

Senate Resolution 1

By: Senators Shafer of the 48th, Mullis of the 53rd, Cowsert of the 46th, Gooch of the 51st, Kennedy of the 18th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Adopting the Rules of the Senate; and for other purposes.

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the Rules of the Senate in effect at the
3 adjournment of the 2016 Regular Session of the General Assembly are hereby adopted as the
4 Rules of the Senate for the 2017-2018 biennium of the General Assembly unless and until
5 otherwise provided by resolution of the Senate, with the following amendments:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 The Rules of the Senate are amended by revising paragraph (a) of Rule 1-5.1 as follows:

8 "(a) All sessions of the Senate and all meetings of Senate committees shall be open to the
9 public, except by a majority vote of a quorum of a committee or subcommittee. A meeting
10 may be closed to the public when the committee or subcommittee is:

11 (1) Discussing the future acquisition of real estate;

12 (2) Discussing the appointment, employment, or dismissal of a public officer or
13 employee; or disciplinary action against such officer or employee; ~~or~~

14 (3) Hearing complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee, unless
15 such officer or employee requests that the meeting be open to the public or a hearing is
16 required to be open pursuant to paragraph (g) of Rule 1-4.10; or

17 (4) Discussing matters the public disclosure of which would compromise security against
18 sabotage or criminal or terrorist acts and the nondisclosure of which is necessary for the
19 protection of life, safety, or public property, which shall be limited to the following:

20 (i) Security plans and vulnerability assessments for any public utility, technology
21 infrastructure, building, facility, function, or activity in effect at the time of the meeting
22 or pertaining to a plan or assessment in effect at such time. As used in this division, the
23 term "activity" means deployment or surveillance strategies, actions mandated by
24 changes in the federal threat level, motorcades, contingency plans, proposed or
25 alternative motorcade routes, legislative and dignitary protection, planned responses to
26 criminal or terrorist actions, after-action reports still in use, and proposed or actual
27 plans and responses to bioterrorism;

28 (ii) Any plan for protection against terrorist or other attacks that depends for its
 29 effectiveness in whole or in part upon a lack of general public knowledge of its details;
 30 (iii) Any information relating to the existence, nature, location, or function of security
 31 devices designed to protect against terrorist or other attacks that depend for their
 32 effectiveness in whole or in part upon a lack of general public knowledge;
 33 (iv) Any information regarding a plan, blueprint, or other material which if made
 34 public could compromise security against sabotage, criminal, or terroristic acts; and
 35 (v) Any government sponsored programs concerning training relative to governmental
 36 security measures which would identify persons being trained or instructors or would
 37 reveal information described in divisions (i) through (iv) of this subparagraph."

38 **SECTION 2.**

39 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraph (a) of Rule 2-1.3 as follows:

40 "(a) The Committee on Assignments shall appoint the members of standing committees
 41 and the maximum number of Senators which may serve on that committee as follows:

42 AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS - 9
 43 APPROPRIATIONS - 30
 44 BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS - 10
 45 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM - 12
 46 EDUCATION AND YOUTH - 10
 47 ETHICS - 13
 48 FINANCE - ~~10~~11
 49 GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT - 11
 50 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - 14
 51 HIGHER EDUCATION - 9
 52 INSURANCE AND LABOR - 9
 53 INTERSTATE COOPERATION - 5
 54 JUDICIARY - ~~11~~12
 55 JUDICIARY, NON-CIVIL - ~~11~~
 56 NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT - 11
 57 PUBLIC SAFETY - 8
 58 REAPPORTIONMENT AND REDISTRICTING - 15
 59 REGULATED INDUSTRIES AND UTILITIES - 11
 60 RETIREMENT - 7
 61 RULES - 14
 62 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY - 5

63	SPECIAL JUDICIARY - 9
64	STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS - 7
65	STATE INSTITUTIONS AND PROPERTY - 7
66	TRANSPORTATION - 10
67	URBAN AFFAIRS - 11
68	VETERANS, MILITARY AND HOMELAND SECURITY - 68"

69 **SECTION 3.**

70 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraphs (b) and (c) of Rule 2-1.6 as follows:

71 "(b) The minority of a committee, signed by any member of the committee, may make a
72 report in writing, setting forth succinctly the reasons for their dissent. The names of those
73 members of the committee who concur with the minority report may be included in the
74 report. Notice of a minority report must be given when the majority report is read and shall
75 be recorded in the Journal of the Senate. A minority report must be filed with the Secretary
76 of the Senate before the third reading and consideration of the bill or resolution dissented
77 to and shall also become a part of the official ~~record~~ archives of the Senate.

