
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 21 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY CUTLER, FEBRUARY 27, 2023

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A RESOLUTION

1 Adopting permanent rules for the House of Representatives,
2 further providing for questions of order, for supervision of
3 Hall of the House and committee rooms, for members' and
4 employees' expenses, for order of business, for general
5 appropriation bill and non-preferred bills, for consideration
6 of bills, for third consideration and final passage bills,
7 for hospital and home appropriations or acquiring lands of
8 the Commonwealth, for House and concurrent resolutions, for
9 standing committees and subcommittees, for powers and duties
10 of standing committees and subcommittees, for Committee on
11 Rules, for discharge of committees, for lay on the table, for
12 previous question, for members required to be present and
13 vote and for financial interests in gaming entities,
14 providing for vote by designation and further providing for
15 Committee on Ethics.

16 RESOLVED, That the Permanent Rules of the House of
17 Representatives (2021-2022) be adopted as the Permanent Rules of
18 the House of Representatives for the 2023-2024 session of the
19 House of Representatives with the following amendments to the
20 heading and Rules 4, 8, 14, 17, 19 (b), 21, 24, 32, 35, 43, 45,
21 46, 53, 59, 61, 64, 65 (b) and 3 E and the addition of Rule 66
22 (a):

23 [2021-2022] 2023-2024

24 GENERAL OPERATING RULES

25 OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1 * * *

2 RULE 4

3 Questions of Order

4 The Speaker shall decide all questions of order subject to an
5 appeal [by two members]. The decision of the Speaker shall stand
6 as the decision of the House unless so appealed and overturned
7 by a majority of the members elected to the House. The Speaker
8 may, in the first instance, submit the question to the House.

9 Questions involving the constitutionality of any matters shall
10 be decided by the House. On questions of order there shall be no
11 debate except on an appeal from the decision of the Speaker or
12 on reference of a question to the House. In either case, no
13 member shall speak more than once except by leave of the House.

14 Unless germane to the appeal, a second point of order is not
15 in order while an appeal is pending; but, when the appeal is
16 disposed of, a second point of order is in order and is subject
17 to appeal.

18 * * *

19 RULE 8

20 Supervision of Hall of the House

21 and Committee Rooms

22 Subject to the direction of the Speaker, the Chief Clerk
23 shall have supervision and control over the Hall of the House,
24 the caucus rooms, and the committee rooms [and all other rooms
25 assigned to the House].

26 Pursuant to the act of January 10, 1968 (1967 P.L.925,
27 No.417), referred to as the Legislative Officers and Employes
28 Law, the Bipartisan Management Committee shall develop rules or
29 regulations for the assignment, allocation and use of all other
30 rooms assigned to the House in the East Wing and Main Capitol.

1 During the sessions of the Legislature the Hall of the House
2 shall not be used for public or private business other than
3 legislative matters except by consent of the House. During
4 periods of recess of the House such use may be authorized by the
5 Speaker without the consent of the House.

6 * * *

7 RULE 14

8 Members' and Employees' Expenses

9 A member who attends a duly called meeting of a standing or
10 special committee of which he or she is a member when the House
11 is not in session or who is summoned to the State Capitol or
12 elsewhere by the Speaker, or the Majority or Minority Leader of
13 the House, to perform legislative services when the House is not
14 in session shall be reimbursed per day for each day of service,
15 plus mileage to and from the member's residence, at such rates
16 as are established from time to time by the Committee on Rules
17 but not in excess of the applicable maximum mileage rate
18 authorized by the Federal Government. For travel to any location
19 for committee meetings or for travel to the State Capitol for
20 any reason, members cannot receive reimbursement in excess of
21 the applicable maximum per diem rate authorized by the Federal
22 Government. These expenses shall be paid by the Chief Clerk from
23 appropriation accounts under the Chief Clerk's exclusive control
24 and jurisdiction, upon a written request approved by the Speaker
25 of the House, or the Majority or the Minority Leader of the
26 House.

27 An employee of the House summoned by the Speaker or the
28 Majority or Minority Leader of the House to perform legislative
29 services outside of Harrisburg shall be reimbursed for actual
30 expenses and mileage to and from the employee's residence. Such

1 expenses may be paid by the Speaker, Majority or Minority
2 Leader, if they agree to do so, or shall be paid by the Chief
3 Clerk from appropriation accounts under the Chief Clerk's
4 exclusive control and jurisdiction, upon a written request
5 approved by the Speaker, or the Majority or the Minority Leader.
6 District office employees are only permitted to be reimbursed
7 from an account under the control of the Chief Clerk when
8 traveling to Harrisburg for a training program sponsored by
9 either caucus or for travel to a legislative conference approved
10 by the Speaker, the Majority Leader or the Minority Leader. All
11 other travel by district office employees may be reimbursed from
12 the member's accountable expenses or an account under the
13 control of the Speaker, the Majority Leader or the Minority
14 Leader.

15 Members and employees traveling outside the Commonwealth of
16 Pennsylvania who receive any reimbursement for expenses or
17 travel which reimbursement is from public funds shall file with
18 the Chief Clerk a statement containing his or her name and the
19 name, place, date and the purpose of the function.

20 Money appropriated specifically to and allocated under a
21 specific symbol number for allowable expenses of members of the
22 House of Representatives shall be reimbursed to each member upon
23 submission of vouchers and any required documentation by each
24 member on forms prepared by the Chief Clerk of the House. No
25 reimbursement shall be made from this account where a member is
26 directly reimbursed for the same purpose from any other
27 appropriation account.

28 Such allowable expenses of members may be used for any
29 legislative purpose or function, including but not limited to
30 the following:

1 (1) Travel expense on legislative business.

2 (a) Mileage on session or nonsession days at a rate as
3 may be approved from time to time by the Committee on Rules,
4 but not in excess of the maximum mileage rate authorized by
5 the Federal Government for travel; voucher only.

6 (b) Miscellaneous transportation on legislative business
7 (taxi, airport limousine parking, tolls), and expenses of a
8 similar nature; voucher only for any single expense not in
9 excess of \$10.

10 (c) Travel on legislative business by common carrier
11 other than taxi and airport limousine; voucher and receipt
12 from common carrier.

13 (d) Car rental; voucher and receipt from rental agency
14 but reimbursement not to exceed in any month an amount as may
15 be approved from time to time by the Committee on Rules. Any
16 amount in excess of the said amount shall be paid by the
17 person renting the car. In no event shall other than American
18 manufactured cars be rented.

19 (e) Lodging, restaurant charges and other miscellaneous
20 and incidental expenses while away from home. Vouchers only
21 for per diem allowance approved from time to time by the
22 Committee on Rules, but not in excess of the applicable
23 maximum per diem rate authorized by the Federal Government or
24 for actual expenses not in excess of such per diem rate.

25 (2) Administrative, clerical and professional services for
26 legislative business, except for employment of spouses or any
27 relatives, by blood or marriage.

28 (a) Administrative and clerical services; voucher and
29 receipt from person employed.

30 (b) Professional services; voucher and receipt and copy

1 of agreement or contract of employment.

2 (3) Rent for legislative office space; purchase of office
3 supplies; postage; telephone and answering services; printing
4 services and rental only of office equipment; voucher and
5 vendor's receipt, except for postage expense.

6 (4) Official entertainment—restaurant and beverage charges;
7 voucher only for expenses. Receipts for entertainment expenses,
8 together with a statement of the reason for the expense, shall
9 be submitted with the request for reimbursement.

10 (5) Purchase of flags, plaques, publications, photographic
11 services, books, and other similar items in connection with
12 legislative activities; voucher and vendor's receipt.

13 (6) Communications and donations in extending
14 congratulations or sympathy of illness or death; voucher only on
15 expenses not in excess of \$35.

16 No money appropriated for members' and employees' expenses
17 shall be used for contributions to political parties or their
18 affiliated organizations.

19 No money appropriated for members' and employees' expenses
20 shall be used for contributions to charitable organizations or
21 for charitable advertisements. This paragraph shall not prevent
22 a de minimis use of legislative resources, in connection with
23 legislative activities, to benefit a bona fide charitable
24 organization that serves a member's district.

25 Members and employees shall not request reimbursement for the
26 private lease of vehicles leased on a long-term basis. No
27 payments will be made with respect to private, long-term lease
28 vehicle expenses incurred by members or employees except with
29 respect to private, long-term lease arrangements entered into by
30 a member prior to March 13, 2007, payments for which will be

1 made in accord with the rules in place on March 12, 2007. After
2 November 30, 2022, the Chief Clerk is no longer authorized to
3 enter into a master lease agreement with the Department of
4 General Services for the long-term lease of additional
5 automobiles for the use of members. Members may not use
6 Commonwealth funds to purchase an automobile for official
7 purposes. After November 30, 2022, the Chief Clerk may not
8 assign automobiles leased or owned by the Commonwealth to
9 members, but may maintain automobiles leased to members prior to
10 November 30, 2022. A member with an automobile leased prior to
11 November 30, 2022, shall not be required to surrender the
12 automobile unless the Chief Clerk determines that it is no
13 longer practical or cost effective for the automobile to remain
14 in service to a member due to age or high mileage of the
15 automobile or needed repairs or damage to the automobile. A
16 member who is required to surrender an automobile by the Chief
17 Clerk may not receive a replacement automobile after November
18 30, 2022.

19 All disbursements made, debts incurred or advancements paid
20 from any appropriation account made to the House or to a member
21 or nonmember officer under a General Appropriation Act or any
22 other appropriation act shall be recorded in a monthly report
23 and filed with the Chief Clerk by the person authorized to make
24 such disbursement, incur any debt or receive any advancement on
25 a form prescribed by the Chief Clerk.

