

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2023-4601, by Representatives Fitzgibbon and Kretz

1       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That (~~permanent~~) temporary  
2 House Rules for the (~~Sixty-Seventh~~) Sixty-Eighth Legislature be  
3 adopted as follows:

4                   TEMPORARY RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
5 (~~SIXTY-SEVENTH~~) SIXTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE (~~(2021-2022)~~) 2023-2024

6       **HOUSE RULE NO.**

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|----|----------------|--|
| 7  | <b>Rule 1</b>  | Definitions                                      |
| 8  | <b>Rule 2</b>  | Chief Clerk to Call to Order                     |
| 9  | <b>Rule 3</b>  | Election of Officers                             |
| 10 | <b>Rule 4</b>  | Powers and Duties of the Speaker                 |
| 11 | <b>Rule 5</b>  | Chief Clerk                                      |
| 12 | <b>Rule 6</b>  | Executive Rules Committee                        |
| 13 | <b>Rule 7</b>  | Duties of Employees                              |
| 14 | <b>Rule 8</b>  | Admission to the House                           |
| 15 | <b>Rule 9</b>  | Absentees and Courtesy                           |
| 16 | <b>Rule 10</b> | Bills, Memorials and Resolutions - Introductions |
| 17 | <b>Rule 11</b> | Reading of Bills                                 |
| 18 | <b>Rule 12</b> | Amendments                                       |

1	<b>Rule 13</b>	Final Passage
2	<b>Rule 14</b>	Hour of Meeting, Roll Call and Quorum
3	<b>Rule 15</b>	Daily Calendar and Order of Business
4	<b>Rule 16</b>	Motions
5	<b>Rule 17</b>	<u>Remote Participation and Voting Permitted Upon Authorization</u>
6	<b><u>Rule 18</u></b>	Members' Right to Debate
7	<b>Rule <del>((18))</del> <u>19</u></b>	Rules of Debate
8	<b>Rule <del>((19))</del> <u>20</u></b>	Ending of Debate - Previous Question
9	<b>Rule <del>((20))</del> <u>21</u></b>	Voting
10	<b>Rule <del>((21))</del> <u>22</u></b>	Reconsideration
11	<b>Rule <del>((22))</del> <u>23</u></b>	Call of the House
12	<b>Rule <del>((23))</del> <u>24</u></b>	Appeal from Decision of Chair
13	<b>Rule <del>((24))</del> <u>25</u></b>	Standing Committees
14	<b>Rule <del>((25))</del> <u>26</u></b>	Duties of Committees
15	<b>Rule <del>((26))</del> <u>27</u></b>	Standing Committees - Expenses - Subpoena Power
16	<b>Rule <del>((27))</del> <u>28</u></b>	Vetoed Bills
17	<b>Rule <del>((28))</del> <u>29</u></b>	Suspension of Compensation
18	<b>Rule <del>((29))</del> <u>30</u></b>	Smoking
19	<b>Rule <del>((30))</del> <u>31</u></b>	Liquor
20	<b>Rule <del>((31))</del> <u>32</u></b>	Parliamentary Rules
21	<b>Rule <del>((32))</del> <u>33</u></b>	Standing Rules Amendment
22	<b>Rule <del>((33))</del> <u>34</u></b>	Rules to Apply for Assembly
23	<b>Rule <del>((34))</del> <u>35</u></b>	Legislative <del>((Mailings))</del> <u>Publications</u>
24	<b><u>Rule 36</u></b>	<u>Emergency Resolution Authorized</u>

**Definitions**

**Rule 1.** (A) "Absent" means an unexcused failure to attend.

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

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

1 (B) "Bill" means bill, joint memorial, joint resolution, or  
2 concurrent resolution unless the context indicates otherwise.

3 (C) "Committee" means any standing, conference, joint, or select  
4 committee as so designated by rule or resolution.

5 (D) "Fiscal committee" means the appropriations, capital budget,  
6 finance, and transportation committees.

7 ~~(( "Bill" means bill, joint memorial, joint resolution, or~~  
8 ~~concurrent resolution unless the context indicates otherwise.))~~

9 (E) "Sergeant at arms" means the director of house security.

10 (F) "Session" means a constitutional gathering of the house in  
11 accordance with Article II, section 12 of the state Constitution.

12 (G) "Term" means the two-year term during which the members as a  
13 body may act.

#### 14 **Chief Clerk to Call to Order**

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

#### 18 **Election of Officers**

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

#### 34 **Powers and Duties of the Speaker**

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

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

6           (B) The speaker shall preserve order and decorum, and in case of  
7 any disturbance or disorderly conduct within the chamber or  
8 legislative area, shall order the sergeant at arms to suppress the  
9 same and may order the sergeant at arms to remove any person creating  
10 any disturbance within the house chamber or legislative area.

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

16           (D) The speaker shall sign all bills in open session. (~~(Art. II~~  
17 ~~§)) Article II, section 32)~~

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

21           (F) The speaker shall have the right to name any member to  
22 perform the duties of the chair, but such substitution shall neither  
23 extend beyond adjournment nor authorize the representative so  
24 substituted to sign any documents requiring the signature of the  
25 speaker.