78 (c) If the report of a committee is favorable to the passage of a ~~general~~ bill or resolution,
79 the same shall be given a second reading without question, ~~and provided that~~ any local bill
80 or resolution assigned as local legislation and favorably reported shall be placed on the
81 Local Consent Calendar."

82 **SECTION 4.**

83 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraph (a) of Rule 2-1.7 as follows:

84 "(a) In order to secure adequate quorums, standing committees shall meet at a time and
85 place scheduled and designated by the Secretary of the Senate and approved by the
86 Committee on Administrative Affairs; a list of the committee meetings, stating their time
87 and location, shall be posted by 10:00 A.M. on the Friday preceding the week of the
88 scheduled meetings. A chairman may request in writing directed to the Secretary of the
89 Senate additional meetings if the request is made no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior
90 to the scheduled meeting. A chairman may cancel a meeting by notifying the Secretary of
91 the Senate in writing no later than ~~twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled meeting.~~
92 ~~However, if no agenda for the meeting has been posted or distributed, the meeting may be~~
93 ~~canceled by notifying the Secretary of the Senate in writing~~ one (1) hour prior to the
94 meeting; ~~the request will be immediately adjudicated.~~ There shall be no standing
95 committee meetings in the Senate Chamber except a scheduled public hearing."

96 **SECTION 5.**

97 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraph (b) of Rule 2-3.1 as follows:

98 "(b) After the public announcement of the standing committees and subcommittees, no
 99 other Senators shall be placed thereon; except when ~~Senators have~~ a Senator has been
 100 elected to fill ~~vacancies~~ a vacancy caused by death or resignation from the Senate. In such
 101 case, the incoming Senator may be assigned to any standing committee and other Senators,
 102 with their consent, may be reassigned by the Committee on Assignments."

103 **SECTION 6.**

104 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraph (b) of Rule 2-3.2 as follows:

105 "(b) Ex-officio members may be removed from a ~~standing~~ committee at any time for any
 106 reason by the Committee on Assignments."

107 **SECTION 7.**

108 Said rules are further amended by revising Rule 2-4.2 as follows:

109 ~~"2-4.2 Votes by Proxy and Abstention Prohibited - Exemption~~ Voting in Committee;
 110 Duty to Vote; Prohibitions; Exceptions

111 ~~No member of any committee shall be allowed to vote by proxy; however committee~~
 112 ~~participation and vote via video conference or teleconference may be allowed at the~~
 113 ~~discretion of the Chair in cases of military service. Members may not abstain from voting~~
 114 ~~unless the member or any member of the Senator's immediate family has a direct pecuniary~~
 115 ~~interest in the result of such vote which interest is distinct, unique or peculiar to the Senator~~
 116 ~~or the Senator's immediate family.~~

117 (a) No member of any committee shall be allowed to vote by proxy.

118 (b) No member of any committee shall be permitted to pair his or her vote with another
 119 member.

120 (c) No member of any standing committee shall be permitted to participate in a committee
 121 meeting or cast a vote via video conference or teleconference; provided, however, that the
 122 chair of a standing committee may permit a member who is prevented from attending a
 123 committee meeting in person due to military service to participate and vote via video
 124 conference or teleconference.

125 (d) The chair of an interim special committee to study a specific issue is authorized, at his
 126 or her discretion, to permit a member of such committee to participate and to vote via video
 127 conference or teleconference.

128 (e) The chair of a committee may not authorize participation or voting via video
 129 conference or teleconference in any meeting, or portion of a meeting, that is closed to the
 130 public.

131 (f) No member of any committee may abstain from voting unless the member or any
 132 member of the Senator's immediate family has a direct pecuniary interest in the result of
 133 such vote which interest is distinct, unique, or peculiar to the Senator or the Senator's
 134 immediate family."

135 **SECTION 8.**

136 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraph (b) of Rule 2-8.3 as follows:

137 "(b) All Committee of Conference reports shall be printed and distributed to the Senators
 138 on the legislative day prior to consideration of the same during the first ~~thirty-five (35)~~
 139 thirty-six (36) days of any regular session. During the ~~thirty-sixth (36th)~~ thirty-seventh
 140 (37th) through the fortieth (40th) days of any regular session, such reports shall be printed
 141 and distributed to the Senators at least two (2) hours prior to consideration of the same;
 142 provided that this two (2) hour requirement may be suspended by the affirmative vote of
 143 a majority of the members to which the Senate is entitled."