26 The Chief Clerk shall prescribe the form of all such reports
27 and make such forms available to those persons required to file
28 such reports. Such report form shall include:

29 (1) As to personnel:

30 (a) The name, home address, job title, brief description

1 of duties and where they are performed, department or member
2 or members to whom assigned, the name of immediate supervisor
3 and minimum hours of employment per week of each employee.

4 (b) The appropriation account from which such employee
5 is compensated, the amount of compensation and whether such
6 person is on salary, per diem or contract.

7 (2) As to all other expenditures:

8 (a) To whom it was paid, the amount thereof, and the
9 nature of the goods, services or other purpose for which the
10 expenditure was made.

11 (b) The appropriation account from which the expenditure
12 was made and the name or names of the person or persons
13 requesting and/or authorizing the same.

14 The reporting requirements as to personnel may be fulfilled
15 by the maintenance in the Office of the Chief Clerk of the House
16 of an alphabetized file containing the current information for
17 each employee as set forth above.

18 All monthly reports filed on disbursements made or debts
19 incurred by any officer or member or employee from
20 appropriations made to the House or to a member or nonmember
21 officer under any General Appropriation Act, and the
22 documentation for each disbursement, shall be public information
23 and shall be available in accordance with the act of February
24 14, 2008 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the Right-to-Know Law. The
25 monthly reports shall only be subject to redaction for
26 information exempt from access under the Right-to-Know Law.

27 All vouchers and requisitions relating to all expenditures,
28 expenses, disbursements and other obligations out of all
29 appropriated funds of the House, and the documentation
30 evidencing payment of the vouchers and requisitions, shall be

1 available in accordance with the Right-to-Know Law.

2 All requests for reimbursement out of any appropriation shall
3 be accompanied by a voucher, or other documents where required,
4 evidencing payment or approval. All requests for reimbursement
5 out of any appropriation payable to a member, nonmember officer
6 or employee shall be void if not submitted within 90 days of the
7 date that the otherwise allowable expense is incurred for any
8 and all otherwise allowable expenses, including without
9 limitation, per diem, mileage and actual expenses incurred. Any
10 such void request for reimbursement may not be paid except
11 pursuant to a motion to suspend this rule for good cause
12 specific to the voided request for reimbursement. In no event
13 shall any payment or reimbursement be made for any otherwise
14 allowable expense incurred on or before March 12, 2007. The
15 voucher form shall be approved and supplied by the Chief Clerk.
16 Receipts or documentation of every expenditure or disbursement
17 which is in excess of the maximum amount as set forth herein
18 shall be attached to the voucher. Where a request for payment is
19 made in advance of an expense actually incurred, the Chief
20 Clerk, before making such advance payment shall require a
21 description satisfactory to the Chief Clerk of the item or
22 service to be purchased or the expense to be incurred, and a
23 receipt or other documentation shall be given to the Chief Clerk
24 after the item or service has been purchased or expense incurred
25 as evidence that such advancement was in fact expended for such
26 purpose.

27 All reports, vouchers and receipts from which reports are
28 prepared and filed shall be retained by the Chief Clerk, officer
29 or member, as the case may be, for such period of time as may be
30 necessary to enable the Legislative Audit Advisory Commission

1 created pursuant to the act of June 30, 1970 (P.L.442, No.151),
2 entitled "An act implementing the provisions of Article VIII,
3 section 10 of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, by designating
4 the Commonwealth officers who shall be charged with the function
5 of auditing the financial transactions after the occurrence
6 thereof of the Legislative and Judicial branches of the
7 government of the Commonwealth, establishing a Legislative Audit
8 Advisory Commission, and imposing certain powers and duties on
9 such commission," to conduct, through certified public
10 accountants appointed by it, annual audits to assure that such
11 disbursements made or debts incurred were in accordance with
12 Legislative Audit Advisory Commission guidelines and standards
13 as approved by the Committee on Rules, or for a minimum of three
14 years, whichever is longer. All annual audit reports shall be
15 available for public inspection. Photocopies of such reports
16 shall be available for a fee established by the Chief Clerk not
17 to exceed the cost of duplication.

18 Except as specifically prohibited by law or limited by this
19 rule, all expenditures of funds appropriated to the House or to
20 a member or nonmember officer shall be subject to the
21 expenditure guidelines established by the Rules Committee. The
22 Rules Committee shall establish standards regarding
23 documentation evidencing payment out of any appropriations
24 account made to the House or to a member or nonmember officer.

25 The Bipartisan Management Committee shall receive and review
26 suggestions from the Comptroller on ways to reduce costs and
27 improve the fiscal operations of the House. The Comptroller,
28 following authorization by the Bipartisan Management Committee,
29 shall implement cost-reducing and other new measures to improve
30 the fiscal operations of the House.

1 The Chief Clerk and the Comptroller shall develop a system to
2 provide a quarterly list of expenses of each member to the
3 Legislative Data Processing Committee for publication on a
4 publicly accessible Internet website. The list of expenses shall
5 be in a format that is searchable by name, office, account, date
6 and any other format authorized by the Bipartisan Management
7 Committee and shall include all of the following:

8 (1) Per diems for each member of the House of
9 Representatives.

10 (2) Travel expenses on legislative business, including:

11 (a) Mileage on any legislative day.

12 (b) Miscellaneous transportation on legislative business
13 and expenses of a similar nature.

14 (c) Travel on legislative business by common carrier.

15 (d) Car rental.

16 (e) Lodging, restaurant charges and other miscellaneous
17 and incidental expenses while away from home.

18 (3) Administrative, clerical and professional services for
19 legislative business, including:

20 (a) Administrative and clerical services.

21 (b) Professional services.

22 (4) Rent for legislative office space, purchase of office
23 supplies, postage, telephone and answering services, printing
24 services and rental only of office equipment.

25 (5) Official entertainment, including restaurant and
26 beverage charges.

27 (6) Purchase of flags, plaques, publications, photographic
28 services, books and other similar items in connection with
29 legislative activities.

30 (7) Communications and donations in extending

1 congratulations or sympathy of illness or death.

2 The following information shall be included on the list of
3 expenses submitted to the Legislative Data Processing Committee
4 for publication on a publicly accessible Internet website:

5 (1) The date the expense was paid.

6 (2) To whom the expense was paid, the amount of the expense
7 and the nature of the goods, services or other purpose for which
8 the expense was made.

9 (3) The appropriation account from which the expense was
10 made and the name of the individual requesting the expense and
11 the name of the individual authorizing the expense.

12 * * *

13 RULE 17

14 Order of Business

15 The daily order of business shall be:

16 (1) Prayer.

17 (2) Pledge of Allegiance.

18 (3) Correction and approval of the Journal.

19 (4) Leaves of absence and members voting by designation.

20 (5) Master Roll Call.

21 (6) Reports of Committee.

22 (7) First consideration bills.

23 (8) Second consideration bills.

24 (9) Third consideration bills, final passage bills

25 (including both third consideration and final passage postponed
26 bills) and resolutions.

27 (10) Final passage bills recalled from the Governor.

28 (11) Messages from the Senate and communications from the
29 Governor.

30 (12) Reference to appropriate committees of bills,

1 resolutions, petitions, memorials, remonstrances and other
2 papers.

3 (13) Unfinished business on the Speaker's table.

4 (14) Announcements.

5 (15) Adjournment.

6 Any question may, by a majority vote of the members elected,
7 be made a special order of business. [When the time arrives for
8 its consideration, the Speaker shall lay the special order of
9 business before the House.] Notwithstanding any rule to the
10 contrary, when a special order of business is adopted by a
11 majority vote of the members elected, the underlying question
12 shall immediately be placed before the House. In no case shall a
13 special order of business be used to vote a bill on second
14 consideration until, at the earliest, the second legislative day
15 following first consideration.

16 In lieu of offering House Resolutions on topics of importance
17 to members, any member, without unanimous consent, may address
18 the House on such issue and have his or her remarks entered into
19 the record during a special period of time established each week
20 by the Speaker either prior to, or at the conclusion of, House
21 business on a specific day.

22 * * *

23 RULE 19 (b)

24 General Appropriation Bill and Non-Preferred Bills

25 This rule shall apply to all amendments offered to the
26 General Appropriation Bill for each proposed fiscal year
27 including any amendments offered to or for supplemental
28 appropriations to prior fiscal years contained within the
29 General Appropriation Bill, and shall also apply to all
30 amendments offered to any non-preferred appropriation bill for

1 the same fiscal year.

2 Any amendment offered on the floor of the House to the
3 General Appropriation Bill that proposes to increase spending of
4 Federal or State dollars for the Commonwealth's proposed fiscal
5 year or prior fiscal years above the levels contained in the
6 General Appropriation Bill as reported from the Appropriations
7 Committee plus any aggregate if certified each year by the
8 Appropriations Committee shall not be in order and may not be
9 considered unless the same amendment contains sufficient
10 reductions in line items of that General Appropriation Bill so
11 that the amendment offered does not result in a net increase in
12 the total proposed spending contained within the General
13 Appropriation Bill plus any aggregate if certified by the
14 Appropriations Committee.

15 Any amendment offered on the floor of the House to any non-
16 preferred appropriation bill that proposes to increase spending
17 of Federal or State dollars for the proposed fiscal year above
18 the levels contained in that non-preferred appropriation bill as
19 reported from the Appropriations Committee shall not be in order
20 and may not be considered unless the same amendment contains
21 sufficient reductions in that non-preferred appropriation bill
22 so that the amendment offered does not result in a net increase
23 in the total proposed spending contained within that non-
24 preferred appropriation bill.