26           (G) The speaker, in open session, shall appoint committee chairs  
27 as selected by the majority party caucus, and shall appoint members  
28 to committees in the same ratio as the membership of the respective  
29 parties of the house, unless otherwise provided by law or house  
30 rules.

31           (H) The speaker shall serve as chair of the rules committee and  
32 the executive rules committee.

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

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

#### 5 **Chief Clerk**

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

9 The chief clerk shall perform all administrative duties related  
10 to the public records obligations of members of the house.

11 The chief clerk shall employ, subject to the approval of the  
12 speaker, all other house employees; the hours of duty and assignments  
13 of all house employees shall be under the chief clerk's directions  
14 and instructions, and they may be dismissed by the chief clerk with  
15 the approval of the speaker. The speaker shall sign and the chief  
16 clerk shall countersign all payrolls and vouchers for all expenses of  
17 the house and appropriately transmit the same. In the event of the  
18 chief clerk's death, illness, removal, or inability to act, the  
19 speaker may appoint an acting chief clerk who shall exercise the  
20 duties and powers of the chief clerk until the chief clerk's  
21 successor shall be elected.

#### 22 **Executive Rules Committee**

23 **Rule 6.** The executive rules committee is hereby established to  
24 oversee administrative operations of the house. The committee  
25 consists of four members of the majority caucus and three members of  
26 the minority caucus, to be named by the speaker and minority leader  
27 respectively.

#### 28 **Duties of Employees**

29 **Rule 7.** Employees of the house shall perform such duties as are  
30 assigned to them by the chief clerk. Under no circumstances shall the  
31 compensation of any employee be increased for past services. No house  
32 employee shall seek to influence the passage or rejection of proposed  
33 legislation.

#### 34 **Admission to the House**



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

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

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

12 No house bill may be introduced that is identical to any other  
13 pending house bill.

#### 14 **Reading of Bills**

15 **Rule 11.** Every bill shall be read on three separate days:  
16 PROVIDED, That this rule may be temporarily suspended at any time by  
17 a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present; and that on and after  
18 the fifth day prior to the day of adjournment sine die of any  
19 session, as determined pursuant to Article II, section 12 of the  
20 state Constitution or concurrent resolution, or on and after the  
21 third day prior to the day a bill must be reported from the house as  
22 established by concurrent resolution, this rule may be suspended by a  
23 majority vote.

24 A bill may be returned to second reading for the purpose of  
25 amendment by a suspension of the rules: PROVIDED, That on and after  
26 the fifth day prior to the day of adjournment sine die of any  
27 session, as determined pursuant to Article II, section 12 of the  
28 state Constitution or concurrent resolution, or on and after the  
29 third day prior to the day a bill must be reported from the house as  
30 established by concurrent resolution, this rule may be suspended and  
31 a bill returned to second reading for the purpose of amendment by a  
32 majority vote.

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

36 After the first reading the bill shall be referred to an  
37 appropriate committee.

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

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

7       (B) SECOND READING. Upon second reading, the bill number and  
8 short title and the last line of the bill shall be read unless a  
9 majority of the members present shall demand its reading in full. The  
10 bill shall be subject to amendment section by section. No amendment  
11 shall be considered by the house until it has been sent to the chief  
12 clerk's desk in writing or electronically, distributed to the desk of  
13 each member or made available to each member electronically, and read  
14 by the clerk. All amendments adopted during second reading shall be  
15 securely fastened to the original bill. All amendments rejected by  
16 the house shall be passed to the minute clerk, and the journal shall  
17 show the disposition of such amendments.

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

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

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

30       (E) SUSPENSION CALENDAR. Bills may be placed on the second  
31 reading suspension calendar by the rules committee if at least two  
32 minority party members of the rules committee join in such motion.  
33 Bills on the second reading suspension calendar shall not be subject  
34 to amendment or substitution except as recommended in the committee  
35 report. When a bill is before the house on the suspension calendar,  
36 the question shall be to adopt the committee recommendations and



1 advance the bill to third reading. If the question fails to receive a  
2 two-thirds vote of the members present, the bill shall be referred to  
3 the rules committee for second reading.

4 (F) HOUSE RESOLUTIONS. House resolutions shall be filed with the  
5 chief clerk who shall transmit them to the rules committee. If a  
6 rules committee meeting is not scheduled to occur prior to a time  
7 necessitated by the purpose of a house resolution, the majority  
8 leader and minority leader by agreement may waive transmission to the  
9 rules committee to permit consideration of the resolution by the  
10 house. The rules committee may adopt house resolutions by a sixty  
11 percent majority vote of its entire membership or may, by a majority  
12 vote of its members, place them on the motions calendar for  
13 consideration by the house. House resolutions are not subject to  
14 debate, except for resolutions necessary for the operation of the  
15 house, and resolutions commemorating Children's Day, Day of  
16 Remembrance, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, National Guard Day, and  
17 President's Day.

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

#### 20 **Amendments**

21 **Rule 12.** The right of any member to offer amendments to proposed  
22 legislation shall not be limited except as provided in Rule 11(E) and  
23 as follows:

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

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

32 (C) SENATE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILLS. A house bill, passed by the  
33 senate with amendment or amendments which shall change the scope and  
34 object of the bill, upon being received in the house, shall be  
35 referred to the appropriate committee and shall take the same course

1 as for original bills unless a motion not to concur is adopted prior  
2 to the bill being referred to committee.

