shall sit during the daily session of  
3 the senate unless by special leave.  
4           No committee shall sit during any scheduled caucus.

5                                   **Reading of Reports**

6           **Rule 47.** The majority report, and minority report, if there  
7 be one, together with the names of the signers thereof, shall be  
8 read by the secretary, unless the reading be dispensed with by  
9 the senate, and all committee reports shall be spread upon the  
10 journal.

11                                  **Recalling Bills from Committees**

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

18                                  **Bills Referred to Rules Committee**

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

23                                  **Rules Committee**

24           **Rule 50.** The lieutenant governor shall be a voting member  
25 and the chair of the committee on rules. The president pro  
26 tempore shall be a voting member and the vice chair of the  
27 committee on rules. The committee on rules shall have charge of  
28 the daily second and third reading calendar of the senate and  
29 shall direct the secretary of the senate the order in which the  
30 bills shall be considered by the senate and the committee on  
31 rules shall have the authority to directly refer any bill before  
32 them to any other standing committee. Such referral shall be  
33 reported out to the senate on the next day's business.

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

36           The calendar, except in emergent situations, as determined  
37 by the committee on rules, shall be on the desks and in the  
38 offices of the senators each day and shall cover the bills for  
39 consideration on the next following day.

40                                  **Employment Committee**

41           **Rule 51.** The employment committee for committee staff shall  
42 consist of five members, three from the majority party and two  
43 from the minority party. The chair shall be appointed by the  
44 majority leader. The committee shall, in addition to its other  
45 duties, appoint a staff director for committee services with the  
46 concurrence of four of its members. All other decisions shall be  
47 determined by majority vote. The committee shall operate within  
48 staffing, budget levels and guidelines as authorized and adopted  
49 by the facilities and operations committee.

1 **Committee of the Whole**

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

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

7 **Appropriation Budget Bills**

8 **Rule 53.** Reserved

9 **SECTION VI**

10 **BILLS, RESOLUTIONS, MEMORIALS AND GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENTS**

11 **Definitions**

12 **Rule 54.** "Measure" means a bill, joint memorial, joint  
13 resolution, or concurrent resolution.

14 "Bill" when used alone means bill, joint memorial, joint  
15 resolution, or concurrent resolution.

16 "Majority" shall mean a majority of those members present  
17 unless otherwise stated.

18 **Prefiling**

19 **Rule 55.** Holdover members and members-elect to the senate  
20 may prefile bills with the secretary of the senate on any day  
21 commencing with the first Monday in December preceding any  
22 session year; or twenty days prior to any special session of the  
23 legislature. Such bills will be printed, distributed and  
24 prepared for introduction on the first legislative day. No bill,  
25 joint memorial or joint resolution shall be prefiled by title  
26 and/or preamble only. (See also Rule 3, Sub. 3.)

27 **Introduction of Bills**

28 **Rule 56.** All bills, joint resolutions, and joint memorials  
29 introduced shall be endorsed with a statement of the title and  
30 the name of the member introducing the same. Any member desiring  
31 to introduce a bill, joint resolution, or joint memorial shall  
32 file the same with the secretary of the senate by noon of the  
33 day before the convening of the session at which said bill,  
34 joint resolution, or joint memorial is to be introduced.

35 Provided that a vote has not been taken on final passage of  
36 a bill, joint resolution, or joint memorial, a member may add  
37 his or her name as a cosponsor until 2:00 p.m. of the day of its  
38 introduction. For any bill, joint resolution, or joint memorial  
39 that has been prefiled for a regular session, a member has until  
40 2:00 p.m. of the day following introduction to add his or her  
41 name as a cosponsor.

42 To be considered during a regular session, a bill must be  
43 introduced at least ten days before final adjournment of the  
44 legislature, unless the legislature directs otherwise by a vote  
45 of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, said  
46 vote to be taken by yeas and nays and entered upon the journal.  
47 The time limitation for introduction of bills shall not apply to  
48 substitute bills reported by standing committees for bills

1 pending before such committees and general appropriation and  
2 revenue bills. (See also Art. 2, Sec. 36, State Constitution.)

### 3 **Amendatory Bills**

4 **Rule 57.** Bills introduced in the senate intended to amend  
5 existing statutes shall have the words which are amendatory to  
6 such existing statutes underlined. Any matter to be deleted from  
7 the existing statutes shall be indicated by setting such matter  
8 forth in full, enclosed by double parentheses, and such deleted  
9 matter shall be lined out with hyphens. No bill shall be printed  
10 or acted upon until the provisions of this rule shall have been  
11 complied with.

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

17 When statutes are being repealed, the Revised Code of  
18 Washington section number to be repealed, the section caption  
19 and the session law history, from the most current to the  
20 original, shall be cited.