25 The Appropriations Committee shall have full power and
26 control over any General Appropriation Bill, supplemental
27 appropriation bill, or non-preferred appropriation bill,
28 including the amendment of House amendments.

29 Members shall be notified of the scheduled vote on the
30 General Appropriation Bill no later than 4:30 P.M. of the day

1 that is five days prior to the scheduled vote of the General
2 Appropriation Bill. In order to be considered, amendments to the
3 General Appropriation Bill must be submitted to the Office of
4 the Chief Clerk by 1:00 P.M. of the day that is two days prior
5 to the scheduled vote of the General Appropriation Bill. The
6 Appropriations Committee for special and proper reason and by
7 majority vote, may waive this deadline. Rule 21 of the Rules of
8 the House, insofar as it applies to the filing deadline for
9 amendments and notice requirements for the voting schedule for
10 the General Appropriation Bill, shall not apply to this rule.
11 Rule 21 shall, however, apply to the non-preferred appropriation
12 bills.

13 If the amendment cannot be submitted in accordance with the
14 provision of the previous paragraph because it is still being
15 prepared by the Legislative Reference Bureau, the member must,
16 by 1:00 P.M. on the day that is two days prior to the scheduled
17 vote, provide the Office of the Chief Clerk with a statement,
18 prepared by the member containing the factual content and exact
19 amounts of increases and decreases in line items which would be
20 proposed in the amendment, along with certification from the
21 Legislative Reference Bureau that the amendment was submitted to
22 the Legislative Reference Bureau prior to the above-noted 1:00
23 P.M. deadline. This filing deadline does not apply to amendments
24 to any non-preferred appropriation bill.

25 Debate on any debatable question related to the General
26 Appropriation Bill or a nonpreferred appropriation bill shall be
27 limited to five minutes each time a member is recognized. On the
28 bill a sponsor of an amendment shall be entitled to be
29 recognized twice, a maker of a debatable motion shall be
30 entitled to be recognized twice, any other members shall be

1 entitled to be recognized once. Unless the chair or minority
2 chair of the Appropriations Committee objects to the
3 determination that a bill implements the General Appropriation
4 Bill, bills implementing the General Appropriation Bill shall be
5 subject to the limits of this paragraph.

6 * * *

7 RULE 21

8 Consideration of Bills

9 (a) Every bill and every joint resolution shall be
10 considered on three different days. All amendments made thereto
11 shall be printed for the use of the members before the final
12 vote is taken thereon, and before the final vote is taken, upon
13 written request addressed to the presiding officer by at least
14 25% of the members elected to the House, any bill shall be read
15 at length. No bill shall become law and no joint resolution
16 adopted unless, on its final passage, the vote is taken by yeas
17 and nays, the names of the persons voting for and against it are
18 entered on the Journal, and a majority of the members elected to
19 the House is recorded thereon as voting in its favor.

20 (Constitution, Article III, Section 4).

21 (b) Members shall be notified of bills and resolutions
22 scheduled to be voted no later than prior to the close of
23 business at 4:30 P.M. of the second legislative day prior to the
24 date of second consideration for legislation that has no legal
25 deadline. (The General Appropriation Act and non-preferred bills
26 are included within the definition of legislation that has no
27 legal deadline.) Except as provided in subsection (d), all
28 amendments shall be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk
29 by 1:00 P.M. of the last legislative day preceding the scheduled
30 date of second consideration. Members shall be notified of bills

1 scheduled to be voted on third consideration. A change in the
2 printer's number as a result of third consideration shall not
3 require an additional notice of final passage. No vote on final
4 passage can occur before the date of the scheduled vote.

5 (c) If the amendment cannot be submitted in accordance with
6 the above subsection because it is still being prepared by the
7 Legislative Reference Bureau, the member must provide the Office
8 of the Chief Clerk with a statement, by the above-noted 1:00
9 P.M. deadline, prepared by the member containing the factual
10 content of said amendment along with certification from the
11 Legislative Reference Bureau that the amendment was submitted to
12 the Legislative Reference Bureau for drafting prior to the
13 above-noted 1:00 P.M. deadline. The Legislative Reference Bureau
14 may not issue a certificate for an amendment to a bill as
15 amended by another amendment unless the requesting member can
16 identify by number the underlying amendment.

17 (d) In cases where an amendment alters a bill so as to
18 effectively rule out of order an amendment which was timely
19 filed pursuant to the provisions of this rule, a replacement
20 amendment may be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk
21 provided that the subject matter of the replacement amendment is
22 not substantially different from the intent of the original
23 amendment. The replacement amendment shall be deemed to have met
24 the timely filed conditions provided for in this rule. The
25 member shall notify the Speaker of the member's intent to file a
26 replacement amendment and shall file a certificate with the
27 Office of the Chief Clerk. The bill in question may continue to
28 receive consideration but shall not be moved to third
29 consideration until the replacement amendment is available for a
30 vote. If consideration of the bill is delayed to a new

1 legislative day due solely to delay in receipt of replacement
2 amendments, then only amendments timely filed for the date of
3 the originally scheduled vote and replacement amendments shall
4 be considered. This limitation on amendments shall not apply to
5 the bill in question if consideration of the bill is rescheduled
6 beyond the new legislative day.

7 (e) A bill may not receive action on concurrence until at
8 least [~~six~~] three hours have elapsed from the time the bill and
9 its amendatory language was available to the public, unless the
10 amendment was a technical amendment as described under the first
11 paragraph of Rule 24 or an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the
12 members elected to the House indicates they have had sufficient
13 time to review the language and thereby approve proceeding with
14 the bill.

15 A brief description of every bill on concurrence shall be
16 given prior to a vote. Additionally, members shall be notified
17 and conference committee reports shall be available to members
18 at least [~~12~~] three hours prior to the adoption of all
19 conference committee reports. When these reports are considered
20 on the first legislative day of the week, said notice shall be
21 provided no later than the close of business on the last
22 business day preceding the vote. Notwithstanding notice
23 provided, members may, by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the
24 members elected to the House, indicate that they have had
25 sufficient time to review a conference committee report and that
26 they approve proceeding with a vote.

27 * * *

28 RULE 24

29 Third Consideration and Final Passage Bills

30 Bills on third consideration shall be considered in their

1 calendar order and shall be subject to amendment only when an
2 amendment is necessary to make the document internally
3 consistent, to clear up an ambiguity, to correct grammar or to
4 correct a drafting error or is necessary for purposes of
5 statutory construction. An amendment under this paragraph shall
6 not be subject to the filing deadlines under Rule 21. A bill
7 having received consideration by the House on three different
8 days and having been agreed to may be called by the Speaker to
9 receive action on final passage; however, a bill may not receive
10 action on final passage until at least [12] three hours have
11 elapsed from the time the bill and its amendatory language was
12 available to the public, unless the amendment was a technical
13 amendment permitted under the first paragraph of this rule or an
14 affirmative vote of 2/3 of the members elected to the House
15 indicates that they have had sufficient time to review the
16 language of the bill and thereby approve proceeding with the
17 bill. Upon being called to receive action on final passage, the
18 title and a brief description of a bill shall be read. A bill on
19 final passage shall not be subject to amendment, but shall be
20 subject to debate. At the conclusion of debate, the Speaker
21 shall then state the question as follows:

22 "This bill has been considered on three different days and
23 agreed to and is now on final passage. The question is, shall
24 the bill pass finally? Agreeable to the provision of the
25 Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be taken."

26 When more than one bill shall be called for action on final
27 passage at the same time, prior to voting, the title or a brief
28 analysis of each bill shall be read.

29 The Speaker shall then state the question as follows:

30 "These bills have been considered on three different days and

1 agreed to and are now on final passage. The question is, shall
2 the bills on the uncontested calendar pass finally? Agreeable to
3 the provision of the Constitution, the yeas and nays will now be
4 taken."

5 * * *

6 RULE 32

7 Hospital and Home Appropriations [or],

8 Acquiring Lands of the Commonwealth

9 and Congressional Redistricting

10 No bills appropriating moneys to State-aided hospitals or
11 State-aided homes shall be introduced in the House, except such
12 as appropriate in single bills the total sum to be appropriated
13 to all of the institutions within the same class or group.
14 Requests for appropriations for particular State-aided hospitals
15 or State-aided homes shall be filed with the Chair of the
16 Committee on Appropriations on forms to be furnished by the said
17 Committee on Appropriations, and shall be signed by the member
18 requesting the appropriation.

19 No bill granting or conveying Commonwealth lands or taking
20 title thereto shall be reported by any committee to the House,
21 nor shall an amendment making substantive changes to such a bill
22 be offered on the floor of the House, unless there has been
23 filed with the Chief Clerk, the Legislative Data Processing
24 Center and the chair of the reporting committee a memorandum
25 from the Department of General Services indicating the use to
26 which the property is presently employed, the full consideration
27 for the transfer, if any, a departmental appraisal of the
28 property, including its valuation and a list of recorded liens
29 and encumbrances, if any, the use to which the property will be
30 employed upon its transfer, the date by which the land is needed

1 for its new use, and the legislative district or districts in
2 which the land is located. The memorandum shall contain a
3 statement by a responsible person in the Department of General
4 Services indicating whether or not the administration favors the
5 transfer which is the subject of the bill under consideration.
6 The memorandum shall be posted by the Legislative Data
7 Processing Center on the publicly accessible Internet website of
8 the General Assembly.

9 No bill proposing the redistricting of congressional
10 districts shall be reported by any committee to the House, nor
11 shall an amendment making substantive changes be offered on the
12 floor of the House, unless such bill or amendment is accompanied
13 by a map showing the proposed congressional districts. Any such
14 bill or amendment, along with the accompanying map, shall be
15 posted by the Legislative Data Processing Center on a publicly
16 accessible Internet website of the General Assembly.

