



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**Senate Resolution No. 2**

LCO No. 320



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Referred to Committee on No Committee

Introduced by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25<sup>th</sup> Dist.

**RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE RULES OF THE SENATE.**

Resolved by the Senate:

- 1 That the following are the Senate Rules for the 2023 and 2024 sessions:
- 2 1. The President shall take the chair on each session day, at the hour
- 3 to which the Senate stands adjourned. The President shall thereupon
- 4 call the Senate to order and after prayer and recitation of the pledge of
- 5 allegiance, if a quorum is present, proceed to business.
- 6 2. In the absence of a quorum, the President may adjourn the Senate
- 7 to a subsequent time on that day or to the next session day. At all other
- 8 times an adjournment shall be pronounced by the President on motion.
- 9 3. The President shall preserve order and decorum and shall decide
- 10 all questions of order, upon which no debate shall be allowed except at
- 11 the request of the President; but the decision shall be subject to an appeal
- 12 to the Senate which must be seconded and on which no member shall
- 13 speak more than once. No other business shall be in order until such
- 14 appeal is disposed of.

15       4. The President shall rise to put a question or to address the Senate,  
16 but may read sitting.

17       5. If there is any disturbance, disorderly conduct or other activity in  
18 or about the chamber which, in the opinion of the presiding officer, may  
19 impede the orderly transaction of the business of the Senate, the  
20 presiding officer may take such action as is deemed necessary to  
21 preserve and restore order.

22       6. If the President while presiding, wishes to leave the chair, the  
23 President Pro Tempore shall preside, or, in the absence of the President  
24 Pro Tempore, the President Pro Tempore's designee shall preside for a  
25 period not exceeding one day.

26       7. Within one week after appointment, the President Pro Tempore  
27 shall nominate a chaplain and up to three deputy chaplains, and if such  
28 nominations are confirmed by the Senate by a majority vote, the  
29 candidates so nominated and confirmed shall serve for the 2023 and  
30 2024 sessions.

31       8. The clerk shall keep a journal of the Senate, and shall enter therein  
32 a record of each day's proceedings and record any amendment that may  
33 be offered to any bill or resolution.

34       9. (a) Upon acceptance of a Senate agenda, the clerk's office shall act  
35 upon the items listed as indicated and shall incorporate the items by  
36 reference in the Senate journal and Senate transcript. The clerk shall  
37 keep a Calendar on which he or she shall enter daily (1) all bills and joint  
38 resolutions received from the House for action except (a) bills and  
39 resolutions which do not have a favorable or unfavorable report of a  
40 joint committee which shall, upon being read by the clerk, be referred  
41 without further action to the appropriate committee, (b) all bills and  
42 joint resolutions received from the House for action by the Senate which  
43 have not been referred by the Senate to any committee, and (2) all bills  
44 and resolutions favorably reported to the Senate from any committee;  
45 and these shall be entered on the Calendar in the order in which they

46 are received. Each joint resolution proposing an amendment to the  
47 constitution and each bill so entered shall be printed and in the files and  
48 on the Calendar, with a file number for two session days and shall be  
49 starred for action on the session day next succeeding, except that:

50 (A) A resolution may be acted on in accordance with Rule 17(b) of the  
51 joint rules of the Senate and the House of Representatives,

52 (B) A bill or resolution certified in accordance with section 2-26 of the  
53 general statutes, if filed in the House, may be transmitted to and acted  
54 upon first by the Senate with the consent of the speaker; and if filed in  
55 the Senate, may be transmitted to and acted upon first by the House  
56 with the consent of the President Pro Tempore,

57 (C) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this rule, any  
58 bill or resolution certified in accordance with section 2-26 of the general  
59 statutes, may be acted upon immediately in the first house, may be  
60 transmitted immediately to the second house and may be acted upon  
61 immediately when received by the second house,

62 (D) If the Senate rejects an amendment adopted by the House, the bill  
63 or resolution after final action by the Senate may be transmitted  
64 immediately to the House, or if the House rejects an amendment  
65 adopted by the Senate, the bill or resolution when received from the  
66 House may be placed immediately on the Calendar,

67 (E) During the last five calendar days of the session, if the Senate  
68 rejects an amendment adopted by the House, or adopts a Senate  
69 amendment to a bill or resolution received from the House, or takes any  
70 action on the bill or resolution requiring further action by the House, the  
71 bill or resolution after final action by the Senate, may be transmitted  
72 immediately to the House, or if the House rejects an amendment  
73 adopted by the Senate or adopts a House amendment to a bill or  
74 resolution received from the Senate, or takes any action on the bill or  
75 resolution requiring further action by the Senate, the bill or resolution  
76 when received from the House may be placed immediately on the

77 calendar and may be acted upon immediately,

78 (F) During the last five calendar days of the session, any bill or  
79 resolution after final action by the Senate may be transmitted  
80 immediately to the House, or

81 (G) During the last five calendar days of the session, any bill or  
82 resolution received by the Senate after final action by the House may be  
83 placed on the Calendar immediately.