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

8 (E) SCOPE AND OBJECT NOT TO BE CHANGED. No amendment to any bill  
9 shall be allowed which shall change the scope and object of the bill.  
10 This objection may be raised at any time an amendment is under  
11 consideration. The speaker may allow the person raising the objection  
12 and the mover of the amendment to provide brief arguments as to the  
13 merits of the objection. (~~((Art. II §))~~ Article II, section 38)

14 (F) NO AMENDMENT BY REFERENCE. No act shall ever be revised or  
15 amended without being set forth at full length. (~~((Art. II §))~~  
16 Article II, section 37)

17 (G) TITLE AMENDMENTS. The subject matter portion of a bill title  
18 shall not be amended in committee or on second reading. Changes to  
19 that part of the title after the subject matter statement shall  
20 either be presented with the text amendment or be incorporated by the  
21 chief clerk in the engrossing process.

22 (H) DATE AND TIME FOR AMENDMENT SUBMISSION. To facilitate the  
23 orderly consideration of proposed legislation, the speaker, after  
24 consultation with the minority leader, may establish a date and time  
25 for submission of amendments.

26 **Final Passage**

27 **Rule 13.** Rules relating to bills on final passage are as follows:

28 (A) BUDGET BILLS. No final passage vote may be taken on an  
29 operating budget, transportation budget, or capital budget bill until  
30 twenty-four (24) hours after the bill is placed on the third reading  
31 calendar. The twenty-four (24) hour requirement does not apply to  
32 conference reports, which are governed by the Joint (~~((Rule 20))~~ Rules  
33 of the Senate and the House of Representatives, or to bills placed on  
34 the third reading calendar by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members  
35 present.

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

3 (C) FINAL PASSAGE. No bill shall become a law unless on its final  
4 passage the vote be taken by yeas and nays, the names of the members  
5 voting for and against the same be entered on the journal of each  
6 house, and a majority of the members elected to each house be  
7 recorded thereon as voting in its favor. (~~((Art. II-§))~~) Article II,  
8 section 22)

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

### 12 **Hour of Meeting, Roll Call and Quorum**

13 **Rule 14.** (A) HOUR OF MEETING. The speaker shall call the house to  
14 order each day of sitting at 10:00 A.M., unless the house shall have  
15 adjourned to some other hour.

16 (B) ROLL CALL AND QUORUM. Before proceeding with business, the  
17 roll of the members shall be called and the names of those absent or  
18 excused shall be entered on the journal. A majority of all the  
19 members elected must be present to constitute a quorum for the  
20 transaction of business. In the absence of a quorum, seven members  
21 with the speaker, or eight members in the speaker's absence, having  
22 chosen a speaker pro tempore, shall be authorized to demand a call of  
23 the house and may compel the attendance of absent members in the  
24 manner provided in Rule ((22)) 23(B). Any member participating  
25 remotely in house proceedings as provided in Rule 17 shall be  
26 considered present for purposes of a quorum. For the purpose of  
27 determining if a quorum be present, the speaker shall count all  
28 members present, whether voting or not. (~~((Art. II-§))~~) Article II,  
29 section 8)

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

### 32 **Daily Calendar and Order of Business**

33 **Rule 15.** The rules relating to the daily calendar and order of  
34 business are as follows:

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

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

5 Second: Introduction of visiting dignitaries.

6 Third: Messages from the senate, governor, and other state  
7 officials.

8 Fourth: Introduction and first reading of bills, memorials, joint  
9 resolutions, and concurrent resolutions.

10 Fifth: Committee reports.

11 Sixth: Second reading of bills.

12 Seventh: Third reading of bills.

13 Eighth: Floor resolutions and motions.

14 Ninth: Presentation of petitions, memorials, and remonstrances  
15 addressed to the Legislature.

16 Tenth: Introduction of visitors and other business to be  
17 considered.

18 Eleventh: Announcements.

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

23 (C) EXCEPTIONS. Exceptions to the order of business are as  
24 follows:

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

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

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

### 32 **Motions**

33 **Rule 16.** Rules relating to motions are as follows:

34 (A) MOTIONS TO BE ENTERTAINED OR DEBATED. No motion shall be  
35 entertained or debated until announced by the speaker and every

1 motion shall be deemed to have been seconded. A motion shall be  
2 reduced to writing and read by the clerk, if desired by the speaker  
3 or any member, before it shall be debated and by the consent of the  
4 house may be withdrawn before amendment or action.

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

8 (1) Privileged motions:

- 9 Adjourn
- 10 Adjourn to a time certain
- 11 Recess to a time certain
- 12 Reconsider
- 13 Demand for division
- 14 Question of privilege
- 15 Orders of the day

16  
17 (2) Subsidiary motions:

- 18 First rank: Question of consideration
- 19 Second rank: To lay on the table
- 20 Third rank: For the previous question
- 21 Fourth rank: To postpone to a day certain
- 22 To commit or recommit
- 23 To postpone indefinitely
- 24 Fifth rank: To amend

25  
26 (3) Incidental motions:

- 27 Points of order and appeal
- 28 Method of consideration
- 29 Suspension of the rules
- 30 Reading papers
- 31 Withdraw a motion

1 Division of a question

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

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

12 All incidental motions shall be decided without debate, except  
13 that members may speak to points of order and appeal as provided in  
14 Rule ((23)) 24.