17 * * *

18 RULE 35

19 House and Concurrent Resolutions

20 Members introducing resolutions other than concurrent
21 resolutions shall file five copies thereof; seven copies of
22 concurrent resolutions shall be filed. All resolutions shall be
23 signed by their sponsors, dated and filed with the Chief Clerk.
24 After being numbered, one copy of all resolutions shall be given
25 to the news media and all other copies delivered to the Speaker.
26 A sponsor may not be added or withdrawn after a resolution has
27 been printed. Resolutions may not be withdrawn after reference
28 to a committee.

29 Unless privileged under Rule 36 for immediate consideration
30 or deemed noncontroversial by the Speaker in consultation with

1 the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader, the Speaker shall
2 refer House resolutions (except discharge resolutions) and
3 Senate resolutions presented to the House for concurrence to
4 appropriate committees. No House resolution shall be deemed
5 noncontroversial if an indictment is returned or a charge is
6 filed before a court of record against the prime sponsor of the
7 resolution, and the gravamen of the indictment or charge is
8 directly related to his or her conduct as a member or is one
9 which would render the member ineligible to the General Assembly
10 under section 7 of Article II of the Constitution of
11 Pennsylvania. If, during the same legislative term, the
12 indictment or charge is quashed, dismissed or withdrawn, or the
13 court finds that the member is not guilty of the offense
14 alleged, the member may be the prime sponsor of subsequently
15 introduced House resolutions deemed noncontroversial as provided
16 in this rule.

17 House resolutions deemed noncontroversial shall be limited to
18 condolence resolutions for current or former public officials,
19 or for members of the armed services or emergency first
20 responders killed in the line of duty, and shall be considered
21 under the proper order of business on the same day as introduced
22 or within two legislative days thereafter without being referred
23 to committee. The Speaker, in consultation with the Majority
24 Leader and the Minority Leader, shall place noncontroversial
25 resolutions on an uncontested resolution calendar. Resolutions
26 on the uncontested calendar may be voted by a single roll-call
27 vote. Each resolution listed on the uncontested resolution
28 calendar shall be printed separately in the journal with the
29 vote recorded on the approval of the uncontested calendar as the
30 vote on final passage of each resolution contained therein.

1 A House resolution other than a [concurrent or] joint
2 resolution shall not:

3 (a) recognize or designate a day or other period of time
4 which is not a Federal or Pennsylvania state holiday for any
5 purpose;

6 (b) encourage action on a public issue unless either the
7 resolution has legal force or effect concerning such action or
8 such action would be taken by a public body;

9 (c) congratulate individuals or entities for achievements;
10 or

11 (d) be offered for any non-legislative purpose or function.

12 The Speaker shall report to the House the committees to which
13 resolutions have been referred, either on the day introduced or
14 received or the next two legislative days the House is in
15 session.

16 A resolution introduced in the House and referred to
17 committee shall be printed and placed in the House files.

18 When a resolution (House or Senate) is reported from
19 committee, it shall be placed on the calendar and may be called
20 up by a member for consideration by the House under the order of
21 business of resolutions. A House resolution other than a
22 concurrent or joint resolution shall be adopted by a majority of
23 the members voting.

24 * * *

25 RULE 43

26 Standing Committees and Subcommittees

27 The Committee on Committees shall consist of the Speaker and
28 15 members of the House, ten of whom shall be members of the
29 majority party and five of whom shall be members of the minority
30 party, whose duty shall be to recommend to the House the names

1 of members who are to serve on the standing committees of the
2 House. Except for the Speaker, the Majority and Minority
3 Leaders, Whips, Caucus Chairs, Caucus Secretaries, Caucus
4 Administrators, Policy Chairs and the chairs and minority chairs
5 of standing committees, each member shall be entitled to serve
6 on not less than two standing committees.

7 The [Speaker] Majority Leader shall appoint the chair and
8 vice-chair of each standing committee when such standing
9 committee has no standing subcommittees as prescribed herein,
10 except the Committee on Appropriations which shall also have a
11 vice-chair appointed by the [Speaker] Majority Leader; when the
12 standing committee has standing subcommittees, the [Speaker]
13 Majority Leader shall appoint a subcommittee chair for each
14 standing subcommittee. The [Speaker] Majority Leader shall
15 appoint a secretary for each standing committee. The Minority
16 Leader shall appoint the minority chair, minority vice-chair and
17 minority secretary of each standing committee and the minority
18 subcommittee chair for each standing subcommittee.

19 Except for members who decline chair status or minority chair
20 status in writing or who are barred from serving as a chair or
21 minority chair under this rule, the chair and minority chair of
22 each standing committee except the Appropriations Committee
23 shall be limited only to the members of the applicable caucus
24 with the most seniority as members of their respective caucus.
25 Whenever there are more caucus members with equal seniority than
26 available chairs or minority chairs for that caucus, the
27 selection of a chair or minority chair from among such caucus
28 members shall be in the discretion of the appointing authority.
29 The appointing authority may designate the standing committee to
30 which the appointing authority shall appoint a member as chair

1 or minority chair without regard to seniority. The Speaker and
2 the Floor Leader, Whip, Caucus Chair, Caucus Secretary, Caucus
3 Administrator and Policy Chair of the majority party and
4 minority party shall not be eligible to serve as chair or
5 minority chair of any standing committee and no member may serve
6 as chair or minority chair of more than one standing committee.

7 Any chair or minority chair held by a member who fails to
8 meet the requirements of this rule shall become vacant by
9 automatic operation of this rule. If the appointing authority
10 fails to make an appointment of a chair or minority chair prior
11 to the organizational meeting of a standing committee or fails
12 to fill a vacancy within seven calendar days after it occurs,
13 such position shall be deemed to remain vacant in violation of
14 this rule. Whenever a chair or minority chair becomes vacant or
15 remains vacant in violation of this rule, the member of the
16 applicable caucus who meets the requirements of this rule shall
17 automatically fill the vacancy and, if there are two or more
18 such eligible caucus members for any such vacancy or vacancies,
19 they shall be filled from among such eligible members through a
20 lottery to be conducted under the supervision of the Chief Clerk
21 after giving notice of the time and place thereof to all
22 eligible members, to the Speaker, to the Majority Leader and to
23 the Minority Leader.

24 Nothing in this rule shall prohibit the appointing authority
25 from transferring a member from the chair or minority chair of a
26 standing committee to the chair or minority chair of another
27 standing committee.

28 Whenever the appointment of a chair or minority chair will
29 cause the applicable caucus to exceed its permissible allocation
30 of members on a standing committee, the appointing authority

1 shall make a temporary transfer of an eligible committee member
2 to the standing committee vacated by the member appointed as
3 chair or minority chair until a regular committee appointment
4 can be made in accordance with the rules of the House. If the
5 [Speaker] Majority Leader or Minority Leader fails to make a
6 temporary transfer within seven calendar days after such
7 appointment, the committee member with the least seniority, who
8 is eligible for transfer, shall be automatically transferred to
9 the committee vacated by the newly appointed chair or minority
10 chair and, if more than one committee member is eligible for
11 such transfer, the transfer shall be implemented through a
12 lottery conducted under the supervision of the Chief Clerk.

13 The Speaker of the House, Floor Leader of the majority party
14 and the Floor Leader of the minority party shall be ex-officio
15 members of all standing committees, without the right to vote
16 and they shall be excluded from any limitation as to the number
17 of members on the committees or in counting a quorum.

18 Twenty-four standing committees of the House, each to consist
19 of 25 members except the Committee on Appropriations, which
20 shall consist of 37 members, are hereby created. In addition,
21 there are hereby created 56 standing subcommittees.

22 All standing committees shall consist of [15] 13 members of
23 the majority party and [10] 12 members of the minority party,
24 except the Committee on Appropriations which shall consist of
25 [22] 20 members of the majority party and [15] 17 members of the
26 minority party. The quorum for each of the standing committees
27 and subcommittees shall be no less than the majority of said
28 committees. The following are the standing committees and
29 subcommittees thereof:

30 (1) Aging and [Older Adult Services] Long-term Care

- 1 (a) Subcommittee on Care and Services
- 2 (b) Subcommittee on Programs and Benefits
- 3 (2) Agriculture and Rural Affairs
- 4 (3) Appropriations
- 5 (a) Subcommittee on Health and Human Services
- 6 (b) Subcommittee on Education
- 7 (c) Subcommittee on Economic Impact and Infrastructure
- 8 (d) Subcommittee on Fiscal Policy
- 9 (e) Subcommittee on Criminal Justice
- 10 (f) Subcommittee on Government and Financial Oversight
- 11 (4) Children [and Youth], Youth and Family Services
- 12 (5) Commerce
- 13 (a) Subcommittee on Financial Services and Banking
- 14 [(b) Subcommittee on Housing
- 15 (c) Subcommittee on Economic Development
- 16 (d) Subcommittee on Small Business
- 17 (e) Subcommittee on Automation and Technology]
- 18 (b) Subcommittee on Economic Development
- 19 (c) Subcommittee on Small Business
- 20 (6) Consumer Affairs and Protection
- 21 (a) Subcommittee on Public Utilities
- 22 (b) Subcommittee on Consumer Protection
- 23 (c) Subcommittee on Technology
- 24 (7) Education
- 25 (a) Subcommittee on Basic Education
- 26 (b) Subcommittee on Higher Education
- 27 (c) Subcommittee on Special Education
- 28 (d) Subcommittee on Career and Technical Education
- 29 (8) Environmental Resources and Energy
- 30 (a) Subcommittee on Energy