84 (b) All bills and resolutions starred for action shall be acted upon only  
85 when reached in their regular order, and any bill or resolution passed  
86 over when so reached shall retain its place on the Calendar unless it is  
87 passed temporarily, put on the foot of the Calendar or its consideration  
88 is made the order of the day for some specified time.

89 (c) The clerk shall immediately provide an electronic notice of the  
90 filing, in either chamber, and number of any emergency certified bill  
91 introduced by the President Pro Tempore and the speaker, certified in  
92 accordance with section 2-26 of the general statutes, that is the biennial  
93 budget bill or a bill that amends or implements the biennial budget bill  
94 to the members of the Senate. No such emergency certified bill may be  
95 marked ready for action or acted upon less than twelve hours following  
96 the provision of such electronic notice.

97 (d) On any day that is not scheduled as a session day, there shall be a  
98 pro forma session, with or without the presence of a senator, for  
99 purposes of transacting business of a procedural nature. There shall be  
100 a written motion to adopt the day's Senate agenda and act on all items  
101 as indicated and incorporate the items by reference into the Senate  
102 journal and Senate transcript. Said motion shall be read into the record  
103 and shall have the same force and effect as if the Senate were convened  
104 with a presiding officer and senator.

105 10. The clerk shall retain all bills, resolutions and other papers, in  
106 reference to which any member has a right to move a reconsideration,

107 until the right of reconsideration has expired, and no longer.

108 11. The clerk shall also keep a record of all petitions, resolutions, and  
109 bills for all acts which are presented for the consideration of the Senate,  
110 and said record shall be so kept as to show by a single reference the  
111 action of the Senate on each of them to that date.

112 12. The assistant clerk shall have the same powers and perform the  
113 same duties as the clerk, subject to the direction of the clerk. The bill  
114 clerk and the journal clerk shall perform such duties as are assigned to  
115 them by the clerk.

116 13. The clerk shall cause the journals and calendars to be distributed  
117 on the desks of the members daily, before the opening of the session.

118 14. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same question  
119 without leave of the Senate, except to explain.

120 15. No member who is interested in the decision of any question in  
121 such manner that he or she cannot vote thereon may stay in the chamber  
122 when such question is discussed or decided.

123 16. If a member, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the rules and  
124 order of the Senate, the President shall, or any member may, call such  
125 member to order; and if speaking, such member shall sit down, unless  
126 permitted to explain; and if a member is guilty of a breach of any of the  
127 rules and orders, such member may be required by the Senate, on  
128 motion, to make satisfaction therefor, and until satisfaction has been  
129 made, shall not be allowed to vote or speak except by way of excuse.

130 17. If a candidate for the Senate notifies the clerk on or before the  
131 opening day of the session that such candidate contests the results of the  
132 election for his or her district, a committee of three shall be appointed  
133 by the President Pro Tempore within the first two days of the session. If  
134 a candidate for the Senate in a special election notifies the clerk no later  
135 than fourteen days following such election that such candidate contests  
136 the results of the election for his or her district, a committee of three shall

137 be appointed by the President Pro Tempore no later than sixteen days  
138 following such election. The committee shall take into consideration  
139 such contested election and report the facts with its opinion thereon.

140 18. The majority leader shall be elected by the members of the  
141 majority party in the Senate. The other leaders of the majority party in  
142 the Senate and the chairperson and vice chairpersons of each standing  
143 committee shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the  
144 Senate. Chairpersons and vice chairpersons shall serve at the pleasure  
145 of the President Pro Tempore and the majority leader. The clerks of the  
146 standing committees and the chairpersons of the subcommittees thereof  
147 shall be appointed by the chairpersons of the respective committees  
148 with the approval of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The  
149 minority leader shall be elected by the members of the minority party in  
150 the Senate and the other leaders of the minority party in the Senate shall  
151 be appointed by the minority leader. The minority leader shall appoint  
152 ranking minority members to each standing committee. Such ranking  
153 members shall serve at the pleasure of the minority leader. All standing  
154 committee members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore  
155 by the fifth regular session day of the first year of the term, except to fill  
156 a vacancy caused by death or incapacity or resignation from the Senate  
157 or from a committee; and except that the President Pro Tempore may  
158 appoint any member elected after the fifth regular session day of the  
159 first year of the term to any committee within five calendar days after  
160 the member takes the oath of office. Not more than nine senators shall  
161 be appointed to any standing committee, except that the joint standing  
162 committee on Judiciary shall consist of not more than eleven senators  
163 and the joint standing committees on Appropriations and Finance,  
164 Revenue and Bonding shall consist of not more than thirteen senators.  
165 The member first named shall be chairperson. The chairperson of each  
166 committee may appoint one of the members of the committee as clerk  
167 thereof. All Senate leaders, standing committee assignments,  
168 chairpersons, vice chairpersons and clerks and subcommittee  
169 chairpersons shall serve for both the 2023 and the 2024 sessions.

