

SENATE RESOLUTION

8606

By Senator Pedersen

1 WHEREAS, The Senate adopted permanent rules for the 2023-2025  
2 biennium under Senate Resolution 8601; and

3 WHEREAS, The notice requirements set forth in Senate Rule 35 have  
4 been satisfied;

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Rule 45 is amended as  
6 follows:

7 **"Rule 45.** 1. At least five days' notice shall be given of all  
8 public hearings held by any committee other than the rules committee.  
9 Such notice shall contain the date, time and place of such hearing  
10 together with the title and number of each bill, or identification of  
11 the subject matter, to be considered at such hearing. By a majority  
12 vote of the committee members present at any committee meeting such  
13 notice may be dispensed with. The reason for such action shall be set  
14 forth in a written statement preserved in the records of the meeting.

15 2. No committee may hold a public hearing during a regular or  
16 extraordinary session on a proposal identified as a draft unless the  
17 draft has been made available to the public at least twenty-four  
18 hours prior to the hearing. This rule does not apply during the five  
19 days prior to any cutoff established by concurrent resolution nor  
20 does it apply to any measure exempted from the resolution.

21 3. During its consideration of or vote on any bill, resolution or  
22 memorial, the deliberations of any committee or subcommittee of the

1 senate shall be open to the public. In case of any disturbance  
2 or disorderly conduct at any such deliberations, the chair shall  
3 order the sergeant at arms to suppress the same and may order  
4 the meeting closed to any person or persons creating such  
5 disturbance.

6 4. No committee shall amend a measure, adopt a substitute  
7 bill, or vote upon any measure or appointment absent a quorum. A  
8 committee may conduct a hearing absent a quorum. A majority of  
9 any committee shall constitute a quorum and committees shall be  
10 considered to have a quorum present unless the question is  
11 raised. Any question as to quorum not raised at the time of the  
12 committee action is deemed waived.

13 5. Bills reported to the senate from a standing committee  
14 must have a majority report, which shall be prepared upon a  
15 printed standing committee report form; shall be adopted at a  
16 regularly or specially called meeting during a legislative  
17 session and shall be signed by a majority of the committee; and  
18 shall carry only one of the following recommendations:

- 19 a. Do pass;  
20 b. Do pass as amended;  
21 c. That a substitute bill be substituted therefor, and the  
22 substitute bill do pass; or  
23 d. Without recommendation.

24 In addition to one of the above-listed recommendations, a  
25 report may also recommend that a bill be referred to another  
26 committee.

27 6. A majority report of a committee must carry the  
28 signatures of a majority of the members of the committee. In the  
29 event a committee has a quorum pursuant to subsection 4 of this  
30 rule, a majority of the members present may act on a measure,  
31 subject to obtaining the signatures of a majority of the members  
32 of the committee on the majority report. If, after executive  
33 action on a measure, the signatures of all members are not  
34 included on either a majority or minority report, the committee  
35 shall hold the signature sheets for the measure for 24 hours,  
36 not counting Saturdays or Sundays, from adjournment of the

1 committee hearing at which executive action was taken on the  
2 measure. This 24-hour hold period applies even if a majority of  
3 the members of the committee has signed the majority report.  
4 After the 24-hour hold period, the signature sheets must be  
5 submitted to the workroom if there is a majority of signatures  
6 on the majority report. Once signature sheets have been  
7 submitted to the senate workroom by committee staff, a member  
8 may not sign or remove his or her signature from a majority or  
9 minority signature sheet. If a majority of members of the  
10 committee have not signed the majority report, the measure or  
11 appointment remains in the possession of the committee. The 24-  
12 hour hold period does not apply within the five days preceding  
13 any cutoff date and does not apply to a biennial or supplemental  
14 omnibus operating budget, omnibus capital budget, or omnibus  
15 transportation budget.

16 7. Any measure, appointment, substitute bill, or amendment  
17 still within a committee's possession before it has been  
18 reported out to the full senate may be reconsidered to correct  
19 an error, change language, or otherwise accurately reflect the  
20 will of the committee in its majority and minority reports to  
21 the full senate. Any such reconsideration may be made at any  
22 time, by any member of the committee, provided that the  
23 committee has not yet reported the measure, appointment,  
24 substitute bill, or amendment out to the full senate. Any such  
25 reconsideration made after a vote has been taken or signatures  
26 obtained will require a new vote and signature sheet. Any  
27 measure which does not receive a majority vote of the members  
28 present may be reconsidered at that meeting and may again be  
29 considered upon motion of any committee member if one day's  
30 notice of said motion is provided to all committee members.

31 8. Any member of the committee not concurring in the  
32 majority report may sign a minority report containing a  
33 recommendation of "do not pass" or "without recommendation,"  
34 which shall be signed by those members of the committee  
35 subscribing thereto, and submitted with the majority report.  
36 Unless the signatory of a minority report expressly indicates a  
37 "do not pass" recommendation, the member's vote shall be deemed

1 to be "without recommendation." In every case where a majority  
2 report form is circulated for signature, a minority report form  
3 shall also be circulated.