- 1 (b) Subcommittee on Mining
- 2 (c) Subcommittee on Parks and Forests
- 3 (9) Finance
- 4 [(a) Subcommittee on Tax Modernization and Reform]
- 5 (10) Game and Fisheries
- 6 (11) Gaming Oversight
- 7 (12) Health
- 8 (a) Subcommittee on Health Facilities
- 9 (b) Subcommittee on Health Care
- 10 (12.1) Housing and Community Infrastructure
- 11 (a) Subcommittee on Cities, Counties - First Class
- 12 (b) Subcommittee on Cities, Counties - Second Class
- 13 (c) Subcommittee on Cities, Third Class
- 14 (13) Human Services
- 15 (a) Subcommittee on Mental Health
- 16 (b) Subcommittee on Drugs and Alcohol
- 17 (14) Insurance
- 18 (15) Judiciary
- 19 (a) Subcommittee on Crime and Corrections
- 20 (b) Subcommittee on Courts
- 21 (c) Subcommittee on Family Law
- 22 (16) Labor and Industry
- 23 [(a) Subcommittee on Employment and Unemployment
- 24 Compensation]
- 25 [(b) Subcommittee on Workers Compensation and Worker
- 26 Protection]
- 27 (17) Liquor Control
- 28 (a) Subcommittee on Licensing
- 29 (b) Subcommittee on Marketing
- 30 (18) Local Government

- 1 (a) Subcommittee on Boroughs
2 (b) Subcommittee on Counties
3 (c) Subcommittee on Townships
4 (19) Professional Licensure
5 (20) State Government
6 (a) Subcommittee on Government Operations
7 (b) Subcommittee on Government Information Technology
8 and Communication
9 (c) Subcommittee on Government Integrity and
10 Transparency
11 (d) Subcommittee on Public Pensions, Benefits and Risk
12 Management
13 (e) Subcommittee on Campaign Finance and Elections
14 (21) Tourism and Recreational Development
15 (a) Subcommittee on Arts and Entertainment
16 (b) Subcommittee on Recreation
17 (c) Subcommittee on Travel Promotion, History and
18 Heritage
19 (22) Transportation
20 (a) Subcommittee on Highways
21 (b) Subcommittee on Public Transportation
22 (c) Subcommittee on Transportation Safety
23 (d) Subcommittee on Aviation
24 (e) Subcommittee on Railroads
25 (f) Subcommittee on Ports
26 (23) [Urban Affairs
27 (a) Subcommittee on Cities, Counties - First Class
28 (b) Subcommittee on Cities, Counties - Second Class
29 (c) Subcommittee on Cities, Third Class] (Reserved)
30 (24) Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness

1 (a) Subcommittee on Military and Veterans Facilities

2 (b) Subcommittee on Security and Emergency Response

3 Readiness

4 * * *

5 RULE 45

6 Powers and Duties of Standing Committees

7 and Subcommittees

8 The chair of each standing committee and subcommittee shall
9 fix regular weekly, biweekly or monthly meeting days for the
10 transaction of business before the committee or subcommittee.
11 The chair of the committee or subcommittee shall notify all
12 members, at least 24 hours in advance of the date, time and
13 place of regular meetings, and, insofar as possible, the
14 subjects on the agenda. In addition to regular meetings, special
15 meetings may be called from time to time by the chair of the
16 committee or subcommittee as they deem necessary. No recess or
17 combination of recesses shall exceed 48 hours for any committee
18 meeting or subcommittee meeting. No committee shall meet during
19 any session of the House without first obtaining permission of
20 the Speaker. During any such meeting, no vote shall be taken on
21 the Floor of the House on any amendment, recommittal motion,
22 final passage of any bill, or any other matter requiring a roll
23 call vote. Any committee meeting called off the Floor of the
24 House shall meet in a committee room. In addition to the
25 specific provisions of this rule, all provisions of 65 Pa.C.S.
26 Ch. 7 (relating to open meetings) relative to notice of meetings
27 shall be complied with.

28 At regularly scheduled meetings, or upon the call of the
29 chair, or subcommittee chair, for special meetings, the
30 membership of such committees shall meet to consider any bill,

1 resolution, or other matter on the agenda. The secretary of each
2 standing committee, or in case of subcommittees a secretary
3 designated by the subcommittee chair, shall record:

4 (1) the minutes of the meeting,

5 (2) all votes taken,

6 (3) a roll or attendance of members at standing committee or
7 subcommittee meetings showing the names of those present, absent
8 or excused from attendance, and the majority and minority chairs
9 or their designees shall verify by their signatures all votes
10 taken and the roll or attendance of those members present,
11 absent or excused before said records are submitted to the Chief
12 Clerk, and

13 (4) dispatch of bills and resolutions before the committee.

14 Such records shall be open to public inspection. On the first
15 legislative day of each week the House is in session, the chair
16 of each standing committee shall submit to the Chief Clerk for
17 inclusion in the House Journal only, the roll or record of
18 attendance of members at standing committee or subcommittee
19 meetings held prior thereto and not yet reported, along with the
20 record of all votes taken at such meetings. All reports from
21 standing committees shall be prepared in writing by the
22 secretary of the committee. Members of a standing committee may
23 prepare in writing and file a minority report, setting forth the
24 reasons for their dissent. Such committee reports shall be filed
25 with the Chief Clerk within five days of the meeting. All
26 meetings at which formal action is taken by a standing committee
27 or subcommittee shall be open to the public, making such reports
28 as are required under Rule 44. When any member, except for an
29 excused absence, fails to attend five consecutive regular
30 meetings of his or her committee, the chair of that committee or

1 subcommittee shall notify the member of that fact and, if the
2 member in question fails to reasonably justify absences to the
3 satisfaction of a majority of the membership of the standing
4 committee of which he or she is a member, membership on the
5 committee or subcommittee shall be deemed vacant and the chair
6 of the standing committee shall notify the Speaker of the House
7 to that effect. Such vacancy shall then be filled in the manner
8 prescribed by these rules.

9 Whenever the chair of any standing committee shall refuse to
10 call a regular meeting, then a majority of the members of the
11 standing committee may vote to call a meeting by giving two days
12 written notice to the Speaker of the House, setting the time and
13 place for such meeting. Such notice shall be read in the House
14 and the same posted by the Chief Clerk in the House Chamber.
15 Thereafter, the meeting shall be held at the time and place
16 specified in the notice. In addition, all provisions of 65
17 Pa.C.S. Ch. 7 (relating to open meetings) relative to notice of
18 meetings shall be complied with.

19 Records, bills and other papers in the possession of
20 committees and subcommittees, upon final adjournment of the
21 House shall be filed with the Chief Clerk.

22 The chair of each standing committee shall have the power to
23 administer oaths and affirmations to witnesses appearing before
24 the committee.

25 No committee report, except a report of the Appropriations
26 Committee, shall be recognized by the House, unless the same has
27 been acted upon by a majority vote of the members of a standing
28 committee present at a committee session actually assembled and
29 meeting as a committee, provided such majority vote numbers at
30 least [11] 13 members, and provided further a quorum is present.

1 No committee report of the Appropriations Committee shall be
2 recognized by the House, unless the same has been acted upon by
3 a majority vote of the members of such committee present at a
4 committee session actually assembled and meeting as a committee,
5 provided such majority vote numbers at least [17] 18 members,
6 and provided further a quorum is present.

7 No proxy voting shall be permitted in committee, except as
8 provided for herein. If a member reports to a scheduled
9 committee meeting and advises the chair and other members of a
10 conflicting committee meeting or other legislative meeting which
11 he or she must attend on the same day, the member is authorized
12 to give the chair or minority chair his or her proxy in writing
13 which shall be valid only for that day and which shall include
14 written instructions for the exercise of such proxy by the chair
15 or minority chair during the meeting. The member should also
16 advise the chair where he or she can be reached. In the event
17 the conflicting committee meeting or other legislative meeting
18 is scheduled to convene at the same time or prior to the meeting
19 at which a member desires to vote by proxy, such proxy shall be
20 delivered to both the chair and minority chair prior to, but on
21 the same day as, the conflicting meetings.

22 When the majority of the members of a standing committee
23 believe that a certain bill or resolution in the possession of
24 the standing committee should be considered and acted upon by
25 such committee, they may request the chair to include the same
26 as part of the business of a committee meeting. Upon failure of
27 the chair to comply with such request, the membership may
28 require that such bill be considered by written motion made and
29 approved by a majority vote of the entire membership to which
30 such committee is entitled.

1 Whenever the phrase "majority of members of a standing
2 committee or subcommittee" is used in these rules, it shall mean
3 majority of the entire membership to which a standing committee
4 or subcommittee is entitled, unless the context thereof
5 indicates a different intent.

6 To assist the House in appraising the administration of the
7 laws and in developing such amendments or related legislation as
8 it may deem necessary, each standing committee or subcommittee
9 of the House shall exercise continuous watchfulness of the
10 execution by the administrative agencies concerned of any laws,
11 the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of such
12 committee or subcommittee; and, for that purpose, shall study
13 all pertinent reports and data submitted to the House by the
14 agencies in the executive branch of the Government.

