

2025 REGULAR SESSION • HOUSE

SECTION 7 -- COMMITTEES

7-4. JURISDICTION OF, REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE

7-4I. JUDICIARY

7-4I.9 REFERRAL TO JUDICIARY, REQUIRED IF AMENDMENT CONTAINING CRIMINAL PENALTIES ADOPTED

The bill, favorably reported by the Transportation and Appropriations Committees, concerned various topics relating to motor vehicles. A member moved adoption of House amendment "B", some of which included new criminal penalties that were previously contained in another bill that had been referred to the Judiciary Committee but not favorably reported. The chairpersons of the Transportation and Judiciary Committees urged members to oppose the amendment because its adoption would require a mandatory referral to the Judiciary Committee, effectively killing the bill. The ranking member of the Judiciary Committee disagreed with the chairpersons, stating it was form over substance to require a referral to the Judiciary Committee when the amendment provisions at issue had already been referred to the Judiciary Committee in a different bill. Another member requested that the speaker rule on whether or not the adoption of the amendment would result in a mandatory referral of the bill to the Judiciary Committee.

The speaker ruled that the adoption of the amendment would result in a mandatory referral of the bill to the Judiciary Committee due to the new criminal penalties contained in the amendment, noting that (JR 3(b))(7) says that any bill favorably reported by another committee that carries a criminal penalty, other than an infraction, shall be referred to the (Judiciary) Committee. Ritter, M., May 30, 2025.

SECTION 33 -- VOTING

33-1. PROCEDURE

33-1A. GENERALLY

33-1A.17 VOTES REQUIRED FOR PASSAGE OF BILL TRANSFERRING CERTAIN CURRENT UNAPPROPRIATED SURPLUS FUNDS

The bill, as amended by Senate amendment "A", established the Early Childhood Education Endowment and transferred to such endowment an amount up to a maximum of three hundred million dollars of estimated current unappropriated surplus funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, and the entire amount of estimated current unappropriated surplus funds, if any, for

the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, and each fiscal year thereafter. A member raised a point of parliamentary inquiry as to whether such transfers required the bill to be adopted by a three-fifths vote, rather than a simple majority, in accordance with Article XXVIII of the State Constitution.

The speaker ruled that the bill, as amended by Senate amendment "A", required a three-fifths vote. In making the ruling, the speaker explained that the analysis conducted to reach such ruling was very factually specific. *Ritter, M., May 31, 2025.*

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SECTION 10 -- DEBATE

10-2. MEMBERS' REMARKS

10-2C. MEMBERS' REMARKS: QUESTIONING MOTIVES, CHARACTER, LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

10-2C.24 DISCUSSION OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS NOT APPROPRIATE

During debate on an emergency-certified bill concerning housing growth, a member voiced his dissatisfaction with the lack of transparency, communication and bipartisanship during the process of drafting the bill, questioned the actions of another member and expressed disappointment in the leadership of the majority party. The speaker reminded the members not to make personal comments or references to individual people and to confine debate to the policy of the bill. The member again expressed disappointment in the leadership of the majority party. The speaker again reminded the members not to refer to legislators or leadership. Another member raised a point of order that the speaker cannot interrupt debate, relying generally on *Mason*.

The deputy speaker ruled the point of order not well taken, reasoning that it is the job of the speaker to keep order in the House. *Godfrey, November 12, 2025*

2025 REGULAR SESSION • SENATE

SECTION 12 – EMERGENCY CERTIFICATION

12-1.3 EMERGENCY CERTIFIED BILL PROPERLY BEFORE THE SENATE

The bill was introduced through an emergency certification signed by the House speaker and Senate president pro tempore and concerned interactions between school personnel and immigration authorities, the purchase and operation of certain drones, grants to certain nonprofit organizations and student athlete compensation through endorsement contracts and revenue sharing agreements. The minority leader raised a point of order that the bill was not properly before the Senate because it was not an emergency. The majority leader responded that the House speaker and Senate president pro tempore had certified the bill as an emergency as required by JR 9, and identified two existing Senate precedents relevant to the point of order, 12-1.1 and 12-1.2.

The president ruled the point not well taken because the bill was properly certified and the requirements of JR 9 had been met.

The minority leader appealed the ruling of the chair. The appeal was rejected on a roll call vote. *Bysiewicz, February 25, 2025.*