15 Motions to adopt house resolutions shall be decided without  
16 debate, except as provided in Rule 11(F).

17 A motion for suspension of the rules shall not be debatable  
18 except that the mover of the motion may briefly explain the purpose  
19 of the motion and one member may briefly state the opposition to the  
20 motion.

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

25 **Remote Participation and Voting Permitted Upon Authorization**

26 **Rule 17.** The majority leader and minority leader or their  
27 designees may authorize members of their respective caucuses to  
28 participate remotely in official house proceedings, including  
29 committee meetings and floor sessions, upon the request of a member  
30 who is experiencing a medical condition or illness that prevents in-  
31 person participation. Once authorized, any member participating  
32 remotely shall be considered present for purposes of a quorum and  
33 voting. Members participating remotely shall use the computer and  
34 virtual background provided by the house during all committee  
35 meetings and floor proceedings. The majority leader and minority

1 leader or their designees shall determine when the member's  
2 authorization to participate remotely ends.

### 3 **Members' Right to Debate**

4 **Rule ((17)) 18.** The methods by which a member may exercise ((his  
5 or her)) their right to debate are as follows:

6 (A) RECOGNITION OF MEMBER. When any member desires to speak in  
7 debate or deliver any matter to the house, the member shall rise and  
8 respectfully address the speaker and pause until recognized. Any  
9 member participating remotely in house proceedings as provided in  
10 Rule 17 who desires to speak may request to be recognized by use of  
11 the request to speak button in the remote floor activity system.

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

14 (C) LIMITATION OF DEBATE. No member shall speak longer than ten  
15 (10) minutes without consent of the house: PROVIDED, That on and  
16 after the fifth day prior to the day of adjournment sine die of any  
17 session, as determined pursuant to Article II, section 12 of the  
18 state Constitution or concurrent resolution, or on and after the  
19 ((third)) fifth day prior to the day any bill must be reported from  
20 the house as established by concurrent resolution, no member shall  
21 speak more than three (3) minutes without the consent of the house.  
22 No member shall speak more than twice on the same question without  
23 leave of the house: PROVIDED, That the chair of the committee or the  
24 mover of the question may close debate if it is consistent with Rule  
25 ((19)) 20 (Previous Question).

### 26 **Rules of Debate**

27 **Rule ((18)) 19.** The rules for debate in the house are as follows:

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

32 (B) WITHDRAWAL OF MOTION, BILL, ETC. After a motion is stated by  
33 the speaker or a bill, memorial, resolution, petition, or  
34 remonstrance is read by the clerk, it shall be deemed to be in

1 possession of the house, but may be withdrawn by consent of the house  
2 at any time before decision or amendment.

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

6 (D) DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS. Any materials of any nature  
7 distributed to the members' desks on the floor shall be subject to  
8 approval by the speaker and shall bear the name of at least one  
9 member (~~(granting)~~) granted permission for the distribution. Any  
10 member participating remotely as provided in Rule 17 who wishes to  
11 distribute materials subject to the speaker's approval may do so  
12 electronically. All materials approved for distribution shall be  
13 provided electronically to members participating remotely to the  
14 extent practicable. This shall not apply to materials normally  
15 distributed by the chief clerk.

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

20 (F) DIVISION OF POINTS OF DEBATE. Any member may call for a  
21 division of a question which shall be divided if it embraces subjects  
22 so distinct that one being taken away a substantive proposition shall  
23 remain for the decision of the house; but a motion to strike out and  
24 to insert shall not be divided. The rejection of a motion to strike  
25 out and to insert one proposition shall not prevent a motion to  
26 strike out and to insert a different proposition.

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

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

34 (I) EXCEPTION TO WORDS SPOKEN IN DEBATE. If any member be called  
35 to order for words spoken in debate, the person calling the member to



1 order shall repeat the words excepted to and they shall be taken down  
2 in writing at the clerk's table. No member shall be held in answer or  
3 be subject to the censure of the house for words spoken in debate if  
4 any other member has spoken before exception to them shall have been  
5 taken.

6 (J) TRANSGRESSION OF RULES - APPEAL. If any member, in speaking  
7 or otherwise, transgresses the rules of the house the speaker shall,  
8 or any member may, call the member to order, in which case the member  
9 so called to order shall immediately sit down unless permitted to  
10 explain; and the house shall, if appealed to, decide the case without  
11 debate; if there be no appeal, the decision of the chair shall  
12 prevail.

13 If the decision be in favor of the member called to order, the  
14 member shall be at liberty to proceed; if otherwise, and the case  
15 shall require it, the member shall be liable to the censure of the  
16 house.

#### 17 **Ending of Debate - Previous Question**

18 **Rule ((19)) 20.** The previous question may be ordered by a two-  
19 thirds (2/3) vote of the members present on all recognized motions or  
20 amendments which are debatable.

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

22 The previous question shall be put in this form: "Representative  
23 \_\_\_\_\_ demands the previous question. As many as are in favor of  
24 ordering the previous question will say 'Aye'; as many as are opposed  
25 will say 'No'."