15 The Committee on Appropriations shall have the power to issue
16 subpoenas under the hand and seal of its chair commanding any
17 person to appear before it and answer questions touching matters
18 properly being inquired into by the committee, which matters
19 shall include data from any fund administered by the
20 Commonwealth, and to produce such books, papers, records,
21 accounts, reports, documents and data and information produced
22 and stored by any electronic data processing system as the
23 committee deems necessary. Such subpoenas may be served upon any
24 person and shall have the force and effect of subpoenas issued
25 out of the courts of this Commonwealth. Any person who willfully
26 neglects or refuses to testify before the committee or to
27 produce any books, papers, records, accounts, reports, documents
28 or data and information produced and stored by any electronic
29 data processing system shall be subject to the penalties
30 provided by the laws of the Commonwealth in such case. Each

1 member of the committee shall have power to administer oaths and
2 affirmations to witnesses appearing before the committee. The
3 committee may also cause the deposition of witnesses either
4 residing within or without the State to be taken in the manner
5 prescribed by law for taking depositions in civil actions.

6 RULE 46

7 Committee on Rules

8 The Committee on Rules shall consist of the Speaker, the
9 Majority Leader, the Majority Whip, the Minority Leader, the
10 Minority Whip, the Majority Appropriations Chair, the Minority
11 Appropriations Chair, 14 members of the majority party appointed
12 by the [Speaker] Majority Leader, and 12 members of the minority
13 party appointed by the Minority Leader. The Majority Leader
14 shall be chair.

15 The committee shall make recommendations designed to improve
16 and expedite the business and procedure of the House and its
17 committees, and to propose to the House any amendments to the
18 Rules deemed necessary. The committee shall also do all things
19 necessary to fulfill any assignment or duty given to the
20 committee by any resolution, or other rule of the House of
21 Representatives.

22 The committee shall be privileged to report at any time.

23 The committee shall, until or unless superseded by law, adopt
24 guidelines for the expenditure of all funds appropriated to the
25 House or to any member or nonmember officer by any appropriation
26 act.

27 Such guidelines shall include a detailed statement of the
28 general and specific purposes for which the funds from that
29 appropriation account may be used, as well as uniform standards
30 of required documentation, accounting systems and record keeping

1 procedures.

2 Except as expressly provided in Rule 30 or this rule, the
3 committee shall not have the power to amend any bill or joint
4 resolution.

5 * * *

6 RULE 53

7 Discharge of Committees

8 A member may present to the Chief Clerk a resolution in
9 writing to discharge a committee from the consideration of a
10 bill or resolution which has been referred to it 15 legislative
11 days prior thereto (but only one motion may be presented for
12 each bill or resolution). The discharge resolution shall be
13 placed in the custody of the Chief Clerk, who shall arrange some
14 convenient place for the signature of the members. A signature
15 may be withdrawn by a member in writing at any time before the
16 discharge resolution is entered in the Journal. When 25 members
17 of the House shall have signed the resolution, it shall be
18 entered in the Journal and the title of the bill or resolution
19 and the name of the committee to be discharged shall be printed
20 on the calendar. Once the discharge resolution has been placed
21 on the calendar, the committee in possession of the underlying
22 bill may take no action on the bill or resolution except to
23 report the bill or resolution to the House under its current
24 printer's number and without a recommendation to re-refer to
25 another committee, until such time as the discharge resolution
26 is acted upon by the House.

27 Any member who has signed a discharge resolution which has
28 been on the calendar at least one legislative day prior thereto
29 and seeks recognition, shall be recognized for the purpose of
30 calling up the discharge resolution and the House shall proceed

1 to its consideration without intervening motion except one
2 motion to adjourn; however, no discharge resolution shall be
3 considered during the last six legislative days of any session
4 of the House. A majority vote of all the members elected to the
5 House shall be required to agree to a resolution to discharge a
6 committee. When any perfected discharge resolution has been
7 acted upon by the House and defeated it shall not be in order to
8 entertain during the same session of the House any other
9 discharge resolution from that committee of said measure, or
10 from any other committee of any other bill or resolution
11 substantially the same, relating in substance to or dealing with
12 the same subject matter.

13 * * *

14 RULE 59

15 Lay on the Table

16 A motion to lay on the table is debatable by the Majority
17 Leader, the Minority Leader, the maker of the motion, the maker
18 of the amendment under consideration and the prime sponsor of
19 the bill under consideration. It is not subject to amendment and
20 carries with it the main question and all other pending
21 questions which adhere to it, except when an appeal is laid on
22 the table. The passage of a motion to lay an amendment on the
23 table shall [not] cause the subject bill or resolution and all
24 other amendments to be laid on the table.

25 * * *

26 RULE 61

27 Previous Question

28 A motion for the previous question, seconded by 20 members
29 and sustained by a majority of the members present, shall put an
30 end to all debate and bring the House to an immediate vote on

1 the question then pending, or the questions on which it has been
2 ordered.

3 A motion for the previous question may be made to embrace any
4 or all pending amendments or motions and to include the passage
5 or rejection of a bill or resolution. The motion for the
6 previous question is only debatable by the Majority Leader and
7 the Minority Leader. Debate shall be limited to no more than two
8 minutes for each leader.

9 * * *

10 RULE 64

11 Members Required to be Present and Vote

12 Every member shall be present within the Hall of the House
13 during its sittings, unless excused by the House or unavoidably
14 prevented, and shall vote for or against each question put,
15 unless he or she has a direct personal or pecuniary interest in
16 the determination of the question or unless excused.

17 A member may exit the Hall of the House for brief periods
18 without being placed on leave to attend to the member's
19 immediate personal needs. In such instances, the member shall
20 not leave the vicinity of the Hall of the House in the Capitol
21 Complex and shall return to the Hall of the House promptly if
22 requested.

23 **[No]** Except as provided in the rules of the House, no member
24 shall be permitted to vote and have his or her vote recorded on
25 the roll unless present in the Hall of the House during the roll
26 call vote, except that a member may provide direction for his or
27 her vote if the member is in the vicinity of the Hall of the
28 House in the Capitol Complex attending to the member's immediate
29 personal need.

30 The Legislative Journal shall show the result of each roll

1 call by yeas and nays and those absent and those not voting.

2 * * *

3 RULE 65 (b)

4 Financial Interests in Gaming Entities

5 Annually, on or before [April 30] May 1, every member shall
6 file an attestation, in electronic or paper form, with the Chief
7 Clerk, on a form provided by the Chief Clerk, affirming that
8 neither the member nor an immediate family member of the member
9 holds a financial interest in violation of 4 Pa.C.S. § 1512
10 (relating to financial and employment interests).

11 For purposes of this rule, "immediate family member" shall
12 mean a spouse, minor child or unemancipated child.

13 * * *

14 RULE 66 (a)

15 Vote by Designation

16 A member who is not present in the Hall of the House due to a
17 family emergency, death of a family member, personal health
18 condition, military service or disaster emergency may designate
19 either the Majority or Minority Whip to cast the member's vote
20 on any question. If a designated Whip is on leave, that
21 designated Whip may appoint another member to cast all votes
22 designated to that Whip.

23 A designation, including commencement date, shall be
24 accomplished by filing an attestation with the Chief Clerk which
25 identifies either the Majority or Minority Whip as the member's
26 designee when the member will not be present in the Hall of the
27 House, and which provides the reason for the member's absence. A
28 designation shall be effective for five days unless sooner
29 revoked by the member. A member may revoke the member's
30 designation by notifying the Chief Clerk in writing of the

1 revocation.

2 If a member is voting by designation on the House Floor,
3 prior to locking the voting machine and instructing the clerk to
4 record a vote, the Speaker shall state: "Without objection, the
5 clerk will record the vote."

6 At any voting meeting of a committee of the House of
7 Representatives, a member of the committee who is not present
8 due to a family emergency, death of a family member, personal
9 health condition, military service or disaster emergency may
10 designate the chair or minority chair to cast the member's vote
11 on any question.

12 A designation for a voting meeting of a committee of the
13 House of Representatives shall be accomplished by filing an
14 attestation with the chair or minority chair which affirms that
15 the member will not be present at the voting meeting, and which
16 provides the reason for the member's absence.

17 A member voting by designation on the House Floor or at any
18 voting meeting of a committee of the House of Representatives
19 shall be counted in determining whether a quorum is present.

20 The Chief Clerk shall implement video conferencing or similar
21 remote participation technology to allow members voting by
22 designation on the House Floor or at any voting meeting of a
23 standing committee of the House of Representatives to engage in
24 simultaneous, interactive participation.

25 A voting meeting of a standing committee of the House of
26 Representatives shall be held in a committee room utilizing
27 video conferencing or similar remote participation technology
28 unless such a room is not available. The video conferencing or
29 similar remote participation technology must safeguard the
30 integrity of the legislative process.

1 For purposes of this rule, the following words and phrases
2 shall have the meanings given to them in this rule unless the
3 context clearly indicates otherwise:

4 "Disaster emergency" shall mean any disaster emergency
5 declared by the Governor, or extended by the General Assembly,
6 which prevents a member from attending legislative session.

7 "Family emergency" shall mean any adverse physical or mental
8 condition of a family member, arising from injury, sickness,
9 disease or trauma, which requires a member to devote significant
10 time in order to provide support or care to the family member,
11 and shall include maternity and paternity leave.

12 "Family member" shall mean any child, stepchild, grandchild,
13 parent, stepparent, grandparent, spouse or partner, sibling,
14 mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law,
15 brother-in-law or sister-in-law and shall include guardian,
16 custodian, adoptive and foster relationships.

17 "Personal health condition" shall mean an illness, injury,
18 impairment or physical or mental condition during a period of
19 treatment or supervision and involves either inpatient care in a
20 hospital, hospice or residential health care facility or
21 continuing treatment or continuing supervision by a health care
22 provider.

23 * * *

24 RULE 3 E

25 COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

26 The Committee shall consist of eight Members, four of whom
27 shall be members of the majority party appointed by the Speaker,
28 and four of whom shall be members of the minority party
29 appointed by the Minority Leader. From the Members appointed to
30 the Committee, the Speaker shall appoint a chair, vice-chair and

1 secretary for the Committee. The chair shall be a member of the
2 majority party, and the vice chair shall be a member of the
3 minority party.