144 **SECTION 9.**

145 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraph (a) of Rule 3-1.1 as follows:

146 "(a) All bills and resolutions shall have the name of the Senator or Senators introducing
 147 the same, as well as the district or districts represented, endorsed in ink on the bill back of
 148 the bill. The Senator whose name appears first on the bill back shall be the primary author.
 149 Any Senator, except the primary author, may remove his or her name from a bill or
 150 resolution in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary of the Senate. A
 151 primary author may remove his or her name from a bill only with consent of the Senate
 152 provided that another Senator is willing to become the primary author. There shall also
 153 appear on the back of the bill, the title or a brief summary thereof."

154 **SECTION 10.**

155 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraphs (a) and (c) of Rule 3-1.2 as follows:

156 "(a) No bill or resolution requiring the concurring vote of the House for passage shall be
 157 introduced unless the same shall have been filed in the office of the Secretary before 4:00
 158 P.M. on the previous business day; provided that the same shall be filed before 2:00 P.M.
 159 on Fridays."

160 "(c) No general House bill or resolution, having the effect of law shall be accepted by the
 161 Secretary of the Senate for first reading and referral to committee after the ~~thirtieth (30th)~~

162 twenty-eighth (28th) day of any regular session. Referral of House legislation received on
 163 the ~~thirtieth (30th)~~ twenty-eighth (28th) legislative day may be made during the Order of
 164 Business of First Reading and Reference of House Bills and Resolutions on the ~~thirty-first~~
 165 ~~(31st)~~ twenty-ninth (29th) legislative day. The provisions of this paragraph shall in no case
 166 be suspended except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members to which the Senate is
 167 entitled."

168 SECTION 11.

169 Said rules are further amended by revising Rule 3-1.4 as follows:

170 "3-1.4 Fiscal Notes

171 (a) Any ~~general~~ bill having a significant impact on the anticipated revenue or expenditure
 172 level of any state ~~agency~~ department, bureau, authority, board, council, committee, bureau,
 173 ~~or commission, or other state agency~~ must be introduced no later than the twentieth day of
 174 ~~the any~~ session. The sponsor of such legislation must request a fiscal note from the Office
 175 of Planning and Budget and the Department of Audits and Accounts by November 1 of the
 176 year preceding the annual convening of the General Assembly in which the bill is to be
 177 introduced. Members-elect must request a fiscal note by December 1. (O.C.G.A. 28-5-42.)

178 (b) Failure to request a fiscal note by November 1 or December 1 will preclude
 179 consideration by the Senate unless the committee to which a bill is assigned in the chamber
 180 in which it is introduced:

181 (1) ~~determines~~ Determines, on a specific motion; for waiver, that the bill has a significant
 182 impact, waives the November 1 or December 1 deadline, requests a fiscal note from the
 183 director of the Office of Planning and Budget and the state auditor and the chair of the
 184 committee suggests a preferred order of completion to guide the director of the Office of
 185 Planning and Budget. ~~(O.C.G.A. 28-5-42); or~~

186 (2) Determines on a specific motion that such bill will not have a significant impact as
 187 described in O.C.G.A. 28-5-42.

188 (c) In the event a Senate bill having a significant impact is introduced not later than the
 189 twentieth day of any session, the chairperson of the committee to which such bill is referred
 190 shall request the director of the Office of Planning and Budget and the state auditor to
 191 submit any such fiscal note as to the fiscal effect of any such bill. The chairperson shall
 192 make such request after the bill has been referred to committee. The chairperson shall not
 193 be required to make such request with respect to any bill for which:

194 (1) A fiscal note has been requested by the sponsor of the bill and the chairperson has
 195 been duly notified in writing of such request by such sponsor; or

196 (2) The director of the Office of Planning and Budget and the state auditor have
 197 previously submitted a fiscal note pursuant to a request under paragraph (a).

198 ~~(e)~~(d) If any general bill having a significant fiscal impact is introduced after the twentieth
 199 day, it shall not be considered or acted upon by the Senate. The President of the Senate
 200 shall decide whether a bill which is introduced falls within this category. (O.C.G.A.
 201 28-5-42.)

202 ~~(d)~~(e) Fiscal notes shall include a reliable estimate in dollars of the anticipated change in
 203 revenue or expenditures under the provisions of the bill. It shall also include a statement
 204 as to the immediate effect and, if determinable, the long-range effect of the measure. The
 205 fiscal note shall not express opinion relative to the merits of the measure, but may identify
 206 technical or mechanical defects. (O.C.G.A. 28-5-42.)

