

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 184 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY O'NEAL, PICKETT, STENDER, LEADBETER, KRUPA, DIAMOND, FLICK, MARCELL, R. MACKENZIE, RAPP, STRUZZI, JAMES, BERNSTINE, C. WILLIAMS, WARNER, M. MACKENZIE, MALONEY, SMITH, SCHEUREN, KLUNK, RADER, CUTLER, TWARDZIK, OWLETT, MOUL AND ZIMMERMAN, AUGUST 15, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, AUGUST 15, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Amending the General Operating Rules of the House of
2 Representatives and House Rule 18, further providing for
3 definitions and for introduction and printing of bills.

4 RESOLVED, That the definitions of the General Operating Rules
5 of the House of Representatives are amended by adding a
6 definition to read and that House Rule 18 be amended to read:

7 2023-2024

8 GENERAL OPERATING RULES

9 OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 The following words and phrases when used in the General
11 Operating Rules of the House of Representatives shall have the
12 meanings given to them in this section unless the context
13 clearly indicates otherwise:

14 * * *

15 "Legislative plagiarism" shall mean the practice of
16 introducing legislation that is identical in form and substance
17 to legislation that was previously introduced by another sitting

1 member of the House in the same legislative session or
2 immediately prior legislative session without written
3 permission.

4 * * *

5 RULE 18

6 Introduction and Printing of Bills

7 Bills shall be introduced in quadruplicate, signed and dated
8 by each member who is a sponsor of the bill, and filed with the
9 Chief Clerk on any day that the offices of the House of
10 Representatives are open for business. A sponsor may be added or
11 withdrawn, but in the case of withdrawals, the names shall be
12 withdrawn if and when the bill is reprinted.

13 Bills introduced when received at the Chief Clerk's desk
14 shall be numbered consecutively and delivered to the Speaker,
15 who shall refer each bill to an appropriate committee on any day
16 whether or not the House is in session. If the resolution
17 creating a select committee authorizes the referral of bills to
18 that committee, the Speaker may refer bills, within the scope of
19 the resolution, to such select committee. Insofar as applicable,
20 the select committee shall consider and report bills in
21 accordance with the rules governing the consideration and
22 reporting of bills by standing committees. The Speaker shall
23 report to the House the committees to which bills have been
24 referred, either on the day introduced or received or on the
25 next two legislative days the House is in session, unless the
26 House is in recess for more than four consecutive days in which
27 case the Speaker shall provide a list to the Majority Leader and
28 the Minority Leader, within two calendar days, of all bills
29 which were referred during such period when the House was not in
30 session.

1 If the Speaker neglects or refuses to refer to committee any
2 bill or bills (whether House or Senate) as above after
3 introduction or presentation by the Senate for concurrence, any
4 member may move for the reference of the bill to an appropriate
5 committee. If the motion is carried, said bill or bills shall be
6 immediately surrendered by the Speaker to the committee
7 designated in said motion.

8 The first copy of each bill introduced shall be for the
9 committee, the second copy shall be for the printer, the third
10 copy shall be for the news media and the fourth copy shall be
11 for the Legislative Reference Bureau.

12 Every bill, after introduction and reference to committee,
13 shall be printed and shall also be posted on the Internet with
14 the hyperlink to the web page for the members of the House of
15 Representatives.

16 Bills may not be withdrawn after reference to committee.

17 A bill or resolution that meets the definition of legislative
18 plagiarism may not be introduced. If a bill or resolution is
19 introduced that is suspected of being legislative plagiarism,
20 the matter may be referred to the Committee on Ethics.