4 The members of the Committee shall first meet upon the call
5 of the chair and perfect its organization. A majority of the
6 Committee shall constitute a quorum for it to proceed to
7 business. Unless otherwise provided in this rule, a majority of
8 the Committee shall be required to take any action authorized by
9 this rule. The Committee shall have the power to promulgate
10 rules not inconsistent with this rule or Rules of the House that
11 may be necessary for the orderly conduct of its business.

12 The chair of the Committee shall notify all members of the
13 Committee at least 24 hours in advance of the date, time and
14 place of meetings and, insofar as possible, the subjects on the
15 agenda. Meetings may be called from time to time by the chair of
16 the Committee as the chair deems necessary. A member of the
17 Committee may request that the chair call a meeting for a
18 specific purpose. If the chair refuses to call a meeting upon
19 such request, a majority of the Committee may vote to call a
20 meeting by giving two days' written notice to the Speaker of the
21 House setting forth the time and place for such meeting. Such
22 notice shall be read in the House and posted in the House
23 Chamber by the Chief Clerk or a designee. Thereafter, the
24 meeting shall be held at the time and place specified in such
25 notice.

26 The Committee shall not continue to exist after sine die
27 adjournment of the General Assembly. Proceedings on matters
28 before the Committee that have not been concluded or disposed of
29 by sine die adjournment of the General Assembly shall cease on
30 such date and all documents, reports, communications,

1 transcripts and other materials compiled by the Committee for
2 such matters, as well as any communications or other materials
3 received by the Committee after sine die adjournment of the
4 General Assembly, shall be collected, organized and submitted to
5 the Chief Clerk under seal for transition to the reconstituted
6 Committee consisting of Members appointed from the incoming
7 General Assembly. These materials shall be held in a secure
8 manner and nothing in this rule shall authorize the Chief Clerk
9 or any other person to view such materials. Within 30 days
10 following the reconstitution of the Committee in the next
11 succeeding legislative term, the Committee shall review such
12 materials and determine whether or not to proceed with one or
13 more of the matters under review by the former Committee or
14 received after sine die adjournment. Any time period required
15 for any actions of the Committee or others under this rule shall
16 be tolled until the reconstituted Committee has made a
17 determination whether or not to proceed. If the Committee
18 determines to proceed with a matter, the Committee shall, if
19 applicable, continue from the stage in the consideration of the
20 matter where the former Committee ended.

21 The Committee shall compile, update and distribute a Members'
22 Handbook on Ethics for Members and House Employees on matters
23 regarding the ethical conduct of their legislative duties. Each
24 Member shall complete two hours of ethics education and training
25 and one hour of sexual harassment and discrimination in the
26 workplace education and training each legislative term. A Member
27 shall be excused from one hour of ethics training for any full
28 year the Member was absent due to illness, injury, military
29 service or any other permissible excuse under General Operating
30 Rule 64(a). The Committee shall be responsible for planning and

1 offering the education and training programs.

2 The Committee shall issue to a Member upon the Member's
3 request an advisory opinion regarding the Member's duties under
4 Rule 2E relating to legislative nonprofit organizations. The
5 opinion shall be issued within 14 days following the request. No
6 Member who acts in good faith on an opinion issued under this
7 paragraph shall be subject to any sanctions for so acting if the
8 material facts are as stated in the request. Opinions issued
9 under this paragraph shall be public records and may from time
10 to time be published. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Member
11 requesting the opinion may request that an opinion undergo
12 deletions and changes necessary to protect the identity of the
13 persons involved, and the Committee shall make such deletions
14 and changes.

15 The Committee may issue other advisory opinions with regard
16 to questions pertaining to other legislative ethics or decorum
17 at the request of a Member or House employee. An opinion issued
18 under this paragraph shall be confidential and shall apply
19 exclusively to the requestor. No requestor who acts in good
20 faith on an opinion issued under this paragraph shall be subject
21 to any sanctions for acting in accordance with the opinion if
22 the material facts are as stated in the request.

23 The Committee may receive complaints against Members and
24 House employees alleging unethical conduct under the Legislative
25 Code of Ethics or the Rules of the House and complaints against
26 Members and officers of the House for violations of Rule 2.1 E.
27 A complaint must be in writing and be signed by the person
28 filing the complaint under penalty of law under 18 Pa.C.S. §
29 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities). The
30 complaint must set forth in detail the actions constituting the

1 alleged unethical conduct or violation. No person shall disclose
2 or acknowledge to any other person any information relating to
3 the filing of a complaint or the proposed filing of a complaint,
4 except as otherwise authorized under this rule or Rule 2.1 E,
5 for the purpose of seeking legal advice, as otherwise required
6 by law or to carry out a function of the Committee.

7 The Committee shall not have jurisdiction over, shall not
8 accept for review or action and shall return to the complainant
9 with a notice explaining the Committee's lack of jurisdiction
10 any of the following:

11 (1) a complaint filed later than five years following
12 the occurrence of the alleged unethical conduct or violation;

13 (2) a complaint filed against a former Member or former
14 House employee unless required by Section 7(c) of the
15 Legislative Code of Ethics; or

16 (3) a complaint filed against a Member during a
17 restricted period.

18 A five-year limitations period that expires during a
19 restricted period shall be tolled until the day following the
20 election occurring at the expiration of the restricted period.

21 Within 30 days following receipt of a complaint over which
22 the Committee has jurisdiction under this rule, the Committee
23 shall do one of the following:

24 (1) dismiss the complaint, with notice explaining the
25 basis for the Committee's dismissal, if it:

26 (a) alleges facts that do not constitute unethical
27 conduct or a violation of Rule 2.1 E;

28 (b) is objectively baseless;

29 (c) is insufficient as to form;

30 (d) is a frivolous complaint; or

1 (2) initiate a preliminary investigation of the alleged
2 unethical conduct or violation.

3 If the Committee initiates a preliminary investigation, it
4 shall, promptly upon voting to proceed, send the subject a
5 letter setting forth each allegation in the complaint. Within 15
6 days after receipt of the letter, the subject may file a written
7 response with the Committee. Failure of the subject to file a
8 response shall not be deemed to be an admission, or create an
9 inference or presumption, that the allegations in the complaint
10 are true, and such failure shall not prohibit the Committee from
11 either proceeding with the preliminary or a formal investigation
12 or dismissing the complaint. The Committee may engage an
13 independent counsel to assist in a preliminary investigation.
14 The subject may be represented by counsel of the subject's
15 choosing at any point during an investigation under this rule.

16 If the Committee initiates a preliminary investigation of a
17 complaint of a violation under Rule 2.1 E, it shall also send to
18 the appropriate employer a copy of the letter sent to the
19 subject setting forth each allegation in the complaint. Upon the
20 request of the complainant, the employer shall make adjustments
21 to the complainant's work hours, assignment or duties or
22 location that may be appropriate under the circumstances of the
23 allegations in the complaint. The adjustments may include:

24 (1) removing the complainant or the subject from the
25 physical work location of the complainant;

26 (2) allowing the complainant to be placed on
27 administrative leave with continued pay and benefits, if
28 applicable; or

29 (3) any other reasonable accommodation agreed to by the
30 employer and the complainant.

1 The employer shall keep the letter and the fact of the
2 initiation of a preliminary investigation confidential but may
3 disclose necessary information to Members, officers of the House
4 or House employees as needed in order to implement the foregoing
5 adjustments. No House employee shall retaliate or take adverse
6 actions against the complainant in response to the filing of a
7 complaint of a violation of Rule 2.1 E with the Committee.

8 A member of the Committee who is the complainant, the subject
9 or a witness to the unethical conduct or violation alleged in a
10 complaint shall not participate in any Committee consideration
11 of the complaint. The Member shall be temporarily replaced on
12 the Committee in a like manner as his or her original
13 appointment.

14 Within 30 days following the initiation of a preliminary
15 investigation, the Committee shall vote to dismiss the complaint
16 for lack of probable cause to support the alleged unethical
17 conduct or violation or to proceed with a formal investigation
18 because it finds that probable cause exists. If a majority of
19 the Committee is unable to agree on either course of action, the
20 Committee shall dismiss the complaint. The Committee shall
21 promptly notify the subject in writing of the result.

22 If the Committee votes to proceed with a formal
23 investigation, the Committee shall engage an independent counsel
24 unless the Committee determines that the alleged unethical
25 conduct or violation raised in the complaint does not warrant
26 the expense of engaging an independent counsel. If the Committee
27 does not engage an independent counsel, the Committee shall be
28 represented in the investigation and any hearing conducted under
29 this rule by Committee staff attorneys, including at least one
30 from each party.

1 The Committee, including Committee staff attorneys, and any
2 independent counsel engaged by the Committee shall have the
3 power to conduct investigations and hearings under the
4 guidelines set out in this rule. Where a provision of this rule
5 conflicts with another Rule of the House, the provision of this
6 rule shall govern. This rule shall be construed to empower the
7 Committee and its independent counsel to do all of the
8 following:

9 (1) act as a neutral fact-finder;

10 (2) protect due process and other constitutional rights
11 of a subject;

12 (3) fully investigate and deter unethical conduct or
13 violation of Rule 2.1 E; and

14 (4) protect the public trust.

15 The Chief Clerk shall pay the fees and expenses of an
16 Independent Counsel engaged by the Committee under this rule.

17 The Committee may issue subpoenas for documents or testimony
18 as part of a preliminary investigation, a formal investigation
19 or in connection with a hearing before the Committee.