207 ~~(e) No substitute or amendment to any bill shall be offered which changes the version of~~
 208 ~~the bill on which the most recent fiscal note was submitted until a new fiscal note covering~~
 209 ~~the provisions of the substitute or amendment is supplied to the Secretary of the Senate and~~
 210 ~~made available to all members.~~

211 ~~(f) No bill shall be put upon its passage, nor shall any House amendment, House substitute~~
 212 ~~or conference committee report to a bill, if said conference committee report changes the~~
 213 ~~bill from its version as passed by the Senate, be adopted, until an adequate fiscal note~~
 214 ~~covering the bill, or covering the House amendment, House substitute or conference~~
 215 ~~committee report is supplied to the Secretary of the Senate and made available to all~~
 216 ~~members.~~

217 ~~(g) The provisions of this Rule that are not in conflict with the "Georgia Fiscal Note Act"~~
 218 ~~may be suspended by a two-third's vote of the members elected to the Senate by a roll call~~
 219 ~~vote."~~

220 SECTION 12.

221 Said rules are further amended by revising Rule 3-1.5 as follows:

222 "3-1.5 Receipt of House Bills on the ~~30th~~ 28th day

223 When a general bill or resolution is received from the House during a period when the
 224 Senate is in recess on the ~~thirtieth (30th)~~ twenty-eighth (28th) day of a regular session, the
 225 bill or resolution may be read and referred to a standing committee by the President of the
 226 Senate during such period of recess. The Secretary of the Senate shall maintain a public
 227 listing of all bills so read and referred. Any Senator who desires to move to engross any
 228 such bill or resolution must serve written notice of his or her intention to do so by
 229 delivering such written notice to the Secretary before midnight of that ~~thirtieth (30th)~~
 230 twenty-eighth (28th) day. When notice is so given, further proceedings on a motion to
 231 engross shall be as provided in Rule 6-9.1(b), except as otherwise provided in this rule."

232 **SECTION 13.**

233 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraphs (a) and (c) of Rule 3-2.2 as follows:

234 "(a) In order for local legislation to be favorably reported by the Committee on State and
 235 Local Governmental Operations, such legislation must be signed by a majority of the
 236 Senators representing the political subdivision affected by such legislation. If an even
 237 number of Senators representing multi-member political subdivisions are equally divided
 238 on any local ~~bill or resolution~~ legislation, the legislation may be considered by the
 239 Committee on State and Local Governmental Operations on its merits, and the committee
 240 may report the legislation to the Senate with the recommendation that it "do pass" or "do
 241 not pass."

242 "(c) Approval of local legislation as appropriate to proceed onto the Local Consent
 243 Calendar shall be evidenced by a Senator's signature and senatorial district in the
 244 designated place on the ~~legislation~~ bill back that is inserted for the purpose of recording
 245 the signatures of those Senators affected who agree with placing the local legislation on the
 246 Local Consent Calendar. ~~Once a bill has been signed the approval signature is made, it is~~
 247 permanent and cannot be removed; however, any Senator retains the right to object under
 248 the provisions of Senate Rule ~~4-2.9~~ 4-2.8."

249 **SECTION 14.**

250 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraphs (a) and (c) of Rule 3-3.1 as follows:

251 "(a) Upon receiving ~~nominations by the Governor that require~~ the name of any person
 252 whose appointment to public office requires Senate confirmation, the President of the
 253 Senate shall ~~immediately~~ refer such ~~nominations~~ appointments to the Committee on
 254 Assignments ~~without alteration~~. Such referral shall be made no later than the legislative
 255 day after receipt. The Committee on Assignments shall consider such ~~nominations~~
 256 appointments and may refer such ~~nominations~~ appointments to one or more standing
 257 committees and shall instruct the Secretary of the Senate to notify the Senate that the names
 258 of such nominations appointees have been received. ~~No nominations~~ Except for
 259 appointments to the Judicial Qualifications Commission which shall be submitted pursuant
 260 to statute, no appointees shall be considered for confirmation by the Senate unless ~~such~~
 261 ~~nominations~~ the names of such appointees are received by the President of the Senate prior
 262 to the twentieth (20th) legislative day. However, no ~~nominations~~ appointments may be
 263 considered by the Senate until the expiration of seventy-two (72) hours after receipt thereof
 264 by the President of the Senate, or until the expiration of forty-eight (48) hours after being
 265 referred to the ~~committee~~ Committee on Assignments. The Secretary of the Senate shall
 266 make ~~such nominations~~ the names of appointees submitted to the Senate for confirmation
 267 available for review by any Senator. The chair of the standing committee or committees

