



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Senate Resolution No. 2

LCO No. 1205



Referred to Committee on NO COMMITTEE

Introduced by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.

RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE RULES OF THE SENATE.

Resolved by the Senate:

- 1 That the following are the Senate Rules for the 2025 and 2026 sessions:
- 2 1. The President shall take the chair on each session day, at the hour
- 3 to which the Senate stands adjourned. The President shall thereupon
- 4 call the Senate to order and after prayer and recitation of the pledge of
- 5 allegiance, if a quorum is present, proceed to business.
- 6 2. In the absence of a quorum, the President may adjourn the Senate
- 7 to a subsequent time on that day or to the next session day. At all other
- 8 times an adjournment shall be pronounced by the President on motion.
- 9 3. The President shall preserve order and decorum and shall decide
- 10 all questions of order, upon which no debate shall be allowed except at
- 11 the request of the President; but the decision shall be subject to an appeal
- 12 to the Senate which must be seconded and on which no member shall
- 13 speak more than once. No other business shall be in order until such
- 14 appeal is disposed of.

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

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

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

26 7. Within one week after appointment, the President Pro Tempore
27 shall nominate a chaplain and up to three deputy chaplains, and if such
28 nominations are confirmed by the Senate by a majority vote, the
29 candidates so nominated and confirmed shall serve for the 2025 and
30 2026 sessions.

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

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

47 constitution and each bill so entered shall be printed and in the files and
48 on the Calendar, with a file number for two session days and shall be
49 starred for action on the session day next succeeding, except that:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

105 10. The clerk shall retain all bills, resolutions and other papers, in
106 reference to which any member has a right to move a reconsideration,
107 until the right of reconsideration has expired, and no longer.

108 11. The clerk shall also keep a record of all petitions, resolutions, and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

140 Tempore no later than sixteen days following such election. The
141 committee shall take into consideration such contested election and
142 report the facts with its opinion thereon.

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

175 joint standing committee assignments, chairpersons, vice chairpersons
176 and clerks and subcommittee chairpersons shall serve for both the 2025
177 and the 2026 sessions. The assignments for the select committee on
178 Special Education, including members, chairpersons, vice chairpersons,
179 clerks and any subcommittee chairpersons, shall serve for the 2025
180 session.

181 19. The order of business shall be as follows:

182 1. Reception of petitions.

183 2. Reception of communications from the Governor, secretary of
184 the state, annual and biennial reports, interim committee
185 reports and reports.

186 3. Introduction of bills and resolutions.

187 4. Reports of committees.

188 5. Reception of business from the House.

189 6. Business on the Calendar.

190 7. Introduction of guests.

191 8. Miscellaneous business.

192 9. Resolutions removed from consent calendar.

193 20. Before any petition or resolution is received, a brief statement of
194 its object shall be made by the introducer.

195 21. When a motion is made, it shall be stated to the Senate by the
196 President before any debate is had thereon.

197 22. When a motion is stated by the President, or read by the clerk, it
198 shall be deemed to be in the possession of the Senate. It may be
199 withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment, but
200 not after amendment, unless the Senate gives leave.

201 23. If the question under debate consists of two or more independent
202 propositions any member may move to have the question divided. The
203 President shall rule on the order of voting on the division of a question.

204 24. (a) The yeas and nays shall be cast on the roll call machine or
205 through use of the electronic remote voting system on all final action on
206 bills on the regular calendar and on all other questions at the desire of
207 one-fifth of the members present, expressed at any time before a
208 declaration of the vote. A vote may only be cast using the electronic
209 remote voting system from the Legislative Office Building or State
210 Capitol.

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

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

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

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

232 26. When a vote has been taken, it shall be in order for any senator on
233 the prevailing side to move for a reconsideration thereof on the day of
234 the vote or on the next succeeding session day, if the bill is still in the
235 possession of the Senate; provided also that there shall be no
236 reconsideration of the following motions: To adjourn, for the previous
237 question or to reconsider, and no question shall be twice reconsidered.

238 27. Pairs may be made by senators whose votes if they were present
239 would be cast on opposite sides of any question, by filing with the clerk
240 of the Senate a memorandum, containing the names of the senators, and
241 their votes, who are thus paired and the subject matter or matters to
242 which such pairs apply. Senators making any such pairs shall be
243 excused from voting upon the merits of the matters involved while the
244 pair continues, but no pairs shall operate while both of the senators
245 paired are present.

246 28. Persons, other than members of the General Assembly, shall not
247 be permitted on the chamber floor while the Senate is in session.
248 Lobbyists shall be prohibited from the chamber floor on any day during
249 which the Senate is in session except during a public hearing in the
250 chamber. This rule shall not apply to the staff of the General Assembly,
251 to any state or municipal official or member of the media who has been
252 given permission to be on the chamber floor by the President of the
253 Senate, President Pro Tempore, majority leader or minority leader, or to
254 persons invited to the chamber for purposes of recognition or ceremony.
255 Other persons who desire to speak with a member of the Senate while it
256 is in session shall communicate such desire through one of the
257 messengers and shall not converse with such member in the chamber
258 while the Senate is in session.

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

261 1. To adjourn.

262 2. To recess.

- 263 3. For the previous question.
- 264 4. To close the debate at a specified time.
- 265 5. To pass temporarily.
- 266 6. To pass retain.
- 267 7. To postpone to a certain time.
- 268 8. To commit or recommit.
- 269 9. To divide the question.
- 270 10. To amend.
- 271 11. To refer to another committee.
- 272 12. To postpone indefinitely.
- 273 13. To place at foot of calendar.

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

279 30. (a) Amendments shall be filed with the clerk of the Senate before
280 12 noon on the day the bill is acted upon. Exceptions to this rule shall be
281 allowed: (1) Upon approval of any two of the following: The President
282 Pro Tempore, the majority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of
283 the Senate; or (2) in the case of bills or resolutions not starred for action
284 or bills or resolutions reported in accordance with subdivision (1) of
285 paragraph (d) of Rule 15 of the joint rules of the Senate and the House
286 of Representatives.

287 (b) Upon approval of an amendment pursuant to subdivision (1) of
288 subsection (a) of this section, the sponsor of the amendment shall cause
289 a copy of the signed approval to be provided electronically or by hand

290 to a designated leader or staff member of the other party.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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