

SENATE RESOLUTION

8602

By Senators Pedersen and Short

1 WHEREAS, The Facilities and Operations Committee has the
2 authority to determine whether physically convening all members and
3 staff in a single location could present a danger to health or safety
4 of the participants and requires continued operational changes to
5 adhere to public health guidance during the 2023 legislative session;
6 and

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

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

14 **"EMERGENCY PARLIAMENTARY RULES**
15 **OF THE SENATE**
16 **SIXTY- ((SEVENTH)) EIGHTH LEGISLATURE**
17 **((2022)) 2023**

18 **SECTION I: GENERAL**

19 **Rule A** Public Health Measures.
20 ~~**Rule B**~~ ~~Filing of Bills.~~
21 ~~**Rule C**~~ ~~Electronic Signatures.))~~

1 **Rule ((D)) B** Interpretation of Permanent Senate Rules.

2 **SECTION II: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES**

3 **Rule ((E)) C** Remote Voting.

4 ~~((Rule F~~ Attendance and Quorum.

5 ~~Rule G~~ Rules of Debate.))

6 **Rule ((H)) D** Call of the Senate.

7 **Rule ((I)) E** ((Referral of Bills to Committee.)) Relieving Rules
8 Committee of Bills.

9 **Rule ((J)) F** Floor Amendments.

10 **SECTION III: COMMITTEES**

11 **Rule ((K)) G** Committee Procedures.

12 **SECTION I**

13 **GENERAL**

14 **Public Health Measures**

15 **A.** (1) Senate members and employees must comply with the
16 ((2022)) 2023 Senate Session Guidelines adopted by the
17 Facilities and Operations Committee, including any subsequent
18 amendments and as implemented by Senate Administration. These
19 guidelines govern mask-wearing, social distancing, and COVID-19
20 ((quarantine)) isolation procedures ((in accordance with the
21 most recent public health guidelines)).

22 (2) (a) ((Except as provided in (b) of this subsection,
23 regular)) Regular floor action will occur in a hybrid remote
24 format with only the number of members present as determined by
25 the Facilities and Operations Committee and subject to the
26 ((2022)) 2023 Senate Session Guidelines.

27 (b) ((If the Facilities and Operations Committee determines
28 that public health conditions no longer require floor action to
29 be conducted in a hybrid remote format, regular floor action
30 will occur with all members present on the floor, subject to the
31 2022 Senate Session Guidelines. Only those members who are
32 required to quarantine or isolate by the Senate Human Resource
33 Officer due to COVID-19 exposure or infection will be permitted
34 to vote remotely.

1 ~~C. Electronic or scanned signatures are authorized in place~~
2 ~~of any physical signatures that are otherwise required in order~~
3 ~~for a member to conduct legislative business.))~~

4 **Interpretation of Permanent Senate Rules**

5 ~~((D))~~ **B.** To the extent that a matter is not addressed in
6 this Resolution, the Permanent Rules of the Senate adopted
7 January ~~((10, 2022))~~ 9, 2023, will govern. The President will
8 interpret all rules and procedures to facilitate legislative
9 business in a fair and efficient manner in light of the ongoing
10 emergency and remote session.

11 **SECTION II**

12 **PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES**

13 **Remote Voting**

14 ~~((E))~~ **C.** (1) Members will record their vote using the remote
15 voting system. The clerk will close electronic voting and
16 announce each member's vote individually. The President will
17 call on those members who are present but have not yet voted.
18 The President will then provide members a final opportunity to
19 be recognized and change their votes. The clerk will then
20 announce the vote.

21 ~~(2) ((Should the Facilities and Operations Committee~~
22 ~~determine that public health conditions no longer require floor~~
23 ~~action to be conducted in a hybrid remote format in accordance~~
24 ~~with Emergency Rule A, members will vote orally. During any roll~~
25 ~~call vote where more than five members are participating~~
26 ~~remotely, members participating remotely will record their vote~~
27 ~~using the remote voting system. In such cases, the clerk will~~
28 ~~close electronic voting and announce the vote of remote members~~
29 ~~individually. The President will call on those members who are~~
30 ~~present but have not yet voted. The President will then provide~~
31 ~~members a final opportunity to be recognized and change their~~
32 ~~votes. The clerk will then announce the vote.~~

33 ~~(3) If, during a roll call vote, the vote of each member~~
34 ~~participating remotely is unable to be taken, the member will be~~
35 ~~automatically excused. The member may request in writing that~~

1 ~~their vote be reflected in the Senate journal, though it will~~
2 ~~not count towards the final roll call.~~

3 ~~(4))~~ In accordance with Senate Rule 22, once begun, a roll
4 call vote will not be interrupted because a member participating
5 remotely has connectivity issues. However, if a majority of
6 members elected is no longer present due to connectivity issues,
7 a majority of those still present may defer consideration of a
8 bill, adjourn, or recess the Senate until a quorum can be
9 reestablished.