268 to which the ~~nominations~~ appointment may have been ~~assigned~~ referred shall cause such
 269 ~~nomination or nominations~~ appointment or appointments to be considered by the
 270 committee within a reasonable period of time after receiving the ~~nomination or~~
 271 ~~nominations~~ referral. The chair of the standing committee or committees to which the
 272 ~~nominations~~ appointments may have been ~~assigned~~ referred shall then report the
 273 committee's recommendations to the Committee on Assignments which shall report its
 274 recommendations to the full Senate."

275 "(c) Upon the request of any committee to which a ~~nomination~~ an appointment was
 276 ~~assigned~~ referred, any ~~nominee~~ such appointee must furnish to the Senate a resume of all
 277 business transactions that he or she has had with the State of Georgia during the period of
 278 the two years before the appointment."

279 **SECTION 15.**

280 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraph (a) of Rule 4-2.1 as follows:

- 281 "(a) 1. Report of the Committee on the Journal.
 282 2. Reading of the Journal.
 283 3. Motions to Reconsider.
 284 4. Confirmation of the Journal.
 285 5. Introduction of Bills and Resolutions.
 286 6. First Reading and Reference of Senate Bills and Resolutions.
 287 7. First Reading and Reference of House Bills and Resolutions, which shall also be
 288 in order at any later time when no other business is pending.
 289 8. Reports of Standing Committees.
 290 9. Second Reading of General Bills and Resolutions.
 291 10. Call of the Roll.
 292 11. Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States.
 293 12. Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of Georgia.
 294 13. Prayer of the Chaplain.
 295 14. Unanimous Consents.
 296 15. Points of Personal Privilege.
 297 16. Adoption of Privileged Resolutions.
 298 17. Motions to withdraw bills or resolutions from one committee and commit to
 299 another committee.
 300 18. Passage of Local Uncontested Bills and Resolutions, which shall also be in order
 301 at any later time when no other business is pending.
 302 19. Consideration of Local Contested Bills and Resolutions, which shall also be in
 303 order at any later time when no other business is pending.

304 ~~20. General Consent Calendar for Commemorative Resolutions.~~
 305 ~~21.20.~~ Motions to Engross.
 306 ~~22.21.~~ Third Reading and Consideration of General Bills and Resolutions."

307 **SECTION 16.**

308 Said rules are further amended by revising Rules 4-2.8 through 4-2.15 as follows:

309 **~~4-2.8 General Consent Calendar for Commemorative Resolutions~~**

310 ~~(a) All general commemorative resolutions shall be placed on a General Consent Calendar~~
 311 ~~for Commemorative Resolutions. As used in this Rule, the term "commemorative~~
 312 ~~resolutions" means all resolutions that name or rename roads, streets, highways, parks,~~
 313 ~~bodies of water, bridges, institutions, buildings, structures, and any other geographic~~
 314 ~~landmark within one senatorial district. If the proposal involves naming or renaming such~~
 315 ~~geographic landmark that extends beyond one senatorial district, the resolution is not~~
 316 ~~appropriate for this calendar.~~

317 ~~(b) The General Consent Calendar for Commemorative Resolutions must be placed on~~
 318 ~~each Senator's desk at the time of the third reading and shall be read a third time by title~~
 319 ~~and then put to the Senate for a vote on the electronic roll call system as a group at the time~~
 320 ~~provided in the order of business, and the question shall be whether all resolutions of the~~
 321 ~~General Consent Calendar for Commemorative Resolutions shall pass.~~

322 ~~(c) Before the time the General Consent Calendar for Commemorative Resolutions is put~~
 323 ~~to a vote, if a member of the Senate objects to the inclusion of any bill on the General~~
 324 ~~Consent Calendar for Commemorative Resolutions, the general resolution on which the~~
 325 ~~objection is made shall be voted on separately and shall be the next order of business.~~

326 **~~4-2.94-2.8~~ Local Consent Calendar**

327 (a) All local bills on the Local Consent Calendar, which must be placed on each Senator's
 328 desk no less than one hour before the time of convening, shall be put to the Senate for a
 329 vote on the electronic roll call system as a group at the time provided in the order of
 330 business, and the question shall be whether all bills on the Local Consent Calendar shall
 331 pass. The "one hour before convening" provision of this rule shall not apply to a
 332 Supplemental Local Calendar during the last three days of a regular session.