- 170        19. The order of business shall be as follows:
- 171            1. Reception of petitions.
- 172            2. Reception of communications from the Governor, secretary of  
173            the state, annual and biennial reports, interim committee  
174            reports and reports.
- 175            3. Introduction of bills and resolutions.
- 176            4. Reports of committees.
- 177            5. Reception of business from the House.
- 178            6. Business on the Calendar.
- 179            7. Introduction of guests.
- 180            8. Miscellaneous business.
- 181            9. Resolutions removed from consent calendar.
- 182        20. Before any petition or resolution is received, a brief statement of  
183        its object shall be made by the introducer.
- 184        21. When a motion is made, it shall be stated to the Senate by the  
185        President before any debate is had thereon, and every motion shall be  
186        reduced to writing if the President so directs or any member desires it.
- 187        22. When a motion is stated by the President, or read by the clerk, it  
188        shall be deemed to be in the possession of the Senate. It may be  
189        withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment, but  
190        not after amendment, unless the Senate gives leave.
- 191        23. If the question under debate consists of two or more independent  
192        propositions any member may move to have the question divided. The  
193        President shall rule on the order of voting on the division of a question.
- 194        24. (a) The yeas and nays shall be cast on the roll call machine or

195 through use of the electronic remote voting system on all final action on  
196 bills on the regular calendar and on all other questions at the desire of  
197 one-fifth of the members present, expressed at any time before a  
198 declaration of the vote. A vote may only be cast using the electronic  
199 remote voting system from the Legislative Office Building or State  
200 Capitol.

201 (b) Exceptions to this rule shall be allowed as to how and where the  
202 yeas and nays are cast and recorded as follows:

203 (1) In the case that the roll call machine or electronic remote voting  
204 system is not functioning properly, the roll may be called by the clerk;  
205 or

206 (2) If the electronic remote voting system is not functioning properly  
207 and there is a member who is unwilling or unable to be in the chamber,  
208 such member may vote remotely from the Legislative Office Building or  
209 State Capitol in writing, citing the LCO number of the bill, resolution or  
210 amendment or the number of the consent calendar upon which the vote  
211 is cast and signed by the member's hand. Such written remote vote shall  
212 be delivered by a runner selected by the member's caucus to the  
213 presiding officer before the roll call is announced. The presiding officer  
214 shall announce the result of any such vote by such member as indicated  
215 in the member's written remote vote and such vote shall be included in  
216 the roll call vote announced after the receipt of such vote. No voice vote  
217 may be made by written remote vote. The clerk shall retain each written  
218 remote vote until the end of the regular session in which the vote was  
219 cast.

220 25. Whenever the result of a vote as stated by the presiding officer is  
221 doubted, it shall be taken again by rising.

222 26. When a vote has been taken, it shall be in order for any senator on  
223 the prevailing side to move for a reconsideration thereof on the day of  
224 the vote or on the next succeeding session day, if the bill is still in the  
225 possession of the Senate; provided also that there shall be no



226 reconsideration of the following motions: To adjourn, for the previous  
227 question or to reconsider, and no question shall be twice reconsidered.

228       27. Pairs may be made by senators whose votes if they were present  
229 would be cast on opposite sides of any question, by filing with the clerk  
230 of the Senate a memorandum, containing the names of the senators, and  
231 their votes, who are thus paired and the subject matter or matters to  
232 which such pairs apply. Senators making any such pairs shall be  
233 excused from voting upon the merits of the matters involved while the  
234 pair continues, but no pairs shall operate while both of the senators  
235 paired are present.

236       28. Persons, other than members of the General Assembly, shall not  
237 be permitted on the chamber floor while the Senate is in session.  
238 Lobbyists shall be prohibited from the chamber floor on any day during  
239 which the Senate is in session except during a public hearing in the  
240 chamber. This rule shall not apply to the staff of the General Assembly,  
241 to any state or municipal official or member of the media who has been  
242 given permission to be on the chamber floor by the President of the  
243 Senate, President Pro Tempore, majority leader or minority leader, or to  
244 persons invited to the chamber for purposes of recognition or ceremony.  
245 Other persons who desire to speak with a member of the Senate while it  
246 is in session shall communicate such desire through one of the  
247 messengers and shall not converse with such member in the chamber  
248 while the Senate is in session.