20 Notwithstanding the provision of any other Rule of the House,
21 subpoenas issued under this rule shall be in the name of the
22 Committee, shall be signed by the chair of the Committee and
23 shall be attested by another member of the Committee who voted
24 in favor of authorizing the subpoena.

25 A subpoena issued by the Committee may be served upon any
26 person and shall have the force and effect of a subpoena issued
27 out of the courts of this Commonwealth. Subpoenas shall be
28 served by the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House or another person
29 designated by the Committee when directed to do so by the
30 Committee. Each subpoena shall be addressed to the witness and

1 shall state that such proceeding is before a Committee of the
2 House for which the witness is required to attend and testify at
3 a specified time and place; or to produce books, papers,
4 records, accounts, reports, documents and data and information
5 produced and stored by any electronic data processing system; or
6 both, as the Committee may also require. Mileage and witness
7 fees shall be paid by the House to such witness in an amount
8 prescribed by law. Unless addressed to and served on the
9 subject, a copy of a subpoena issued by the Committee shall be
10 provided to the subject and the subject's counsel, if
11 applicable. A person who willfully neglects or refuses to comply
12 with a subpoena issued by the Committee shall be subject to the
13 penalties provided by the laws of this Commonwealth with respect
14 to such willful neglect or refusal. Notwithstanding the
15 foregoing, a recipient of a subpoena issued by the Committee may
16 object to the subpoena by serving notice of such objection on
17 the signatory to the subpoena and the Committee. The Committee
18 may quash or modify the subpoena if it finds the subpoena to be
19 overly broad or without proper purpose. Each member of the
20 Committee shall have the power to administer oaths and
21 affirmations to witnesses appearing before the Committee.

22 All subpoenaed books, papers, records, accounts, reports,
23 documents, data and information shall be returned to the person
24 from whom such material was subpoenaed when the Committee has
25 completed its examination of such material, but in no event
26 later than the date of final disposition of the matter.

27 Following the completion of a formal investigation, the
28 Committee shall conduct a hearing if:

29 (1) the independent counsel engaged by the Committee
30 recommends that a hearing be conducted and the Committee

1 votes to adopt the recommendation; or

2 (2) an independent counsel was not engaged by the
3 Committee but the Committee finds that the testimony and
4 documents reviewed by the Committee during the formal
5 investigation indicates more likely than not that the
6 unethical conduct or violation alleged in the complaint
7 occurred.

8 If a hearing is to be conducted, the Committee shall provide
9 the subject and the subject's counsel, if applicable, with
10 written notice consistent with constitutional principles of due
11 process. The Pennsylvania Rules of Evidence shall apply during
12 the hearing, unless the Committee determines otherwise.
13 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Committee may not infringe on
14 the right of the subject to present evidence, cross-examine
15 witnesses, face his or her accuser and be represented by counsel
16 at a hearing conducted under this rule.

17 Witnesses called to appear at a hearing under this rule,
18 including a subject, may be accompanied by his or her own
19 counsel for the purpose of advising him or her concerning his or
20 her constitutional rights. Counsel may interpose legal objection
21 to any and all questions which in the opinion of counsel may
22 violate the constitutional rights of his or her clients.

23 The proceedings of a hearing conducted under this rule shall
24 be either stenographically or electronically recorded. The
25 Committee shall determine which parts of such recorded
26 proceedings, if any, shall be transcribed.

27 The burden shall be on the independent counsel, if one has
28 been engaged by the Committee, or the Committee staff attorneys,
29 if an independent counsel has not been engaged, to prove, by
30 clear and convincing evidence, that the unethical conduct or

1 violation alleged in the complaint occurred. Within 30 days
2 following the conclusion of the formal investigation and
3 hearing, the Committee shall make a determination as to whether
4 the burden was met and shall submit its finding to the House. If
5 the Committee finds that the burden was met, the Committee may
6 make one or more of the following recommendations to the House:

7 (1) a reprimand of the subject;

8 (2) a censure of the subject;

9 (3) expulsion of the subject from the House; or

10 (4) the denial or limitation of any right, power or
11 privilege of the Member granted by Rules of the House and not
12 contrary to the Pennsylvania Constitution.

13 The Committee shall provide a written report of its findings
14 and recommendations, if any, to the subject and shall
15 simultaneously submit a copy of the same to the House. Only
16 findings and recommendations agreed to by a majority of the
17 Committee shall be included in the report. The report may
18 include a minority report. The House shall not take any action
19 on the findings and recommendations submitted by the Committee
20 and shall not make such findings and recommendations public
21 until a period of at least seven days has passed following the
22 Committee's provision of the report to the subject.

23 The Committee may extend any of the time periods, other than
24 those relating to the jurisdiction of the Committee, required
25 for any actions of the Committee or others under this rule.

26 [Investigations,] The Committee shall maintain the
27 confidentiality of all complaints and complaint-related
28 proceedings and actions, except as provided in this rule. The
29 Committee may disclose complaint data, including the number of
30 complaints received and dispositions on complaints in the

1 aggregate without identifying information regarding the
2 complainant or the accused. The Committee shall maintain the
3 confidentiality of all investigations, hearings and meetings of
4 the Committee relating to an investigation and the existence of
5 such investigations, hearings, and meetings [shall be
6 confidential]. A majority of the members of the Committee may
7 vote to suspend the confidentiality provisions in this rule in
8 whole or in part if information regarding a complaint or an
9 investigation has been entered into the public domain by someone
10 other than a member of the Committee and the Committee
11 determines that it is in the best interest of the Committee to
12 address public inquiry or information on the complaint or
13 investigation. In this case, the Committee may disclose whether
14 a complaint has been filed, the disposition or status of action
15 on the complaint and other information as the Committee may
16 determine is appropriate under the circumstances. All other
17 meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public. Any
18 member of the Committee breaching the confidentiality provisions
19 specified in this rule shall be removed immediately from the
20 Committee and replaced by another Member in a like manner as his
21 or her original appointment.

22 Meetings and hearings held related to the investigation of a
23 complaint shall be in the nature of executive session and shall
24 not be open to the public. All other meetings of the Committee
25 shall be open to the public.

26 Notwithstanding the above, except for a hearing on complaints
27 of a violation of Rule 2.1 E, the Committee shall conduct a
28 hearing in public upon the written request of the subject unless
29 the Committee determines that evidence or testimony to be
30 received at the hearing may substantially defame, degrade, or

1 incriminate a person other than the subject. In that event, the
2 Committee shall receive such evidence or testimony in executive
3 session. No evidence or testimony taken in executive session may
4 be released to any person or authority or used in public
5 sessions without the consent of the Committee.

6 The Committee may enter into a consent agreement with the
7 subject at any point in the proceedings. The Committee may make
8 an appropriate referral of a complaint to a law enforcement
9 agency at any point in the proceedings.

10 The complaint, response and records of the Committee shall be
11 confidential. Notwithstanding the foregoing:

12 (1) consent agreements and final findings by the
13 Committee of unethical conduct and the Committee's
14 recommendations with respect to such findings shall not be
15 confidential;

16 (1.1) consent agreements and final findings by the
17 Committee of a violation of Rule 2.1 E shall not be
18 confidential, except that at the request of a complainant,
19 the name of the complainant and, unless the House considers a
20 resolution to discipline the subject, any facts that may lead
21 to the identification of the complainant, including the name
22 of the subject, shall be redacted before an agreement or
23 final findings of the Committee are made public;

24 (2) the subject may, in his or her discretion, make
25 public a finding by the Committee that no unethical conduct
26 or violation of Rule 2.1 E had occurred or that there was
27 insufficient evidence presented to the Committee that
28 unethical conduct or a violation of Rule 2.1 E had occurred,
29 except that the subject shall not make public the name of a
30 complainant who filed a complaint alleging a violation of

1 Rule 2.1 E; and

2 (3) if the Committee makes a referral of a complaint to
3 a law enforcement agency, the Committee may provide the
4 agency with copies of documents and information in its
5 possession.

6 Any member of the Committee breaching the confidentiality
7 provisions set forth in this rule shall be removed immediately
8 from the Committee and replaced by another Member in a like
9 manner as his or her original appointment.

10 A nondisclosure agreement shall not be imposed on an
11 individual as a condition of the initiation of the procedures
12 available under this rule for the filing and hearing of a
13 complaint of a violation of Rule 2.1 E. Nothing in this
14 paragraph shall be construed to prohibit the complainant and the
15 subject from voluntarily entering into a settlement agreement
16 with a nondisclosure provision agreed to by each party as part
17 of the settlement of a complaint or proceeding. Notwithstanding
18 the foregoing, a Member who is the subject of a complaint of a
19 violation of Rule 2.1 E filed with the Committee shall not
20 benefit from a nondisclosure agreement or provision if a
21 completed formal investigation of the Committee finds that the
22 complaint is credible or a final decision by the Committee finds
23 a violation.

24 The Committee may meet with a committee of the Senate to hold
25 investigations or hearings involving complaints against
26 employees of the two chambers jointly or officers or employees
27 of the Legislative Reference Bureau, the Joint State Government
28 Commission, the Local Government Commission, the Legislative
29 Budget and Finance Committee, the Legislative Data Processing
30 Committee or other legislative service agencies. No action may

1 be taken at a joint meeting unless it is approved by the
2 Committee. A member of the Committee who is the complainant, the
3 subject or a witness to the unethical conduct or violation of
4 Rule 2.1 E alleged in a complaint under this paragraph shall not
5 participate in any joint proceedings under this paragraph. The
6 Member shall be temporarily replaced on the Committee in a like
7 manner as his or her original appointment.