333 (b) Before the time the Local Consent Calendar is put to a vote, if three members of the
 334 Senate, one of whose district is directly affected, object (in writing on forms furnished by
 335 the Secretary of the Senate) to the inclusion of any local bill on the Local Consent
 336 Calendar, the local bill on which the objection is made shall then be placed on the Calendar
 337 for "Local Contested Bills" which is next in the order of business.

338 (c) The number, authors, and title of each bill on the Local Contested Calendar shall be
 339 read, considered and voted on as provided in the rules for general legislation, except that
 340 the proponents and opponents shall each be limited to ten (10) minutes.

341 **4-2.104-2.9 Third Reading and Consideration**

342 (a) All bills and resolutions shall be called in the order in which they appear on the Rules
 343 calendar. On the days on which there is no Rules calendar, bills shall be called in
 344 numerical order. No general Senate bill or resolution having the effect of law shall be read
 345 the third time and put upon its passage or adoption after the ~~thirtieth (30th)~~ twenty-eighth
 346 (28th) day of any regular session. No general House bill or resolution having the effect of
 347 law shall be read the third time and put upon its passage or adoption after the thirty-ninth
 348 (39th) day of any regular session except that this prohibition shall not apply to a bill or
 349 resolution which was laid on the table on the thirty-ninth (39th) day. The provisions of this
 350 paragraph shall in no case be suspended except by a two-thirds' (2/3) vote of the members
 351 to which the Senate is entitled.

352 (b) The Committee on Rules shall arrange and fix the calendar for each day's business for
 353 the last thirty-five (35) days of each regular session of the General Assembly. Such
 354 calendar shall be a standing and continuing special order during said period. No matter
 355 shall be taken up or acted on otherwise than in the order and manner fixed by such
 356 calendar, except by a three-fourths vote of those voting, provided such three-fourths
 357 constitutes a majority of the members elected to the Senate. This rule may not be
 358 suspended by a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

359 (c) All bills and resolutions shall be called in the order in which they appear on the Rules
 360 calendar. The President shall not recognize any Senator at any time for the purpose of
 361 asking unanimous consent to read any bill or resolution the second time, or to place any
 362 local bill or resolution on its passage. The President shall entertain but one unanimous
 363 consent at one time.

364 **4-2.114-2.10 Bills Placed on Desk; Calendar Changes**

365 No General bill or resolution shall be put for final passage unless the same has been put on
 366 a calendar and placed on each Senator's desk no less than one hour prior to the time of
 367 convening on the date of passage. The Secretary of the Senate shall put all bills which
 368 appear on the prepared calendar and which may be considered that day in order on the
 369 Senators' desks. The calendar can be changed by a vote of two-thirds of the Senators
 370 voting, provided such two-thirds constitutes a majority of the members elected to the
 371 Senate.

372 **4-2.124-2.11 Reference to More Than One Committee; Effect**

373 When a bill or a resolution has been referred to and reported by more than one committee
374 or has been reported by and then committed to the same committee, the last committee
375 report shall be acted on by the Senate; and in all cases the report of the Committee of the
376 Whole shall be first acted on by the Senate.

377 **4-2.134-2.12 Disagreement with Committee Report on Third Reading**

378 When a bill or resolution, favorably reported by a committee is on its third, or last reading,
379 if the report of the committee is disagreed to by the Senate, the bill or resolution shall be
380 lost, unless the action of the Senate in disagreeing to the committee report is reconsidered
381 within the proper time.

382 **4-2.144-2.13 Transmittal to the House**

383 No bill or resolution shall be transmitted to the House on the day of passage thereof unless
384 two-thirds of the Senators voting, provided the total vote constitutes a quorum, shall so
385 order. Provided, during the last three legislative days of any regular session, any bill,
386 resolution, or other matter which requires action by the House shall be immediately
387 transmitted to the House by the Secretary of the Senate. The Secretary shall also
388 immediately transmit Senate Bills and Resolutions requiring House action on the ~~thirtieth~~
389 ~~(30th)~~ twenty-eighth (28th) legislative day after any notice to reconsider is disposed of.