4 9. When a committee reports a substitute for an original  
5 bill with the recommendation that the substitute bill do pass,  
6 it shall be in order to read the substitute bill the first time  
7 and have the same ordered printed.

8 A motion for the substitution of the substitute bill for the  
9 original bill shall not be in order until the committee on rules  
10 places the original bill on the second reading calendar.

11 10. No vote in any committee shall be taken by secret ballot  
12 nor shall any committee have a policy of secrecy as to any vote  
13 on action taken in such committee.

14 11. All reports of standing committees must be on the  
15 secretary's desk one hour prior to convening of the session in  
16 order to be read at said session. During any special session of  
17 the legislature or within the three days preceding any cut-off  
18 date or sine die, this rule may be suspended by a majority vote  
19 of those present. This rule does not apply to reports of  
20 biennial or supplemental omnibus operating budget, omnibus  
21 capital budget, or omnibus transportation budget bill.

22 12. For purposes of this rule, a committee is deemed to have  
23 reported a measure, appointment, substitute bill, or amendment  
24 out when it has delivered its majority and minority reports to  
25 the senate workroom. After such delivery, the committee no  
26 longer has possession of the measure, appointment, substitute  
27 bill, or amendment and no further committee action, including  
28 reconsideration or a member adding or removing his or her  
29 signature to a majority or minority report, may be taken.

30 13. All committees will rely upon and use the Electronic  
31 Bill Book. Committee staff should add all materials relating to  
32 hearings, work sessions, or executive sessions to the Electronic  
33 Bill Book as early as possible or when the material has been  
34 made public. Paper copies will not be provided to members. All  
35 materials submitted by the public shall be submitted  
36 electronically.

1 14. All committees will use the online Committee Sign-In  
2 system. All committee members will be able to view the list of  
3 individuals who have signed in to testify on each measure or  
4 appointment. Members of the public wishing to testify in-person  
5 or remotely may sign up remotely no later than one hour before  
6 the committee is scheduled to meet.

7 15. With the exception of the ways and means and  
8 transportation committees, the chairs of standing committees  
9 must publish the list of measures and appointments that may be  
10 considered for executive session by 4:00 p.m. two days preceding  
11 executive session. The chairs of the ways and means committee  
12 and the transportation committee must publish the list of  
13 measures and appointments that may be considered for executive  
14 session by 7:00 p.m. two days preceding executive session. A  
15 chair, with the consent of the ranking member, has discretion to  
16 waive this deadline in extraordinary circumstances. A published  
17 measure or appointment may be rescheduled for executive action  
18 at the committee's next meeting without additional notice,  
19 provided no additional amendments are considered.

20 16. Members must have amendment requests to nonpartisan  
21 committee staff by 12:00 p.m. the day before scheduled executive  
22 action. A chair, with the consent of the ranking member, has  
23 discretion to waive this deadline in extraordinary circumstances  
24 or to accept technical revisions to perfect an amendment.  
25 Members should be considerate of staff and turn in amendment  
26 requests earlier if they are long or complex, keeping in mind  
27 the final deadline for consideration of amendments.

28 17. All amendments, including substitutes, must be sponsored  
29 by a committee member. All amendments and effect statements must  
30 be either drafted or reviewed, or both, by nonpartisan committee  
31 staff. To be eligible for consideration at an executive session  
32 in a committee meeting scheduled to begin prior to 12:00 p.m.,  
33 amendments must be released from confidentiality and posted to  
34 the Electronic Bill Book for committee members and the public by  
35 4:00 p.m. the day before the executive session or the amendments  
36 will be considered out of order. To be eligible for

1 consideration at an executive session in a committee meeting  
2 scheduled to begin on or after 12:00 p.m., amendments must be  
3 released from confidentiality and posted to the Electronic Bill  
4 Book for committee members and the public by 7:00 p.m. the day  
5 before the executive session or the amendments will be  
6 considered out of order. A chair with the consent of the ranking  
7 member has discretion to waive this deadline in extraordinary  
8 circumstances or to accept technical revisions to perfect an  
9 amendment.

10 18. A committee chair may choose to allow (~~other~~)  
11 committee members to participate remotely in committee meetings.  
12 The committee chair shall notify the secretary of the senate  
13 prior to the first day of the legislative session if the chair  
14 will allow committee members to participate remotely. A chair  
15 that initially chooses to allow only in-person participation may  
16 later choose to allow remote participation but must provide the  
17 secretary of the senate with notice of the change at least 24  
18 hours prior to the committee hearing in which the change will  
19 become effective. Once a chair has chosen to allow members to  
20 participate remotely, this choice cannot be changed during the  
21 remainder of the session. If a chair allows committee members to  
22 participate remotely, those members will be considered "present"  
23 for the purposes of this rule and Senate Rule 49. All committee  
24 meetings shall be chaired in person. A chair may (~~not~~)  
25 participate remotely in a committee meeting when another member  
26 of the committee is acting as chair. Members participating  
27 remotely shall be allowed to participate in committee activities  
28 to the same extent as those attending in person."

29 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,  
30 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
31 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8606,  
32 adopted by the Senate  
33 January 25, 2023

34 SARAH BANNISTER

1 Secretary of the Senate