249       29. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received  
250 except:

- 251           1. To adjourn.
- 252           2. To recess.
- 253           3. For the previous question.
- 254           4. To close the debate at a specified time.

- 255           5. To pass temporarily.
- 256           6. To pass retain.
- 257           7. To postpone to a certain time.
- 258           8. To commit or recommit.
- 259           9. To divide the question.
- 260           10. To amend.
- 261           11. To refer to another committee.
- 262           12. To postpone indefinitely.
- 263           13. To place at foot of calendar.

264           These several motions shall have precedence in the order listed in this  
265 rule, and no motion to commit or recommit, to continue to the next  
266 General Assembly or to postpone indefinitely, having been once  
267 decided, shall be again allowed at the same session and at the same state  
268 of the bill or subject matter.

269           30. (a) Amendments shall be filed with the clerk of the Senate before  
270 12 noon on the day the bill is acted upon. Exceptions to this rule shall be  
271 allowed: (1) Upon approval of any two of the following: The President  
272 Pro Tempore, the majority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of  
273 the Senate; or (2) in the case of bills or resolutions not starred for action  
274 or bills or resolutions reported in accordance with subdivision (1) of  
275 paragraph (d) of Rule 15 of the joint rules of the Senate and the House  
276 of Representatives.

277           (b) Upon approval of an amendment pursuant to subdivision (1) of  
278 subsection (a) of this section, the sponsor of the amendment shall cause  
279 a copy of the signed approval to be provided electronically or by hand  
280 to a designated leader or staff member of the other party.

281 (c) Any member who offers an amendment, originating in the Senate  
282 which, if adopted, would reduce state revenues or increase state  
283 expenditures by a specified amount or which would involve a  
284 significant fiscal impact, shall make available to the President, President  
285 Pro Tempore, the majority leader of the Senate and the minority leader  
286 of the Senate at the time the amendment is offered, in addition to a fiscal  
287 note, a signed and typewritten explanation, of the decrease in  
288 expenditures or the source of the increased revenues required to balance  
289 the state budget.

290 (d) Whenever a bill or resolution is substantively amended, it may be  
291 referred to the legislative commissioners to be re-examined for the  
292 purposes set forth in Rule 13 of the joint rules of the Senate and the  
293 House of Representatives and to be reprinted as amended. The  
294 legislative commissioners' office shall complete its examination of any  
295 such bill within three calendar days of its receipt. It shall then be printed  
296 in the files with a file number and marked on the calendar starred for  
297 action on the session day on which it appears.

298 31. There shall be a consent calendar on which shall be entered such  
299 bills and resolutions as the majority and minority leaders of the  
300 respective house shall designate. All bills and resolutions starred for  
301 action on the consent calendar shall be passed on motion without  
302 discussion unless, at any time before voting has commenced, a member  
303 requests removal of a bill or resolution from the consent calendar in  
304 which case such bill or resolution shall be so removed.

305 32. The rules of parliamentary practice comprised in the 2010 edition  
306 of Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure shall govern the Senate  
307 whenever applicable and whenever they are not inconsistent with the  
308 standing rules and orders of the Senate or the joint rules of the Senate  
309 and the House of Representatives.

310 33. The rules of the Senate shall take precedence over the joint rules  
311 of the Senate and the House of Representatives or Mason's Manual of  
312 Legislative Procedure in the event of conflict.

313        34. No person shall smoke in the chamber or the gallery.

314        35. (a) These rules shall not be altered, amended or suspended except  
315 by vote of at least two-thirds of the members present.

316        (b) Motions to suspend the rules shall be in order on any session day.  
317 Suspension of a rule shall be for a specified purpose; after the  
318 accomplishment of such purpose, the rule shall remain in force as  
319 before.

320        36. Every member present in the chamber when a question is put by  
321 the presiding officer shall vote, unless excused under Rule 15.

322        37. If deemed necessary in the opinion of the President Pro Tempore  
323 due to public health concerns related to COVID-19, each member or  
324 other person present in or about the chamber shall maintain a cloth face  
325 covering or mask over the member's or person's nose and mouth. This  
326 rule does not apply to a member who is in the chamber and is  
327 addressing the chair and able to maintain a distance of at least six feet  
328 from any other member or person. For purposes of this rule, "COVID-  
329 19" means the respiratory disease designated by the World Health  
330 Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019, and any related  
331 mutation thereof recognized by said organization as a communicable  
332 respiratory disease.