390 **4-2.154-2.14 Fixed Hour of Adjournment**

391 Whenever the hour of adjournment, as fixed by a prior resolution, shall arrive while the
392 electronic vote of the Senate is being taken, the session shall continue until the vote is
393 announced. If said fixed hour of adjournment shall arrive while the Senate is acting on the
394 main question, after a motion for the previous question has been sustained, and before the
395 voting machine is unlocked, the Senate shall stand adjourned by virtue of said prior
396 resolution."

397 **SECTION 17.**

398 Said rules are further amended by revising Rule 5-1.10 as follows:

399 **5-1.10 No Quorum Present; Call of the Senate; Members Required to Vote**

400 (a) Whenever the result of a vote taken shall disclose the fact that no quorum of the Senate
401 is present, or when the President shall officially state the fact to the Senate, it shall be in
402 order for any Senator to make a motion for a call of the Senate. When such motion is
403 made, the President shall state the question as follows: "Shall the motion for the call of the
404 Senate prevail?" and if five of the Senators present shall vote in the affirmative, the

405 President shall order the Secretary of the Senate to call the roll of Senators, and the
 406 absentees shall be noted in the Journal with a notation of those previously excused. The
 407 doors shall then be closed, after which the names of the absentees shall again be called.
 408 Those who do not appear, and who are absent without leave, may, by order of the majority
 409 of the Senators present, be sent for and arrested wherever they may be found by officers
 410 to be appointed by the Sergeant at Arms for that purpose, and their attendance secured, and
 411 the Senate shall determine upon what conditions they shall be discharged.

412 (b) When less than a quorum vote on any subject under consideration by the Senate, the
 413 President may order the doors of the Senate be closed and the roll of Senators called by the
 414 Secretary, or recorded on the electronic roll call system. If it is ascertained that a quorum
 415 is present, either by answering to their names or by their presence in the Senate, the refusal
 416 of any Senator present to vote, unless excused, shall be deemed a contempt of the Senate."

417 **SECTION 18.**

418 Said rules are further amended by revising Rule 6-5.1 as follows:

419 **"6-5.1 Applicability**

420 A motion to postpone to a day certain cannot be applied to ~~subordinate~~ subsidiary or
 421 incidental questions, but only to the whole measure. It is amendable by substituting one
 422 day for another. If a day proposed is known to be beyond the limits of the session, the
 423 motion shall be treated as one to indefinitely postpone."

424 **SECTION 19.**

425 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraph (c) of Rule 6-7.1 as follows:

426 "(c) A notice of motion to reconsider a bill or resolution shall take precedence over a
 427 motion to transmit and shall have the effect of defeating the motion to transmit; except on
 428 the ~~thirtieth (30th)~~ twenty-eighth (28th) day and during the last three (3) days of any
 429 regular session, a Senator must give notice immediately of his or her intention to move to
 430 reconsider, and the President or the designee of the President shall set a time during the day
 431 when the motion will be entertained, so stating the time to the Senate; the time shall be at
 432 the discretion of the President or the designee of the President, but not less than ten
 433 minutes. If the Senate is considering any other business at the time the motion to
 434 reconsider has been set to be entertained, the motion will be taken up upon conclusion of
 435 that business."

436 **SECTION 20.**

437 Said rules are further amended by revising Rules 6-9.3 and 6-9.4 as follows:

438 ~~"6-9.3 Call of the Senate~~

439 ~~Upon the call of the majority of Senators, ordinary and extraordinary, the names of the~~
 440 ~~absentees shall be noted by the Secretary of the Senate, and shall appear in the Journal with~~
 441 ~~a notation of those previously excused.~~

442 ~~6-9.46-9.3~~ **Motion to Resolve Debate**

443 (a) The motion to resolve debate shall be decided without debate, and shall take
 444 precedence over all other motions except motions to adjourn, motions to lay on the table,
 445 or motions for the previous question. The motion is in order whenever any Senator can
 446 obtain the floor during debate. Upon a motion to resolve debate being made, the Secretary
 447 of the Senate shall cease accepting proposed amendments until such motion is disposed of.
 448 If the motion is sustained, no further amendment shall be in order. If the motion fails or
 449 is reconsidered, the Secretary of the Senate may accept amendments in the normal course.

450 (b) When the motion to resolve debate has been sustained by a majority of those voting,
 451 provided that the total vote constitutes a quorum, the debate shall be resolved in the
 452 following manner: the President shall recognize no more than three Senators wishing to
 453 debate the bill for no more than five (5) minutes each; then, in the event amendments that
 454 have not been addressed during the debate are pending, the author of any previously
 455 unaddressed amendment for a period of no more than two (2) minutes per amendment;
 456 then, in the event a Minority Report has been filed, the member whose name is first signed
 457 to said Minority Report for a period of not more than ten (10) minutes; then, the chair of
 458 the committee whose report of the bill or other measure is under consideration or the
 459 primary author or Senate sponsor for no more than ten (10) minutes to close the debate.