26 The results of the motion are as follows: If determined in the  
27 negative, the consideration goes on as if the motion had never been  
28 made; if decided in the affirmative it shall have the effect of  
29 cutting off all debate and bringing the house to a direct vote upon  
30 the motion or amendment on which it has been ordered: PROVIDED  
31 HOWEVER, That when a bill is on final passage or when the motion to  
32 postpone indefinitely is pending, one of the sponsors of the bill or  
33 the chair of the committee may have the privilege of closing debate  
34 after the previous question has been ordered.

35 If an adjournment is had after the previous question is ordered,  
36 the motion or proposition on which the previous question was ordered

1 shall be put to the house immediately following the approval of the  
2 journal on the next working day, thus making the main question  
3 privileged over all other business, whether new or unfinished.

#### 4 **Voting**

5 **Rule ((20)) 21.** (A) PUTTING OF QUESTION. The speaker shall put  
6 the question in the following form: "The question before the house is  
7 (state the question). As many as are in favor say 'Aye'; and after  
8 the affirmative vote is expressed, "as many as are opposed say 'No'."

9 (B) ALL MEMBERS TO VOTE. ~~((Every))~~ Except as provided in  
10 subsection (G), every member who was in the house or participating  
11 remotely in house proceedings as provided in Rule 17 when the  
12 question was put shall vote unless, for special reasons, excused by  
13 the house.

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

19 (C) COUNT OF THE HOUSE. Upon a division and count of the house on  
20 the question, only members at their desks within the bar of the house  
21 or participating remotely in house proceedings as provided in Rule 17  
22 shall be counted.

23 ~~((C))~~ (D) CHANGE OF VOTE. When the electric roll call machine  
24 is used, no member shall be allowed to vote or change a vote after  
25 the speaker has locked the roll call machine. When an oral roll call  
26 is taken, no member shall be allowed to vote or change a vote after  
27 the result has been announced.

28 ~~((D))~~ (E) PRIVATE INTEREST. No member shall vote on any  
29 question which affects that member privately and particularly. A  
30 member who has a private interest in any bill or measure proposed or  
31 pending before the legislature shall disclose the fact to the house  
32 of which he is a member, and shall not vote thereon. ~~((Art. II §))~~  
33 Article II, section 30)

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

1       (~~(F)~~) (G) MOTIONS NOT REQUIRING A RECORDED ROLL CALL VOTE.  
2 Members in the house and members participating remotely in house  
3 proceedings as provided in Rule 17 may vote on any motion not  
4 requiring a recorded roll call vote, including when the house  
5 divides. Members participating remotely may vote using the remote  
6 floor activity system.

7       (H) INABILITY TO VOTE USING REMOTE VOTING FUNCTION. A member  
8 participating remotely in house proceedings as provided in Rule 17  
9 who is unable to vote using the remote voting function on any motion  
10 requiring a recorded roll call vote may vote orally. If a member is  
11 unable to vote using the remote voting function or orally, the  
12 rostrum staff shall contact the member by telephone and the member's  
13 vote may be taken by telephone to rostrum staff after the member  
14 answers security questions to verify the identity of the member. The  
15 rostrum staff will announce the vote of the member, which shall be  
16 recorded.

17       (I) YEAS AND NAYS - RECORDED VOTES. Upon the final passage of any  
18 bill, the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays and shall be recorded  
19 by the electric voting system: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That an oral roll  
20 call shall be ordered when demanded by one-sixth (1/6) of the members  
21 present. (~~(Art. II §)) Article II, section 21)~~

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

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

28       (~~(G)~~) (J) TIE VOTE, QUESTION LOSES. In case of an equal  
29 division, the question shall be lost.

30       (~~(H)~~) (K) DIVISION. If the speaker is in doubt, or if division  
31 is called for by any member, the house shall divide.

32       (~~(I)~~) (L) STATEMENT FOR JOURNAL. A member whose recorded vote  
33 does not accurately reflect (~~(his or her)~~) their intent may submit a  
34 written statement for the journal clarifying their intent to vote aye  
35 or nay. The statement must be submitted to the chief clerk on the  
36 same day the vote is taken. A member who is excused for one or more

1 days of recorded votes may submit a written statement for the journal  
2 explaining the reason for (~~his or her~~) their absence. The statement  
3 may not exceed (~~fifty~~) 50 words and must be submitted to the chief  
4 clerk on the same day the member returns. A member participating  
5 remotely in house proceedings as provided in Rule 17 who was unable  
6 to vote using the remote voting function, orally, or by telephone may  
7 submit a statement for the journal within 48 hours indicating their  
8 intent to vote yea or nay.

### 9 **Reconsideration**

10 **Rule ((21)) 22.** Notice of a motion for reconsideration on the  
11 final passage of bills shall be made on the day the vote to be  
12 reconsidered was taken and before the house has voted to transmit the  
13 bill to the senate.

14 Reconsideration of the votes on the final passage of bills must  
15 be taken on the next working day after such vote was taken: PROVIDED,  
16 That on and after the fifth day prior to the day of adjournment sine  
17 die of any session, as determined pursuant to Article II, section 12  
18 of the state Constitution, or concurrent resolution, or on and after  
19 the third day prior to the day a bill must be reported from the house  
20 as established by concurrent resolution, then reconsideration of  
21 votes on the final passage of bills must be taken on the same day as  
22 the original vote was taken: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That any member  
23 participating remotely in house proceedings as provided in Rule 17  
24 who was unable to vote using the remote voting function, orally, or  
25 by telephone may require reconsideration of the vote on the final  
26 passage of bills the same day the vote is taken.