10 ~~((Attendance and Quorum~~

11 ~~F. A member of the Senate voting remotely is considered in~~
12 ~~attendance within the bar of the Senate if the member is~~
13 ~~participating in the session through a remote access program~~
14 ~~established by the Secretary of the Senate as provided in Senate~~
15 ~~Rule 70.~~

16 ~~Rules of Debate~~

17 ~~G. In accordance with Senate Rule 29, when present on the~~
18 ~~floor of the Senate, any senator about to speak in debate or~~
19 ~~submit any matter to the Senate shall rise and respectfully~~
20 ~~request recognition by the President by both voice and~~
21 ~~electronic means.)~~

22 ~~Call of the Senate~~

23 ~~((H)) D. A call of the Senate may be moved by the majority~~
24 ~~or minority floor leader and sustained by three Senators. If~~
25 ~~carried by a majority of those present, the Secretary shall call~~
26 ~~the roll, after which the names of the absentees shall again be~~
27 ~~called. The business of the Senate will be suspended until the~~
28 ~~absent senators are considered within the bar of the Senate for~~
29 ~~such action as the Senate may deem proper. A call of the Senate~~
30 ~~may not interrupt a roll call vote, and no penalties shall be~~
31 ~~sustained for members experiencing connectivity issues.~~

32 ~~((Referral of Bills to Committee)) Relieving Rules Committee of~~
33 ~~Bills~~

34 ~~((I)) E. ((1) Draft bill referrals will be electronically~~
35 ~~published by 8:00 p.m. the evening before any session to~~

1 ~~consider them. All objections or requests for rereferral must be~~
2 ~~communicated in writing by a member to the majority floor leader~~
3 ~~by 8:00 a.m. the day of convening.~~

4 ~~(2))~~) The Senate may relieve the Rules Committee of a bill
5 with the consent of a majority of the Senate, provided that two
6 hours' notice has been given to the President and all members of
7 the Senate by the majority leader. The majority leader will
8 consult with the President prior to giving such notice.

9 **Floor Amendments**

10 ~~((J))~~ **F.** Any floor amendments must be submitted
11 electronically by a member to the Secretary of the Senate for
12 consideration. Each floor amendment shall be submitted in a
13 separate email with the number of the bill to be amended
14 included in the subject line of the email. Floor amendments
15 received after second reading on the bill has begun shall not be
16 in order.

17 **SECTION III**

18 **COMMITTEES**

19 **Committee Procedures**

20 ~~((K))~~ **G.** (1) All committees will meet remotely, except that,
21 after consultation with the President, the majority leader may
22 choose to hold a Rules Committee meeting in person. A member
23 shall be considered in attendance at a committee hearing if the
24 member is participating through a remote access program
25 established by the Secretary of the Senate as provided in Senate
26 Rule 70.

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

32 ~~(3)~~ All committees will use the Committee Sign-In system
33 used in the past by the public, which has been modified to allow
34 universal remote testimony sign-in for all committee hearings.
35 All committee members will be able to view the list of
36 individuals who have signed in to testify on each bill. All

1 testimony will be taken remotely or in writing. Members of the
2 public wishing to testify may sign up remotely up to one hour
3 before the committee is scheduled to meet.

4 ~~(4)~~ Chairs must publish the list of bills that may be
5 considered for executive session by 4:00 p.m. two days preceding
6 executive session. A chair with the consent of the ranking
7 member has discretion to waive this deadline in extraordinary
8 circumstances.

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

14 ~~(6)~~ All amendments, including substitutes, must be sponsored
15 by a committee member. All amendments and effect statements must
16 be either drafted or reviewed, or both, by nonpartisan committee
17 staff. To be eligible for consideration at an executive session
18 in a committee meeting scheduled to begin prior to 12:00 p.m.,
19 amendments must be released from confidentiality and posted to
20 the Electronic Bill Book for committee members and the public by
21 4:00 p.m. the day before the executive session or the amendments
22 will be considered out of order. To be eligible for
23 consideration at an executive session in a committee meeting
24 scheduled to begin on or after 12:00 p.m., amendments must be
25 released from confidentiality and posted to the Electronic Bill
26 Book for committee members and the public by 7:00 p.m. the day
27 before the executive session or the amendments will be
28 considered out of order. A chair with the consent of the ranking
29 member has discretion to waive this deadline in extraordinary
30 circumstances.

31 ~~(7))~~ Committee voting will be done through recorded roll
32 call votes with the results transmitted to the Secretary of the
33 Senate via electronic means. Members must be present and visible
34 to be eligible to vote during the executive session. Voting will
35 not be allowed "subject to signatures."

36 ~~((8))~~ (3) Electronic reports of standing committees must
37 be received one hour prior to convening of the session in order
38 to be read at said session. This requirement may be suspended by

1 a majority of the Senate. This rule does not apply to reports of
2 biennial or supplemental omnibus operating appropriations act,
3 omnibus capital appropriations act, or omnibus transportation
4 appropriations act bills.

5 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,
6 do hereby certify that this is a true and
7 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8602,
8 adopted by the Senate
9 January 9, 2023

10 SARAH BANNISTER
11 Secretary of the Senate