460 (c) Upon the resolution of the debate as described in this rule, the main question shall be
 461 in order and only motions to reconsider the resolution of debate, to lay on the table, or to
 462 adjourn shall be in order prior to considering the main question."

463 **SECTION 21.**

464 Said rules are further amended by revising paragraph (c) of Rule 8-1.7 as follows:

465 "(c) On all points of personal privilege, individual speeches shall be limited to five
 466 minutes, except that after the twentieth (20th) day of a session individual speeches shall be
 467 limited to three minutes."

468 **SECTION 22.**

469 Said rules are further amended by revising Rule 8-1.10 as follows:

470 **"8-1.10 Usage of Audio-visual Equipment; Visual Aids**

471 (a) The President shall, at his or her discretion and subject to any guidelines as he or she
 472 might require, allow the author (first signer) of a bill or the chair of the committee which
 473 favorably reported a bill to use audio-visual presentations which are not disruptive to the
 474 business of the Senate during debate on such bill. Such usage shall be considered part of
 475 the matter of debate and shall count toward any limitations on speaking detailed in Rule
 476 8-1.7. All presentations shall be presented with dignity and shall be presented in a manner
 477 to ensure decorum.

478 (b) Printed visual aids, such as graphs and charts, may be used in the well by the Senator
 479 who has been recognized to speak. All visual aids shall be consistent with the dignity and
 480 decorum of the Senate, and shall be removed from the well and not displayed further in the
 481 Senate chamber after the Senator has relinquished the floor."

482 **SECTION 23.**

483 Said rules are further amended by revising Rule 9-1.16 as follows:

484 **"9-1.16 Gallery**

485 The President shall have power to cause the galleries and lobbies of the Senate cleared by
 486 the Sergeant at Arms in case of disturbance or disorderly conduct therein, and to cause any
 487 person or persons so offending to be arrested and brought before the bar of the Senate to
 488 be dealt with for contempt of the Senate. The Committee on Administrative Affairs may
 489 establish guidelines addressing appropriate conduct and activity in the gallery."

490 **SECTION 24.**

491 Said rules are further amended by revising Rule 10-1.3 as follows:

492 **"10-1.3 Changes in Rules**

493 ~~(a) The Committee on Rules must report changes or additions to Senate Rules submitted~~
 494 ~~to it immediately after the confirmation of the Journal on the legislative day following the~~
 495 ~~introduction in the Senate of the proposed change or addition. A failure to so report such~~
 496 ~~proposed change or addition to these rules within two legislative days shall automatically~~
 497 ~~bring said proposed change or addition before the Senate for consideration. Senate Rules~~
 498 ~~shall be adopted at the beginning of any two-year term of the General Assembly. Adoption~~
 499 ~~of the Senate Organizational Rules Resolution shall require an affirmative vote of a~~
 500 ~~majority of the members to which the Senate is entitled. All subsequent resolutions~~
 501 ~~introduced to change or amend the Senate Rules shall be assigned to the Committee on~~
 502 ~~Rules and would require a two-thirds' (2/3) affirmative vote of the members to which the~~
 503 ~~Senate is entitled for adoption.~~

504 ~~(b) Senate Rules shall be adopted at the beginning of any two-year term of the General~~
505 ~~Assembly. Adoption of the Senate Organizational Rules Resolution shall require an~~
506 ~~affirmative vote of a majority of the members to which the Senate is entitled. All~~
507 ~~subsequent resolutions introduced to change or amend the Senate Rules shall be assigned~~
508 ~~to the Committee on Rules and would require a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the~~
509 ~~members to which the Senate is entitled for adoption. No change in or addition to these~~
510 ~~Rules shall be made, unless such proposed change or addition is first referred in writing to~~
511 ~~the Committee on Rules and reported back to the Senate.~~

512 (c) The Committee on Rules must report changes or additions to Senate Rules submitted
513 to it immediately after the confirmation of the Journal on the legislative day following the
514 introduction in the Senate of the proposed change or addition. A failure to so report such
515 proposed change or addition to these rules within two legislative days shall automatically
516 bring said proposed change or addition before the Senate for consideration."