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

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

31 A motion to reconsider can be decided only once when decided in  
32 the negative.

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

### 36 **Call of the House**

1       **Rule ((22)) 23.** One-sixth (1/6) of the members present may demand  
2 a call of the house at any time before the house has divided or the  
3 voting has commenced by yeas and nays.

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

11       (B) SERGEANT AT ARMS TO BRING IN THE ABSENTEES. The clerk shall  
12 immediately call a roll of the members and note the absentees, whose  
13 names shall be read and entered upon the journal in such manner as to  
14 show who are excused and who are absent without leave. A member  
15 authorized to participate remotely in house proceedings as provided  
16 in Rule 17 who is visible at the time of the roll call through the  
17 remote floor activity system shall not be considered absent or absent  
18 without leave.

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

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

33                                   **Appeal from Decision of Chair**

34       **Rule ((23)) 24.** The decision of the chair may be appealed from by  
35 any member, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once  
36 unless by leave of the house. In all cases of appeal, the question

1 shall be: "Shall the decision of the chair stand as the judgment of  
2 the house?"

3 **Standing Committees**

4 **Rule ((24)) 25.** The standing committees of the house and the  
5 number of members that shall serve on each committee shall be as  
6 follows:

7	<del>((1. Appropriations. . . . .</del>	<del>33</del>
8	<del>2. Capital Budget. . . . .</del>	<del>23</del>
9	<del>3. Children, Youth &amp; Families. . . . .</del>	<del>13</del>
10	<del>4. Civil Rights &amp; Judiciary. . . . .</del>	<del>17</del>
11	<del>5. College &amp; Workforce Development. . . . .</del>	<del>13</del>
12	<del>6. Commerce &amp; Gaming. . . . .</del>	<del>9</del>
13	<del>7. Community &amp; Economic Development. . . . .</del>	<del>13</del>
14	<del>8. Consumer Protection &amp; Business. . . . .</del>	<del>7</del>
15	<del>9. Education. . . . .</del>	<del>13</del>
16	<del>10. Environment &amp; Energy. . . . .</del>	<del>13</del>
17	<del>11. Finance. . . . .</del>	<del>17</del>
18	<del>12. Health Care &amp; Wellness. . . . .</del>	<del>15</del>
19	<del>13. Housing, Human Services &amp; Veterans. . . . .</del>	<del>9</del>
20	<del>14. Labor &amp; Workplace Standards. . . . .</del>	<del>7</del>
21	<del>15. Local Government. . . . .</del>	<del>7</del>
22	<del>16. Public Safety. . . . .</del>	<del>13</del>
23	<del>17. Rules. . . . .</del>	<del>27</del>
24	<del>18. Rural Development, Agriculture &amp; Natural Resources. . . . .</del>	<del>15</del>
25	<del>19. State Government &amp; Tribal Relations. . . . .</del>	<del>7</del>
26	<del>20. Transportation. . . . .</del>	<del>29)</del>
27	<u>1. Agriculture &amp; Natural Resources. . . . .</u>	<u>11</u>
28	<u>2. Appropriations. . . . .</u>	<u>31</u>
29	<u>3. Capital Budget. . . . .</u>	<u>29</u>
30	<u>4. Civil Rights &amp; Judiciary. . . . .</u>	<u>11</u>
31	<u>5. Community Safety, Justice &amp; Reentry. . . . .</u>	<u>9</u>
32	<u>6. Consumer Protection &amp; Business. . . . .</u>	<u>13</u>
33	<u>7. Education. . . . .</u>	<u>15</u>
34	<u>8. Environment &amp; Energy. . . . .</u>	<u>15</u>
35	<u>9. Finance. . . . .</u>	<u>13</u>
36	<u>10. Health Care &amp; Wellness. . . . .</u>	<u>17</u>
37	<u>11. Housing. . . . .</u>	<u>13</u>



1 regularly called meeting before a bill, memorial, or resolution may  
2 be reported out: PROVIDED, That by motion under the eighth order of  
3 business, a majority of the members elected to the house may relieve  
4 a committee of a bill and place it on the second reading calendar.

5 Majority recommendations of a committee can only be "do pass,"  
6 "do pass as amended," or that "the substitute bill be substituted  
7 therefor and that the substitute bill do pass."

8 (3) Members of the committee not concurring in the majority  
9 report may (~~prepare~~) make a written minority report containing a  
10 recommendation of "do not pass" or "without recommendation," which  
11 shall be (~~signed~~) joined by those members of the committee  
12 subscribing thereto, and submitted with the majority report.

13 (4) Every recommendation and report shall be made by members of  
14 the committee during the regularly called meeting of the committee.  
15 No signatures are required.

16 (5) All committee reports shall be spread upon the journal. The  
17 journal of the house shall contain an exact copy of all committee  
18 reports, together with the names of the members (~~signing~~) joining  
19 in the majority and minority recommendations contained in such  
20 reports.