### 21 **Joint Resolutions and Memorials**

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

### 25 **Senate Concurrent Resolutions**

26 **Rule 59.** Concurrent resolutions shall be subject to the  
27 rules governing the course of bills and may be adopted without a  
28 roll call. Concurrent resolutions authorizing investigations and  
29 authorizing the expenditure or allocation of any money must be  
30 adopted by roll call and the yeas and nays recorded in the  
31 journal. Concurrent resolutions are subject to final passage on  
32 the day of the first reading without regard to Senate Rules 62,  
33 63, and 64.

### 34 **Committee Bills**

35 **Rule 60.** Committee bills introduced by a standing committee  
36 during a legislative session may be filed with the secretary of  
37 the senate and introduced, and the signature of each member of  
38 the committee shall be endorsed upon the cover of the original  
39 bill.

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

### 43 **Committee Reference**

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

47 FIRST: A standing committee.

48 SECOND: A select committee.

1 **Reading of Bills**

2 **Rule 62.** Every bill shall be read on three separate days  
3 unless the senate deems it expedient to suspend this rule.  
4 Except for bills that create a new tax as provided in Rule 64,  
5 on and after the tenth day preceding adjournment sine die of any  
6 session, or three days prior to any cut-off date for  
7 consideration of bills, as determined pursuant to Article 2,  
8 Section 12 of the Constitution or concurrent resolution, or  
9 during any special session of the legislature, this rule may be  
10 suspended by a majority vote. (See also Rule 59 and Rule 64).

11 **First Reading**

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

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

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

20 A bill shall be reported back by the committee chair upon  
21 written petition therefor signed by a majority of its members.  
22 The petition shall designate the recommendation as provided in  
23 Rule 45, Sub. 5.

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

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

28 **Second Reading/Amendments**

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

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

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

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

41 All amendments rejected by the senate shall be spread upon  
42 the journal, and the journal shall show the disposition of all  
43 amendments.

44 When no further amendments shall be offered, the president  
45 shall declare the bill has passed its second reading, and shall  
46 be referred to the committee on rules for third reading:  
47 Provided, That any bill that creates a new tax shall require the  
48 affirmative vote of two-thirds of the senators elected or

1 appointed to advance to third reading, unless the bill contains  
2 a referendum clause.

### 3 **Third Reading**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 29 To concur
- 30 To non-concur
- 31 To recede
- 32 To insist
- 33 To adhere

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

36 A senate bill, passed by the house with amendment or  
37 amendments which shall change the scope and object of the bill,  
38 upon being received in the senate, shall be referred to an  
39 appropriate committee and shall take the same course as for  
40 original bills, unless a motion to ask the house to recede, to  
41 insist or to adhere is made prior to the measure being referred  
42 to committee.

43 A motion to concur with an amendment or amendments that  
44 create a new tax requires the affirmative vote of two-thirds of  
45 the senators elected or appointed unless the bill contains a  
46 referendum clause.

### 47 **Bills Committed for Special Amendment**

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

### 50 **Confirmation of Gubernatorial Appointees**

1       **Rule 69.** When the names of appointees to state offices are  
2 transmitted to the secretary of the senate for senate  
3 confirmation, the communication from the governor shall be  
4 recorded and referred to the appropriate standing committee.

5       The standing committee, or subcommittee, pursuant to rule  
6 42, shall require each appointee referred to the committee for  
7 consideration to complete the standard questionnaire to be used  
8 to ascertain the appointee's general background and  
9 qualifications. The committee may also require the appointee to  
10 complete a supplemental questionnaire related specifically to  
11 the qualifications for the position to which he has been  
12 appointed.

13       Any hearing on a gubernatorial appointment, held by the  
14 standing committee, or subcommittees, pursuant to rule 42, shall  
15 be a public hearing. The appointee may be required to appear  
16 before the committee on request. When appearing, the appointee  
17 shall be required to testify under oath or affirmation. The  
18 chair of the committee or the presiding member shall administer  
19 the oath or affirmation in accordance with RCW 44.16. (See also  
20 Article 2, Sec. 6 of the State Constitution.)

21       Nothing in this rule shall be construed to prevent a  
22 standing committee, or subcommittee, pursuant to rule 42, upon a  
23 two-thirds vote of its members, from holding executive sessions  
24 when considering an appointment.

25       When the committee on rules presents the report of the  
26 standing committee before the senate, the question shall be the  
27 confirmation of the name proposed, and the roll shall then be  
28 called and the yeas and nays entered upon the journal. In the  
29 event a message is received from the governor requesting return  
30 of an appointment or appointments to the office of the governor  
31 prior to confirmation, the senate shall vote upon the governor's  
32 request and the appointment or appointments shall be returned to  
33 the governor if the request is approved by a majority of the  
34 members elected or appointed. (Article 13 of the State  
35 Constitution.)

36 I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate,  
37 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
38 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8601,  
39 adopted by the Senate  
40 January 12, 2015

41  
42 HUNTER G. GOODMAN  
43 Secretary of the Senate