21 (~~(5)~~) (6) Every vote to report a bill out of committee shall be  
22 taken by the yeas and nays, with the nays specifying "do not pass" or  
23 "without recommendation" and the names of the members voting for and  
24 against, as well as the names of members absent, shall be recorded on  
25 the committee report. Any member may call for a recorded vote, which  
26 shall include the names of absent members, on any substantive  
27 question before the committee. A copy of all recorded committee votes  
28 shall be kept by the chief clerk and shall be available for public  
29 inspection.

30 (~~(6)~~) (7) A member participating remotely in house proceedings  
31 as provided in Rule 17 who is unable to vote on a bill in committee  
32 for technical reasons may submit a statement for the bill file  
33 indicating their intent to have voted yea, nay-do not pass, or nay-  
34 without recommendation. The statement must be submitted to the chief  
35 clerk on the same day the vote is taken.

36 (8) All bills having a direct appropriation shall be referred to  
37 the appropriate fiscal committee before their final passage.



1       (~~(7)~~) (9) No standing committee shall vote by secret written  
2 ballot on any issue.

3       (~~(8)~~) (10) During its consideration of or vote on any bill,  
4 resolution, or memorial, the deliberations of any standing committee  
5 of the House of Representatives shall be open to the public.

6       (~~(9)~~) (11) A standing committee to which a bill was originally  
7 referred shall, prior to voting the bill out of committee, consider  
8 whether the bill authorizes rule-making powers or requires the  
9 exercise of rule-making powers and, if so, consider:

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

11       (b) To which agencies the new rule-making powers would be  
12 delegated and which agencies, if any, may have related rule-making  
13 powers.

14       (~~(10)~~) (12) Insofar as practicable, testimony in public  
15 hearings should be balanced between those in support of and in  
16 opposition to proposed legislation, with consideration given to  
17 providing an opportunity for members of the public to testify within  
18 available time.

### 19                   **Standing Committees - Expenses - Subpoena Power**

20       **Rule (~~(26)~~) 27.** Regardless of whether the legislature is in  
21 session, members of the house may receive from moneys appropriated  
22 for the legislature, reimbursement for necessary travel expenses, and  
23 payments in lieu of subsistence and lodging for conducting official  
24 business of the house.

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

### 35                   **Vetoed Bills**



1 **Smoking and Vaping**

2 **Rule ((29)** ~~Smoking of cigarettes, pipes, or cigars shall not be~~  
3 ~~permitted at any public meeting of any committee of the house of~~  
4 ~~representatives or within House facilities.~~

5 ~~"No smoking" signs shall be posted so as to give notice of this~~  
6 ~~rule))~~ **30.** To provide a safe and healthy environment for all members,  
7 employees, and the public, smoking and vaping shall not be permitted  
8 at any public meeting of the House of Representatives or within house  
9 facilities. Smoking includes the lighting of cigarettes, pipes, or  
10 cigars. Vaping includes the use of electronic nicotine delivery  
11 systems or electronic smoking devices such as e-cigarettes, e-pipes,  
12 or e-cigars.

13 **Liquor**

14 **Rule ((30)) 31.** The House of Representatives shall strictly  
15 adhere to the liquor laws of the state of Washington, including  
16 provisions relating to banquet and special occasion permits. The  
17 proper permits must always be obtained before consumption of liquor  
18 in any house facility.

19 **Parliamentary Rules**

20 **Rule ((31)) 32.** The rules of parliamentary practice comprised in  
21 Reed's Parliamentary Rules shall govern all cases in which they are  
22 not inconsistent with the standing rules and orders of the house.

23 **Standing Rules Amendment**

24 **Rule ((32)) 33.** Any standing rule may be rescinded or changed by  
25 a majority vote of the members elected: PROVIDED, That the proposed  
26 change or changes be submitted at least one day in advance in writing  
27 to the members together with notice of the consideration thereof. Any  
28 standing rule may be suspended temporarily by a two-thirds (2/3) vote  
29 of the members present except as provided in Rule 11.

30 **Rules to Apply for Assembly**

31 **Rule ((33)) 34.** The permanent house rules adopted at the  
32 beginning of the term are to govern all acts of the house during the  
33 course of the term unless amended or repealed.

34 **Legislative Publications**



1       ~~(1) The speaker, the speaker pro tempore, the deputy speaker pro~~  
2 ~~tempore, the minority leader, the majority floor leader, the minority~~  
3 ~~floor leader, and staff essential to floor operations are permitted~~  
4 ~~in the chamber during floor proceedings.~~

5       ~~(2) The executive rules committee may authorize additional~~  
6 ~~members to be admitted to the chamber during floor proceedings.~~

7       ~~(3) Including the above referenced members, each caucus may~~  
8 ~~designate 15 members to participate remotely from their assigned~~  
9 ~~legislative offices. Each caucus must prioritize members with~~  
10 ~~technological problems that preclude remote participation.~~

11       ~~(4) The executive rules committee may authorize additional~~  
12 ~~members of the house to participate remotely from their assigned~~  
13 ~~legislative offices upon a showing that technological problems~~  
14 ~~preclude participation from the member's home or an alternate~~  
15 ~~district location.~~

16       ~~(5) Staff may access house facilities only with prior approval of~~  
17 ~~the chief clerk.~~

18       ~~(6) Any person permitted access to house facilities must comply~~  
19 ~~with public health requirements both on and off campus, and any other~~  
20 ~~restriction established by executive rules and/or the chief clerk.~~

21       ~~(7) The chief clerk shall continue to review public health data~~  
22 ~~and guidance and periodically update the executive rules committee.~~  
23 ~~The executive rules committee may modify provisions relating to~~  
24 ~~admittance to house facilities as conditions warrant.~~

### **House Resolutions**

26       ~~Rule A-4. House resolutions are not subject to debate, except for~~  
27 ~~resolutions necessary for the operation of the house, and resolutions~~  
28 ~~commemorating Day of Remembrance, Martin Luther King Jr. Day,~~  
29 ~~President's Day, and National Guard Day. Floor debate on~~  
30 ~~commemorative resolutions is limited to 10 minutes for members of the~~  
31 ~~majority caucus and 10 minutes for members of the minority caucus.~~

### **Members Right to Debate**

33       ~~Rule A-5. Any member who desires to speak may request to be~~  
34 ~~recognized by use of the request to speak function in the remote~~  
35 ~~floor activity system.~~

1 No member may speak longer than 10 minutes without consent of the  
2 house, PROVIDED, that on and after the fifth day prior to the day of  
3 adjournment Sine Die of any session, as determined by Article II,  
4 section 12 of the state Constitution or concurrent resolution, and on  
5 and after the fifth day prior to the day any bill must be reported  
6 from the house as established by concurrent resolution, no member may  
7 speak more than three minutes without consent of the house.

#### 8 **Amendments**

9 Rule A-6. To facilitate the orderly consideration of legislation,  
10 the speaker, after consultation with the minority leader, may  
11 establish a deadline for submission of amendments.

#### 12 **Voting**

13 Rule A-7. The speaker shall divide the house on all motions not  
14 requiring a recorded roll call vote. A member is not required to  
15 participate in a division vote.

16 All members present in the remote floor proceedings shall vote  
17 when the question is put on any motion requiring a recorded roll call  
18 vote. Before locking the roll call machine, the speaker shall call  
19 the name of any member not voting. If a member is unable to vote  
20 using the remote voting function, the member may vote orally. If a  
21 member is unable to vote using the remote voting function or orally,  
22 the rostrum staff shall contact the member by telephone and the  
23 member's vote may be taken by telephone to rostrum staff after the  
24 member answers security questions to verify the identity of the  
25 member. The rostrum staff will announce the vote of the member, which  
26 shall be recorded.

27 Any member who was unable to vote using the remote voting  
28 function, orally, or by telephone may require reconsideration of the  
29 vote on the same day the vote is taken or submit a statement for the  
30 journal within 48 hours indicating their intent to vote yea or nay.

#### 31 **Distribution of Materials**

32 Rule A-8. Any requirement to distribute materials to members'  
33 desks is satisfied by distribution through electronic means.

#### 34 **Duties of Committees**

1 Rule A-9. Every notice of a committee meeting shall include a web  
2 address for information about viewing and providing public testimony  
3 at committee meetings in lieu of a physical location.

4 Every member participating remotely in a committee meeting shall  
5 be considered present for purposes of quorum and roll call voting.

6 Only such bills as are included on the written notice of a  
7 committee meeting may be considered at that meeting.

8 Every report and recommendation shall be made by members of the  
9 committee during a regularly called meeting of the committee. No  
10 signatures are required.

11 Every vote to report a bill out of committee shall be taken by  
12 the yeas and nays, with nays specifying "do not pass" or "without  
13 recommendation."

14 A member who is unable to vote on a bill in committee for  
15 technical reasons may submit a statement for the bill file indicating  
16 their intent to have voted aye, nay do not pass, or nay without  
17 recommendation. The statement must be submitted to the chief clerk on  
18 the same day the vote is taken.

19 A meeting shall be considered open to the public if an alternate  
20 and broadly accessible means for the public to view the meeting is  
21 available.

#### 22 **Term of Appendix Rules**

23 Rule A-10. The rules in this appendix expire on the termination  
24 of the COVID-19 state of emergency, or when rescinded by the  
25 executive rules committee, whichever occurs first.)

#### 26 **Emergency Resolution Authorized**

27 **Rule 36.** If the executive rules committee determines through a  
28 majority vote that physically convening all members and staff in a  
29 single location presents a danger to the health or safety of members,  
30 staff, and the public or is impractical because of an emergency,  
31 disaster, or catastrophic incident under RCW 42.14.010, the house  
32 shall adopt a resolution establishing the rules and procedures  
33 governing any special or regular legislative session. For purposes of  
34 adopting the house resolution required by this rule, some or all  
35 members may vote using the remote voting function or other process  
36 established by the chief clerk. Members are considered in attendance

1 within the bar of the house when using the remote floor activity  
2 system or following the established process, including for purposes  
3 of establishing quorum. To the extent practicable, a member  
4 participating remotely or otherwise under this rule has the same  
5 privileges, rights, and responsibilities under the house rules as if  
6 the member were physically present.

7  
8 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of  
9 Resolution 4601 adopted by the House of Representatives  
10 January 9, 2023  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15

16 \_\_\_\_\_  
Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk