

2023<sup>RD</sup> ASSEMBLY  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. Res. 7

IN THE

## House of Commons

---

JANUARY 13<sup>TH</sup> · THE GENTLEMEN, LEO CAVINDER,  
SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION FOR  
CONSIDERATION; WHICH WAS HELD AT THE DESK.

---

### A RESOLUTION TO

Adopt an amendment to the Rules of the House of  
Commons.

---

TABLE OF PROVISIONS.

SECTION 1. RESOLVED.  
SECTION 2. RESOLVED.

---

**B**E IT ENACTED *by this House of Commons with the advice and consent of the same, as follows:*

- 1 *Resolved*, that the following text shall be the official  
2 Rules of the House for the 2023<sup>rd</sup> Assembly of the House:  
3 “Rule I  
4 THE SPEAKER  
5 Approval of the Journal  
6 1. The Speaker shall take the Chair on every legislative  
7 day and immediately call the House to order. Having  
8 examined and approved the Journal of the last day’s  
9 proceedings, the Speaker shall announce to the House  
10 approval thereof. The Speaker’s approval of the Journal  
11 shall be deemed agreed to unless a Member demands a  
12 vote thereon. If such a vote is decided in the affirmative,  
13 it shall not be subject to a motion to reconsider. If such a  
14 vote is decided in the negative, then one motion that the  
15 Journal be read shall be privileged, shall be decided  
16 without debate, and shall not be subject to a motion to  
17 reconsider.  
18 Preservation of Order  
19 2. The Speaker shall preserve order and decorum and, in  
20 case of disturbance or disorderly conduct, may cause the  
21 same to be cleared.  
22 Signature of Legislation  
23 3. (a) If the Speaker is in the affirmative on any enrolled  
24 acts or joint resolutions, the Speaker shall sign the  
25 document in attestation of its passage. The Speaker shall  
26 also sign all writs, resolutions, warrants, and subpoenas  
27 of, or issued by order of the House. The Speaker may sign  
28 enrolled bills, resolutions, and joint resolution whether or  
29 not the House is in session.

30 (b) If the Speaker is in the negative on any enrolled acts  
31 or joint resolutions, the Speaker shall not sign the  
32 document and declare the piece as vetoed. If every  
33 member votes to overcome the vetoed legislation, except  
34 the Speaker, the enrolled act, resolution, or joint  
35 resolution becomes law and/or agreed to.

36 (c) The House shall adopt a Resolution to enact the  
37 process of vetoed legislation as described in subparagraph  
38 (b).

39 (d) Resolutions are considered immediately Assented  
40 upon their agreement in the House and cannot be vetoed.

#### 41 Questions of Order

42 4. The Speaker shall decide all questions of order, subject  
43 to appeal by a Member. On such an appeal a Member may  
44 not speak more than once without permission of the  
45 House.

#### 46 Form of a Question

47 5. The Speaker shall put a question in this form: "Those  
48 in favor (of the question), say 'Aye.'"; and after the  
49 affirmative voice is expressed, "Those opposed, say 'No.'".  
50 After a vote by voice under this clause, the Speaker may  
51 use such voting procedures as may be invoked under the  
52 Rules of the House.

#### 53 Speaker Pro Tempore

54 6. (a) The Speaker may appoint a Member to perform the  
55 duties of the Chair. Except as specified in paragraph (b),  
56 such an appointment may not extend beyond three  
57 legislative days.

58 (b)(1) In the case of illness, the Speaker may appoint a  
59 Member to perform the duties of the Chair for a period  
60 not exceeding 10 days, subject to the approval of the  
61 House. If the Speaker is absent and has omitted to make  
62 such an appointment, then the House shall elect a  
63 Speaker pro tempore to act during the absence of the  
64 Speaker.

65 (2) With the approval of the House, the Speaker may  
66 appoint a Member to act as Speaker pro tempore only to  
67 sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions for a specified  
68 period of time.

69 (3)(A) In the case of a vacancy in the Office of Speaker,  
70 the next Member on the list described in subdivision (B)  
71 shall act as Speaker pro tempore until the election of a  
72 Speaker or a Speaker pro tempore. Pending such election  
73 the Member acting as Speaker pro tempore may exercise  
74 such authorities of the Office of Speaker as may be  
75 necessary and appropriate to that end.

76 (B) As soon as practicable after the election of the Speaker  
77 and whenever appropriate thereafter, the Speaker shall  
78 deliver to the Clerk a list of Members in the order in  
79 which each shall act as Speaker pro tempore under  
80 subdivision (A).

81 (C) For purposes of subdivision (A), a vacancy in the  
82 Office of Speaker may exist by reason of the physical  
83 inability of the Speaker to discharge the duties of the  
84 office.

#### 85 Designation of Travel

86 7. The Speaker may designate a Member of the House to  
87 travel on the business of the House within or without the  
88 United States, whether the House is meeting, has  
89 recessed, or has adjourned.

#### 90 Committee Appointment

91 8. The Speaker shall appoint members to all committees  
92 ordered by the House. Upon appointment, they must be  
93 confirmed by the House with a majority vote. Members  
94 will serve the term given as described in the order from  
95 the House. The Speaker may remove Members or appoint  
96 additional Members to a Committee with approval from  
97 the House.

#### 98 Recess and Convening Authorities

99 9. (a) To suspend the business of the House for a short  
100 time when no question is pending before the House, the

101 Speaker may declare a recess subject to the call of the  
102 Chair.

103 (b)(1) To suspend the business of the House when notified  
104 of an imminent threat to its safety, the Speaker may  
105 declare an emergency recess subject to the call of the  
106 Chair.

107 (2) To suspend the business of the Committee of the  
108 Whole House when notified of an imminent threat to its  
109 safety, the chair of the Committee of the Whole may  
110 declare an emergency recess subject to the call of the  
111 Chair.

112 (c) During any recess or adjournment of not more than  
113 three days, if the Speaker is notified by the Sergeant-at-  
114 Arms of an imminent impairment of the place of  
115 reconvening at the time previously appointed, then the  
116 Speaker may—

117 (1) postpone the time for reconvening and notify Members  
118 accordingly, or

119 (2) reconvene the House before the time previously  
120 appointed solely to declare the House in recess and notify  
121 Members accordingly.

122 (d) The Speaker may convene the House in a place at the  
123 seat of government other than the House Floor if, in the  
124 opinion of the Speaker, the public interest shall warrant  
125 it.

126 (e) During any recess or adjournment of not more than  
127 three days, if in the opinion of the Speaker the public  
128 interest so warrants, then the Speaker, may reconvene  
129 the House at a time other than that previously appointed,  
130 and notify Members accordingly.

131 (f) The Speaker may name a designee for purposes of  
132 paragraphs (c), (d), and (e).

133 Rule II

134 OTHER OFFICIALS

135 Elections

136 1. There shall be elected at the commencement of each  
137 Assembly, to continue in office until their successors are  
138 chosen and qualified, a Clerk, a Sergeant-at-Arms, and a  
139 Chaplain. Each of these officers shall take an oath to  
140 support the Constitution of the House , and for the true  
141 and faithful exercise of the duties of the office to the best  
142 of the knowledge and ability of the officer, and to keep the  
143 secrets of the House. The Clerk, Sergeant-at-Arms, and  
144 Chaplain may be removed by the House or by the  
145 Speaker.

146 Clerk

147 2. (a) At the commencement of the first session of each  
148 Assembly, the Clerk shall call the Members to order and  
149 proceed to record their presence, either by call of the roll  
150 or by use of the electronic voting system. Pending the  
151 election of a Speaker or Speaker pro tempore, and in the  
152 absence of a Member acting as Speaker pro tempore, the  
153 Clerk shall preserve order and decorum and decide all  
154 questions of order, subject to appeal by a Member.

155 (b) At the commencement of every regular session of the  
156 Assembly, the Clerk shall make and cause to be delivered  
157 to each Member a list of the reports that any officer or  
158 Department is required to make to the House, citing the  
159 law or resolution in which the requirement may be  
160 contained and placing under the name of each officer the  
161 list of reports required to be made by such officer.

162 (c) The Clerk shall—

163 (1) note all questions of order, with the decisions thereon,  
164 the record of which shall be appended to the Journal of  
165 each session; and

166 (2) enter on the Journal the hour at which the House  
167 adjourns.

168 (d)(1) The Clerk shall attest and affix the seal of the  
169 House to all writs, warrants, and subpoenas issued by  
170 order of the House and certify the passage of all bills, and  
171 joint resolutions in accordance with Constitutional  
172 requirements.

173 (2) The Clerk shall examine all bills, amendments, and  
174 joint resolutions after passage by the House and, examine  
175 all bills, resolutions, and joint resolutions that have  
176 passed the House to see that they are correctly enrolled  
177 and forthwith present those bills and joint resolutions  
178 that originated in the House to the Speaker in person.

179 (e) The Clerk shall cause the calendars of the House to be  
180 created each legislative day.

181 (f) The Clerk shall deliver to any Member an extra copy of  
182 each document requested by that Member that has been  
183 printed by order of the House in which the Member  
184 served.

185 (g) The Clerk shall provide for the temporary absence or  
186 disability of the Clerk by designating an official in the  
187 Office of the Clerk to sign all papers that may require the  
188 official signature of the Clerk and to perform all other  
189 official acts that the Clerk may be required to perform  
190 under the rules and practices of the House, except such  
191 official acts as are provided for by statute. Official acts  
192 performed by the designated official shall be under the  
193 name of the Clerk. The designation shall be in writing  
194 and shall be laid before the House and entered on the  
195 Journal.

196 (h) The Clerk may receive messages from the Speaker at  
197 any time when the House is in recess or adjournment.

198 (i) The Clerk shall manage the office of a Member who has  
199 died, resigned, or been expelled.

200

201 Sergeant-at-Arms

202 3. (a) The Sergeant-at-Arms shall attend the House  
203 during its sittings and maintain order under the direction  
204 of the Speaker or other presiding officer. The Sergeant-at-  
205 Arms shall execute the commands of the House, and all  
206 processes issued by authority thereof, directed to the  
207 Sergeant-at-Arms by the Speaker.

208 (b) The Sergeant-at-Arms shall enforce strictly the rules  
209 relating to the House for the official conduct of employees  
210 of the Office of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

211 (c)(1) The Sergeant-at-Arms is authorized and directed to  
212 impose a fine against a Member for the use of an  
213 electronic device for still photography or for audio or  
214 visual recording or broadcasting and any applicable  
215 Speaker's announced policy on electronic devices.

216 (2) A fine imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall be  
217 \$200 for a first offense and \$1,000 for any subsequent  
218 offense.

219 (3)(A) The Sergeant-at-Arms shall promptly notify the  
220 Member, the Speaker, and the Committee on Ethics of  
221 any such fine.

222 (B) Such Member may appeal the fine in writing to the  
223 Committee on Ethics not later than 30 calendar days or  
224 five legislative days, whichever is later, after notification  
225 pursuant to subdivision (A).

226 (C) Upon receipt of an appeal pursuant to subdivision (B),  
227 the Committee on Ethics shall have 30 calendar days or  
228 five legislative days, whichever is later, to either dismiss  
229 the fine or allow it to proceed. Upon a determination  
230 regarding the appeal or if no appeal has been filed at the  
231 expiration of the period specified in subdivision (B), the  
232 chair of the Committee on Ethics shall promptly notify  
233 the Member, and the Speaker. The Speaker shall  
234 promptly lay such notification before the House.

235 (4) The Sergeant-at-Arms and the Committee on Ethics  
236 are authorized to establish policies and procedures for the  
237 implementation of this paragraph.

238 (d) The Committee on Ethics shall not handle any appeals  
239 in respect to violations of the House Code and any  
240 issuance of a fine under this section are not considered  
241 with respect to The Criminal Code Act and the Reform  
242 Fine Act.

243 Chaplain



244 4. The Chaplain shall offer a prayer at the commencement  
245 of each day's sitting of the House.

246 Rule III

247 THE MEMBERS

248 Voting

249 1. Every Member shall be present within the House  
250 during its sittings, unless excused or necessarily  
251 prevented, and shall vote on each question put, unless  
252 having a direct personal or pecuniary interest in the event  
253 of such question.

254 2. (a) A Member may not authorize any other person to  
255 cast the vote of such Member or record their presence of  
256 such Member in the House or the Committee of the Whole  
257 House, except in an Election for Speaker.

258 (b) No other person may cast a Member's vote or record a  
259 Member's presence in the House or the Committee of the  
260 Whole House, except in an Election for Speaker.

261 Election of Speaker

262 3. In an election for Speaker, a Member may vote proxy if  
263 a letter is originally signed by the absent Member and  
264 submitted to the Clerk with their vote for Speaker.

265 Rule IV

266 MEDIA IN THE HOUSE

267 1. The House Clerk, in consultation with the Speaker,  
268 shall prohibit the use of media in the House in accordance  
269 with Rule II.

270 (b) The Clerk shall be permitted to record audio of each  
271 session for the purposes of ensuring an accurate Journal.

272 Rule V

273 RECORDS OF THE HOUSE

274 Archiving

275 1. (a) At the end of each Assembly, the chair of each  
276 committee shall transfer to the Clerk any noncurrent

277 records of such committee, including the subcommittees  
278 thereof.

279 (b) At the end of each Assembly, each officer of the House  
280 elected under Rule II shall transfer to the Clerk any  
281 noncurrent records made or acquired in the course of the  
282 duties of such officer.

283 2. The Clerk shall deliver the records transferred under  
284 clause 1, together with any other noncurrent records of  
285 the House, for preservation with the Speaker's Office to be  
286 stored. Records so delivered are the permanent property  
287 of the House and remain subject to this rule and any  
288 order of the House.

289 Definition of Record

290 3. (a) In this rule the term "record" means any official,  
291 permanent record of the House (other than a record of an  
292 individual Member as described in paragraph (b)),  
293 including—

294 (1) with respect to a committee, an official, permanent  
295 record of the committee (including any record of a  
296 legislative, oversight, or other activity of such committee  
297 or a subcommittee thereof); and

298 (2) with respect to an officer of the House elected under  
299 Rule II, an official, permanent record made or acquired in  
300 the course of the duties of such officer.

301 (b) Records created, generated, or received by the Office of  
302 a Member in the performance of official duties are  
303 exclusively the personal property of the individual  
304 Member and such Member has control over such records.

305 Withdrawal of Papers

306 4. A memorial or other paper presented to the House may  
307 not be withdrawn from its files without its leave. If  
308 withdrawn certified copies thereof shall be left in the  
309 Office of the Clerk. When an act passes for the settlement  
310 of a claim, the Clerk may transmit to the officer charged  
311 with the settlement thereof the papers on file in the Office  
312 of the Clerk relating to such claim. The Clerk may lend  
313 temporarily to an officer or bureau of the executive

314 departments any papers on file in the Office of the Clerk  
315 relating to any matter pending before such officer or  
316 bureau, taking proper receipt therefor.

317 Rule VI

318 MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS

319 Motions

320 1. Every motion entertained by the Speaker shall be  
321 reduced to writing on the demand of a Member and,  
322 unless it is withdrawn the same day, shall be entered on  
323 the Journal with the name of the Member offering it. A  
324 dilatory motion may not be entertained by the Speaker.

325 Withdrawal

326 2. When a motion is entertained, the Speaker shall state  
327 it or cause it to be read aloud by the Clerk before it is  
328 debated. The motion then shall be in the possession of the  
329 House but may be withdrawn at any time before a  
330 decision or amendment thereon.

331 Question of Consideration

332 3. When a motion or proposition is entertained, the  
333 question, "Will the House now consider it?" may not be  
334 put unless demanded by a Member.

335 Precedence of Motions

336 4. (a) When a question is under debate, only the following  
337 motions may be entertained (which shall have precedence  
338 in the following order):

339 (1) To adjourn.

340 (2) To lay on the table.

341 (3) For the previous question.

342 (4) To postpone to a day certain.

343 (5) To refer.

344 (6) To amend.

345 (7) To postpone indefinitely.

346 (b) A motion to adjourn, to lay on the table, or for the  
347 previous question shall be decided without debate. A  
348 motion to postpone to a day certain, to refer, or to  
349 postpone indefinitely, being decided, may not be allowed  
350 again on the same day at the same stage of the question.

351 (c)(1) It shall be in order at any time for the Speaker, in  
352 the discretion of the Speaker, to entertain a motion—

353 (A) that the Speaker be authorized to declare a recess; or

354 (B) that when the House adjourns it stand adjourned to a  
355 day and time certain.

356 (2) Either motion shall be of equal privilege with the  
357 motion to adjourn and shall be decided without debate.

358 Divisibility

359 5. (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), a question  
360 shall be divided on the demand of a Member before the  
361 question is put if it includes propositions so distinct in  
362 substance that, one being taken away, a substantive  
363 proposition remains.

364 (b) (1) A motion or resolution to elect members to a  
365 standing committee of the House, or to a joint standing  
366 committee, is not divisible.

367 (2) A resolution or order reported by the Committee on  
368 Rules & Reform providing a special order of business is  
369 not divisible.

370 (c) A motion to strike and insert is not divisible, but  
371 rejection of a motion to strike does not preclude another  
372 motion to amend.

373 Amendments

374 6. When an amendable proposition is under consideration,  
375 a motion to amend and a motion to amend the  
376 amendment shall be in order, and it also shall be in order  
377 to offer a further amendment by the way of substitute for  
378 the original motion to amend, to which one amendment  
379 may be offered but which may not be voted on until the  
380 original amendment is perfected. An amendment may be  
381 withdrawn in the House at any time before a decision or

382 amendment thereon. An amendment to the title of a bill  
383 or resolution shall not be in order until after its passage  
384 or adoption and shall be decided without debate.

385 Germaneness

386 7. No motion or proposition on a subject different from  
387 that under consideration shall be admitted under color of  
388 amendment.

389 Readings

390 8. Bills and joint resolutions are subject to readings as  
391 follows:

392 (a) A first reading is in full when the bill or joint  
393 resolution is first considered.

394 (b) A second reading occurs only when a bill or joint  
395 resolution is read for amendment in a Committee of the  
396 Whole House.

397 (c) A third reading precedes passage when the Speaker  
398 states the question: "Shall the bill [or joint resolution] be  
399 engrossed [when applicable] and read a third time?" If  
400 that question is decided in the affirmative, then the bill or  
401 joint resolution shall be read the final time by title and  
402 then the question shall be put on its passage. A recorded  
403 vote is not in order for the question on third reading.

404 Rule VII

405 MOTIONS FOLLOWING THE AMENDMENT STAGE

406 Previous Question

407 1. (a) There shall be a motion for the previous question,  
408 which, being ordered, shall have the effect of cutting off  
409 all debate and bringing the House to a direct vote on the  
410 immediate question or questions on which it has been  
411 ordered. Whenever the previous question has been  
412 ordered on an otherwise debatable question on which  
413 there has been no debate, it shall be in order to debate  
414 that question for 40 minutes, equally divided and  
415 controlled by a proponent of a question and an opponent.  
416 The previous question may be moved and ordered on a  
417 single question, on a series of questions allowable under

418 the rules, or on an amendment or amendments, or may  
419 embrace all authorized motions or amendments and  
420 include the bill or resolution to its passage, adoption, or  
421 rejection.

422 (b) Incidental questions of order arising during the  
423 pendency of a motion for the previous question shall be  
424 decided, whether on appeal or otherwise, without debate.

425 (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), when the previous  
426 question is operating to adoption or passage of a measure  
427 pursuant to a special order of business, the Chair may  
428 postpone further consideration of such measure in the  
429 House to such time as may be designated by the Speaker.

#### 430 Recommit

431 2. (a) After the previous question has been ordered on  
432 passage or adoption of a measure, or pending a motion to  
433 that end, it shall be in order to move that the House  
434 recommit (or commit, as the case may be) the measure,  
435 with or without instructions, to a standing or select  
436 committee. For such a motion to recommit, the Speaker  
437 shall give preference in recognition to a Member who is  
438 opposed to the measure.

439 (b) The previous question shall be considered as ordered  
440 on any motion to recommit (or commit, as the case may  
441 be).

#### 442 Reconsideration

443 3. When a motion has been carried or lost, it shall be in  
444 order on the same or succeeding day for a Member on the  
445 prevailing side of the question to enter a motion for the  
446 reconsideration thereof. The entry of such a motion shall  
447 take precedence over all other questions except the  
448 consideration of a conference report or a motion to  
449 adjourn and may not be withdrawn after such succeeding  
450 day without consent of the House. Once entered, a motion  
451 may be called up for consideration by any Member.  
452 During the last six days of a session of the Assembly, such  
453 a motion shall be disposed of when entered.

454 4. A bill, petition, memorial, or resolution referred to a  
455 committee, or reported therefrom for printing and  
456 recommitment, may not be brought back to the House on  
457 a motion to reconsider.

458 Rule VIII

459 ORDER AND PRIORITY OF BUSINESS

460 1. The daily order of business (unless varied by the  
461 application of other rules and except for the disposition of  
462 matters of higher precedence) shall be as follows:

463 First. Prayer by the Chaplain.

464 Second. Reading and approval of the Journal, unless  
465 postponed under the Rules.

466 Third. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

467 Fourth. Correction of reference of public bills.

468 Fifth. Disposal of business on the Speaker's Table as  
469 provided in clause 2.

470 Sixth. Unfinished business as provided in clause 3.

471 Seventh. The morning hour for the consideration of bills  
472 called up by committees as provided in clause 4.

473 Eighth. Motions that the House resolve into the  
474 Committee of the Whole House on subject to clause 5.

475 Ninth. Orders of the day.

476 2. Business on the Speaker's Table shall be disposed of as  
477 follows:

478 (a) Messages from the Speaker shall be referred to the  
479 appropriate committees without debate.

480 (b) Communications addressed to the House, including  
481 reports and communications from heads of departments  
482 and bills, resolutions, and messages, may be referred to  
483 the appropriate committees in the same manner and with  
484 the same right of correction as public bills and public  
485 resolutions presented by Members.

486 (c) Motions to dispose of amendments on the Speaker's  
487 Table may be entertained.

488 3. Consideration of unfinished business in which the  
489 House may have been engaged at an adjournment, except  
490 business in the morning hour and proceedings postponed  
491 under the Rules shall be resumed as soon as the business  
492 on the Speaker's Table is finished, and at the same time  
493 each day thereafter until disposed of. The consideration of  
494 all other unfinished business shall be resumed whenever  
495 the class of business to which it belongs shall be in order  
496 under the rules.

497 4. After the unfinished business has been disposed of the  
498 Speaker shall call each standing committee in regular  
499 order and then select committees. Each committee when  
500 named may call up for consideration a bill or resolution  
501 reported by it on a previous day and on the House  
502 Calendar. If the Speaker does not complete the call of the  
503 committees before the House passes to other business, the  
504 next call shall resume at the point it left off, giving  
505 preference to the last bill or resolution under  
506 consideration. A committee that has occupied the call for  
507 two days may not call up another bill or resolution until  
508 the other committees have been called in their turn.

509 5. After consideration of bills or resolutions under clause 4  
510 for one hour, it shall be in order, pending consideration  
511 thereof, to entertain a motion that the House resolve into  
512 the Committee of the Whole House or, when authorized  
513 by a committee, that the House resolve into the  
514 Committee of the Whole House to consider a particular  
515 bill. Such a motion shall be subject to only one  
516 amendment designating another bill. If such a motion is  
517 decided in the negative, another such motion may not be  
518 considered until the matter that was pending when such  
519 motion was offered is disposed of.

520 6. All questions relating to the priority of business shall  
521 be decided by a majority without debate.

522 Rule IX

523 VOTING AND QUORUM CALLS



524 1. (a) The House shall divide after the Speaker has put a  
525 question to a vote by voice if the Speaker is in doubt or  
526 division is demanded. Those in favor of the question shall  
527 first rise or otherwise indicate from their seats and be  
528 counted, then those opposed.

529 (b) If a Member requests a recorded vote, and that request  
530 is supported by at least one other Member present, the  
531 vote shall be taken by electronic device unless the  
532 Speaker invokes another procedure for recording votes  
533 provided in this rule. A recorded vote taken in the House  
534 under this paragraph shall be considered a vote by the  
535 yeas and nays.

536 (c) In case of a tie vote, a question shall be lost.

537 2. (a) Unless the Speaker directs otherwise, the Clerk  
538 shall record vote or quorum call by electronic device. In  
539 such a case the Clerk shall enter on the Journal the  
540 names of Members recorded as voting in the affirmative,  
541 the names of Members recorded as voting in the negative,  
542 and the names of Members answering present as if they  
543 had been called in the manner provided. Except as  
544 otherwise permitted under this rule, the minimum time  
545 for a record vote or quorum call by electronic device shall  
546 be 5 minutes.

547 (b) When the electronic voting system is inoperable or is  
548 not used, the Speaker or Chair may direct the Clerk to  
549 conduct a record vote or quorum call.

550 3. The Speaker may direct the Clerk to conduct a record  
551 vote or quorum call by call of the roll. In such a case the  
552 Clerk shall call the names of Members. After the roll has  
553 been called once, the Clerk shall call the names of those  
554 not recorded. Members appearing after the second call,  
555 but before the result is announced, may vote or announce  
556 a pair.

557 4. (a) Absentees shall be noted, but the doors may not be  
558 closed except when ordered by the Speaker.

559 (b) On the demand of a Member, or at the suggestion of  
560 the Speaker, the names of Members sufficient to make a  
561 quorum who do not vote shall be noted by the Clerk,

562 entered on the Journal, reported to the Speaker with the  
563 names of the Members voting, and be counted and  
564 announced in determining the presence of a quorum to do  
565 business.

566 5. (a) In the absence of a quorum, a majority comprising  
567 at least 3 Members, which may include the Speaker, may  
568 compel the attendance of absent Members.

569 (b) The Sergeant-at-Arms may be ordered to send officers  
570 appointed by the Sergeant-at-Arms to arrest those  
571 Members for whom no sufficient excuse is made and shall  
572 secure and retain their attendance. The House shall  
573 determine on what condition they shall be discharged.  
574 Unless the House otherwise directions, the Members who  
575 voluntarily appear shall be admitted immediately and  
576 shall report their names to the Clerk to be entered on the  
577 Journal as present.

578 (c)(1) If the House should be without a quorum due to  
579 catastrophic circumstances, then—

580 (A) until there appear in the House a sufficient number of  
581 Members to constitute a quorum among the whole  
582 number of the House shall be determined based upon the  
583 provisional number of the House; and

584 (B) the provisional number of the House, as of the close of  
585 the call of the House, shall be the number of Members  
586 responding to that call of the House.

587 (2) If a Member counted in determining the provisional  
588 number of the House thereafter ceases to be a Member, or  
589 if a Member not counted in determining the provisional  
590 number of the House thereafter appears in the House, the  
591 provisional number of the House shall be adjusted  
592 accordingly.

593 (3) The House shall be considered without a quorum due  
594 to catastrophic circumstances if after a motion has been  
595 disposed of and without intervening adjournment, each of  
596 the following occurs in the stated sequence:

597 (A) A call of the House (or a series of calls of the House) is  
598 closed after aggregating a period in excess of 72 hours

599 (excluding time the House is in recess) without producing  
600 a quorum.

601 (B) The Speaker—

602 (i) receives from the Sergeant-at-Arms (or a designee) a  
603 catastrophic quorum failure report;

604 (ii) consults with leadership on the content of that report;  
605 and

606 (iii) announces the content of that report to the House.

607 (C) A further call of the House (or a series of calls of the  
608 House) is closed after aggregating a period in excess of 24  
609 hours (excluding time the House is in recess) without  
610 producing a quorum.

611 (4)(A) A catastrophic quorum failure report is a report  
612 advising that the inability of the House to establish a  
613 quorum is attributable to catastrophic circumstances  
614 involving natural disaster, attack, contagion, or similar  
615 calamity rendering Members incapable of attending the  
616 proceedings of the House.

617 (B) Such report shall specify the following:

618 (i) The number of vacancies in the House and their  
619 respective names;

620 (ii) The names of Members considered incapacitated;

621 (iii) The names of Members not incapacitated but  
622 otherwise incapable of attending the proceedings of the  
623 House; and

624 (iv) The names of Members unaccounted for.

625 (C) Such report shall be prepared on the basis of the most  
626 authoritative information available after consultation  
627 with the Health Advisor of the House and the Clerk (or  
628 their respective designees) and pertinent public health  
629 and law enforcement officials.

630 (D) Such report shall be updated every legislative day for  
631 the duration of any proceedings under or in reliance on  
632 this paragraph. The Speaker shall make such updates  
633 available to the House.

634 (5) An announcement by the Speaker under (3)(B)(iii)  
635 shall not be subject to appeal.

636 (6) Subparagraph (1) does not apply to a proposal to  
637 create a vacancy in the representation from any Member  
638 not incapacitated but otherwise incapable of attending the  
639 proceedings of the House.

640 (7) For the purposes of this paragraph:

641 (A) The term “provisional number of the House” means  
642 the number of Members upon which a quorum will be  
643 computed in the House of Commons sufficient in number  
644 to constitute a quorum among the whole number of the  
645 House appear in the House.

646 (B) The term “whole number of the House” means the  
647 number of Members chosen, sworn, and living whose  
648 membership has not been terminated by resignation or by  
649 the action of the House.

650 (d) Upon the death, resignation, expulsion,  
651 disqualification, removal, or swearing of a Member, the  
652 whole number of the House shall be adjusted accordingly.  
653 The Speaker shall announce the adjustment to the House.  
654 Such an announcement shall not be subject to appeal. In  
655 the case of a death, the Speaker may lay before the House  
656 such documentation from officials as the Speaker deems  
657 pertinent.

658 6. (a) When a quorum fails to vote on a question, a  
659 quorum is not present, and objection is made for that  
660 cause (unless the House shall adjourn)—

661 (1) there shall be a call of the House;

662 (2) the Sergeant-at-Arms shall proceed forthwith to bring  
663 in absent Members; and

664 (3) the yeas and nays on the pending question shall at the  
665 same time be considered as ordered.

666 (b) The Clerk shall record Members by the yeas and nays  
667 on the pending question, using such procedure as the  
668 Speaker may invoke under the Rules. Each member  
669 arrested under this clause shall be brought by the

670 Sergeant-at-Arms before the House, whereupon the  
671 Member shall be noted as present, discharged from arrest,  
672 and given an opportunity to vote; and such vote shall be  
673 recorded. If those voting on the question and those who  
674 are present and decline to vote together to make a  
675 majority of the House, the Speaker shall declare that a  
676 quorum is constituted, and the pending question shall be  
677 decided as the requisite majority of those voting shall  
678 have determined. Thereupon further proceedings under  
679 the call shall be considered as dispensed with.

680 (c) At any time after Members have had the requisite  
681 opportunity to respond by the yeas and nays ordered  
682 under this clause, but before a result has been announced,  
683 a motion that the House adjourn shall be in order if  
684 seconded by another member. If the House adjourns on  
685 such a motion, all proceedings under this clause shall be  
686 considered as vacated.

687 7. (a) The Speaker may not entertain a point of order that  
688 a quorum is not present unless a question has been put to  
689 a vote.

690 (b) Subject to paragraph (c) the Speaker may recognize a  
691 Member to move a call of the House at any time. When a  
692 quorum is established pursuant to a call of the House,  
693 further proceedings under the call shall be considered as  
694 dispensed with unless the Speaker recognizes for a motion  
695 to compel attendance of Members.

696 (c) A call of the House shall not be in order after the  
697 previous question is ordered unless the Speaker  
698 determines by actual count that a quorum is not present.

699 Postponement of Proceedings

700 8. (a)(1) When a recorded vote is ordered, or the yeas and  
701 nays are ordered, or a vote is objected to—

702 (A) on any of the questions specified in subparagraph (2),  
703 the Speaker may postpone further proceedings to a  
704 designed place in the legislative schedule within two  
705 additional legislative days; and

706 (B) on the question of agreeing to the Speaker's approval  
707 of the Journal, the Speaker may postpone further  
708 proceedings to a designated place in the legislative  
709 schedule on that legislative day.

710 (2) The questions described in subparagraph (1) are as  
711 follows:

712 (A) The question of passing a bill or joint resolution;

713 (B) The question of adoption a resolution;

714 (C) The question of agreeing to a motion to instruct  
715 managers;

716 (D) The question of agreeing to a conference report;

717 (E) The question of adopting a motion to recommit;

718 (F) The question of adopting a motion to concur;

719 (G) The question of agreeing to an amendment;

720 (H) The question of ordering the previous question on a  
721 question described in subdivisions (A) through (G);

722 (I) The question of agreeing to a motion to suspend the  
723 rules; and

724 (J) The question of agreeing to a motion to reconsider or  
725 the question of agreeing to a motion to lay on the table a  
726 motion to reconsider.

727 (b) At a time designated by the Speaker for further  
728 proceedings on questions postponed under paragraph (a),  
729 the Speaker shall resume proceedings on each postponed  
730 question.

731 (c) If the House adjourns on a legislative day designated  
732 for further proceedings on questions postponed under this  
733 clause without disposing of such questions, then on the  
734 next legislative day the unfinished business is the  
735 disposition of such questions.

736 Shorten Voting Times

737 9. (a) The Speaker may reduce the minimum time for  
738 electronic voting on any question that follows another

739 electronic vote or a report from the Committee on the  
740 Whole, if in the discretion of the Speaker, Members would  
741 be afforded an adequate opportunity to vote.

742 (b) To the maximum extent practicable, notice of possible  
743 shorten vote for a given series of votes shall be issued  
744 prior to the first electronic vote in the series.

745 Automatic Yeas and Nays

746 10. The yeas and nays shall be considered as ordered  
747 when the Speaker puts the question on passage of a bill or  
748 joint resolution, or on the adoption of a conference report,  
749 making general appropriations, or on final adoption of a  
750 concurrent resolution on the budget or conference report  
751 thereon.

752 Ballot Votes

753 11. In a case of ballot for election, a majority of the votes  
754 shall be necessary to an election. When there is not such a  
755 majority on the first ballot, the process shall be repeated  
756 until a majority is obtained. In all balloting blanks shall  
757 be rejected, may not be counted in the enumeration of  
758 votes, and may not be reported by the Clerk.

759 Rule X

760 DECORUM AND DEBATE

761 Decorum

762 1. (a) A Member who desires to speak or deliver a matter  
763 to the House shall respectfully address the Speaker and,  
764 on being recognized, may address the House from any  
765 place on the floor. When invited by the Chair, a Member  
766 may speak from the Chair's desk.

767 (b) Remarks in debate (which may include its Members)  
768 shall be confined to the question under debate, avoiding  
769 personality.

770 Recognition

771 2. When two or more Members seek recognition, the  
772 Speaker shall name the Member who is first to  
773 speak. A Member may not occupy more than one hour in

774 debate on a question in the House or in the Committee of  
775 the Whole House except as otherwise provided in this  
776 Rule.

777 Managing Debate

778 3. (a) The Member who calls up a measure may open and  
779 close debate thereon. When general debate extends  
780 beyond one day, that Member shall be entitled to one hour  
781 to close without regard to the time used in opening.

782 (b) Except as provided in paragraph (a), a Member may  
783 not speak more than once to the same question without  
784 leave of the House.

785 (c) A manager of a measure who opposed an amendment  
786 thereto is entitled to close controlled debate thereon.

787 Call to Order

788 4. (a) If a Member, in speaking or otherwise, transgressed  
789 the Rules of the House, the Speaker shall, or a Member  
790 may, call to order the offending Member, who shall  
791 immediately sit down and suspend talking unless  
792 permitted on motion of another Member to explain. If a  
793 Member is called to order, the Member making the call to  
794 order shall indicate the words excepted to, which shall be  
795 taken down in writing at the Clerk's desk and read aloud  
796 to the House.

797 (b) The Speaker shall decide the validity of a call to order.  
798 The House, if appealed to, shall decide the question  
799 without debate. If the decision is in favor of the Member  
800 called to order, the Member shall be at liberty to proceed,  
801 but not otherwise. If the case required it, an offending  
802 Member shall be liable to censure or such other  
803 punishment as the House may consider proper. A Member  
804 may not be held to answer a call to order, and may not be  
805 subject to the censure of the House therefor, if further  
806 debate or other business has intervened.

807 Comportment

808 5. When a Speaker is putting a question or addressing the  
809 House, a Member may not exit the House or cross the  
810 Speaker's Desk. When a Member is speaking, a Member



811 may not pass between the person speaking and the Chair.  
812 During the session of the House, a Member may not wear  
813 non-religious headdress or hat or remain by the Clerk's  
814 desk during the call of roll or the counting of ballots. A  
815 person on the floor of the House may not smoke or use a  
816 mobile electronic device that impairs decorum. The  
817 Sergeant-at-Arms is charged with strict enforcement of  
818 this clause.

819 Exhibits

820 6. When the use of an exhibit in debate is objected to by a  
821 Member, the Chair, in the discretion of the Chair, may  
822 submit the question of its use to the House without  
823 debate.

824 External Persons

825 7. During the session of the House, it shall not be in order  
826 for a Member to bring to the attention of the House a  
827 person, either a Member or not, unless it is deemed to be  
828 an emergency.

829 House Record

830 8. (a) The House Record shall be a substantially verbatim  
831 account of remarks made during the proceedings of the  
832 House, subject only to technical, grammatical, and  
833 typographical corrections authorized by the Member  
834 making the remarks.

835 (b) Unparliamentary remarks may be deleted only by  
836 permission or order of the House.

837 (c) This clause establishes a standard of conduct.

838 Legislative Proceedings

839 9. (a) A Member may not engage in disorderly or  
840 disruptive conduct in the Chamber, including—

841 (1) intentionally obstructing or impeding the passage of  
842 others on the floor;

843 (2) the use of an exhibit to impede, disrupt, or disturb the  
844 proceedings of the House;

845 (3) the denial of legislative instruments to others seeking  
846 to engage in legislative proceedings; and

847 (4) use of electronic devices, food, facial expressions, or  
848 interrupting to disrupt proceedings.

849 (b) This clause establishes a standard of conduct.

850 Secret Sessions

851 10. When confidential communications are received, or  
852 when the Speaker or a Member informs the House that  
853 such individual has communications that such individual  
854 believes ought to be kept secret for the present, the House  
855 shall be cleared of all persons except the Members, and  
856 officers of the House for the reading of such  
857 communications, and debates and proceedings thereon,  
858 unless otherwise ordered by the House.

859 Rule XI

860 RECEPIT AND REFERRAL OF MEASURES AND  
861 MATTERS

862 Messages

863 1. Messages received from the Speaker shall be entered on  
864 the Journal and published in the House Record of the  
865 proceedings of that day.

866 Referral

867 2. (a) The Speaker shall refer each bill, resolution, or  
868 other matter that relates to a subject listed under a  
869 standing committee named in the Rules in accordance  
870 with the provisions of this clause.

871 (b) The Speaker shall refer matters under paragraph (a)  
872 in such manner as to ensure to the maximum extent  
873 feasible that each committee that has jurisdiction under  
874 the Rules over the subject matter of a provision thereof  
875 may consider such provision and report to the House  
876 thereon.

877 (c) In carrying out paragraphs (a) and (b) with respect to  
878 referral of a matter, the Speaker—

879 (1) shall designate a committee of primary jurisdiction  
880 (except where the Speaker determines that extraordinary  
881 circumstances justify review by more than one committee  
882 as though primary);

883 (2) may refer the matter to one or more additional  
884 committees for consideration in sequence, either initially  
885 or after the matter has been reported by the committee  
886 for primary jurisdiction;

887 (3) may refer portions of the matter reflecting different  
888 subjects and jurisdictions to one or more additional  
889 committees;

890 (4) may refer the matter to a special, ad hoc committee  
891 appointed by the Speaker with the approval of the House,  
892 and including members of the committees of jurisdiction,  
893 for the specific purpose of considering that matter and  
894 reporting to the House thereon;

895 (5) may subject a referral to appropriate time limitations;  
896 and

897 (6) may make such other provision as may be considered  
898 appropriate.

899 (d) A bill for the payment or adjudication of a private  
900 claim against the House may not be referred to a  
901 committee other than the Committee on the Judiciary,  
902 except by unanimous consent.

903 Petitions, Memorials, and Private Bills

904 3. If a Member has a petition, memorial, or private bill to  
905 present, the Member shall sign it, deliver it to the Clerk,  
906 and may specify the reference or disposition to be made  
907 thereof. Such petition, memorial, or private bill (except  
908 when judged by the Speaker to be obscene or insulting)  
909 shall be entered on the Journal with the name of the  
910 Member presenting it and shall be printed in the House  
911 Record.

912 4. A private bill or private resolution (including an  
913 omnibus claim or pension bill), or amendment thereto,  
914 may not be received or considered in the House if it  
915 authorizes or directs—

916 (a) the payment of money for property damages, for  
917 personal injuries or death for which suit may be  
918 instituted, or for a pension (other than to carry out a  
919 provision of law or treaty stipulation);

920 (b) the construction of a bridge across a navigable stream;  
921 or

922 (c) the correction of a military or naval record.

923 Prohibition on Commemorations

924 5. (a) A bill or resolution, or an amendment thereto, may  
925 not be introduced or considered in the House if it  
926 establishes or expresses a commemoration.

927 (b) In this clause the term “commemoration” means a  
928 remembrance, celebration, or recognition for any purpose  
929 through the designation of a specified period of time.

930 Excluded Matters

931 6. A petition, memorial, bill, or resolution excluded under  
932 this rule shall be returned to the Member from whom it  
933 was received. A petition or private bill that has been  
934 inappropriately referred may, by direction of the  
935 committee having possession of it, be properly referred in  
936 the manner originally presented. An erroneous reference  
937 of a petition or private bill under this clause does not  
938 confer jurisdiction on a committee to consider or report it.

939 Sponsorship

940 7. (a) Bills, memorials, petitions, and resolutions,  
941 endorsed with the names of Members introducing them,  
942 may be delivered to the Speaker to be referred. The titles  
943 and references of all bills, memorials, petitions,  
944 resolutions, and other documents referred under this rule  
945 shall be entered on the Journal and printed in the House  
946 Record. An erroneous reference may be corrected by the  
947 House in accordance with the Rules on any day  
948 immediately after the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by  
949 unanimous consent or motion. Such a motion shall be  
950 privileged if offered by direction of a committee to which  
951 the bill has been erroneously referred or by direction of a

952 committee claiming jurisdiction and shall be decided  
953 without debate.

954 (b)(1) The sponsor of a public bill or public resolution may  
955 name cosponsors. The name of a cosponsor added after  
956 the initial printing of a bill or resolution shall appear in  
957 the next printing of the bill or resolution on the written  
958 request of the sponsor. Such a request may be submitted  
959 to the Speaker at any time until the last committee  
960 authorized to consider and report the bill or resolution  
961 reports it to the House or is discharged from its  
962 consideration.

963 (2) The name of a cosponsor of a bill or resolution may be  
964 deleted by unanimous consent. The Speaker may  
965 entertain such a request only by the Member whose name  
966 is to be deleted or by the sponsor of the bill or resolution,  
967 and only until the last committee authorized to consider  
968 and report the bill or resolution reports it to the House or  
969 is discharged from its consideration. The Speaker may not  
970 entertain a request to delete the name of the sponsor of a  
971 bill or resolution. A deletion shall be indicated by date in  
972 the next printing of the bill or resolution.

973 (3) The addition or deletion of the name of a cosponsor of a  
974 bill or resolution shall be entered on the Journal and  
975 printed in the House Record of that day.

976 (4) A bill or resolution shall be reprinted on the written  
977 request of the sponsor. Such a request may be submitted  
978 to the Speaker only when 2 or more cosponsors have been  
979 added since the last printing of the bill or resolution.

980 (5) When a bill or resolution is introduced "by request,"  
981 those words shall be entered on the Journal and printed  
982 in the House Record.

983 (c)(1) A bill or joint resolution may not be introduced  
984 unless the sponsor submits for printing in the House  
985 Record a statement citing as specifically as practicable  
986 the power or powers granted to enact the bill or joint  
987 resolution. The statement shall appear in a portion of the  
988 Record designated for that purpose and be made publicly  
989 available in electronic form by the Clerk.

990 Rule XII

991 THE COMMITTEE ON THE WHOLE HOUSE

992 Resolving into the Committee of the Whole

993 1. Whenever the House resolves into the Committee of the  
994 Whole House, the Speaker shall leave the chair after  
995 appointing a Member as Chair to preside. In case of  
996 disturbance or disorderly conduct in the galleries or lobby,  
997 the Chair may cause the same to be cleared.

998 2. (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), the House  
999 resolves into the Committee of the Whole House by  
1000 motion. When such a motion is entertained, the Speaker  
1001 shall put the question without debate: "Shall the House  
1002 resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole House for  
1003 consideration of this matter?", naming it.

1004 (b) After the House has adopted a resolution reported by  
1005 the Committee on Rules & Reform providing a special  
1006 order of business for the consideration of a measure in the  
1007 Committee of the Whole, the Speaker may at any time,  
1008 when no question is pending before the House, declare the  
1009 House resolved into the Committee of the Whole for the  
1010 consideration of that measure without intervening  
1011 motion, unless the special order of business provides  
1012 otherwise.

1013 Measures Requiring initial Consideration in the  
1014 Committee of the Whole House

1015 3. All public bills, resolutions, or joint resolutions  
1016 involving a tax or charge on the people, raising revenue,  
1017 directly or indirectly making appropriations of money or  
1018 property or requiring such appropriations to be made,  
1019 authorizing payments out of appropriations already made,  
1020 or releasing any liability to the House for money or  
1021 property, shall be first considered in the Committee of the  
1022 Whole House. A bill, resolution, or joint resolution that  
1023 fails to comply with this clause is subject to a point of  
1024 order against its consideration.

1025 Order of Business

1026 4. (a) Subject to subparagraph (b) business on the  
1027 calendar of the Committee of the Whole House may be  
1028 taken up in regular order, or in such order as the  
1029 Committee may determine, unless the measure to be  
1030 considered was determined by the House at the time of  
1031 resolving into the Committee of the Whole.

1032 (b) Motions to resolve into the Committee of the Whole for  
1033 consideration of bills and joint resolutions making general  
1034 appropriations have precedence under this clause.

1035 Reading for Amendment

1036 5. (a) Before general debate commences on a measure in  
1037 the Committee of the Whole House, it shall be read in full.  
1038 When general debate is concluded or closed by order of the  
1039 House, the measure under consideration shall be read for  
1040 amendment. A Member who offers an amendment shall  
1041 be allowed five minutes to explain it, after which the  
1042 Member who shall first obtain the floor shall be allowed  
1043 five minutes to speak in opposition to it. There shall be no  
1044 further debate thereon, but the same privilege of debate  
1045 shall be allowed in favor of and against any amendment  
1046 that may be offered to an amendment. An amendment, or  
1047 an amendment to an amendment, may be withdrawn by  
1048 its proponent only by the unanimous consent of the  
1049 Committee of the Whole.

1050 (b) When a Member offers an amendment in the  
1051 Committee of the Whole House, the Clerk shall promptly  
1052 transmit copies of the amendment to Members. The Clerk  
1053 also shall deliver at least one copy of the amendment to  
1054 the Speaker.

1055 Quorum and Voting

1056 6. (a) A quorum of a Committee of the Whole House is 3  
1057 Members. The first time that a Committee of the Whole  
1058 finds itself without a quorum during a day, the Chair  
1059 shall invoke the procedure for a quorum call set forth in  
1060 the Rules, unless the Chair elects to invoke an alternate  
1061 procedure set forth in clause 3 or any other Rule. If a  
1062 quorum appears, the Committee of the Whole shall  
1063 continue its business. If a quorum does not appear, the

1064 Committee of the Whole shall rise, and the Chair shall  
1065 report the names of absentees to the House.

1066 (b)(1) The Chair may refuse to entertain a point of order  
1067 that a quorum is not present during general debate.

1068 (2) After a quorum has once been established on a day,  
1069 the Chair may entertain a point of order that a quorum is  
1070 not present only when the Committee of the Whole House  
1071 is operating under the five-minute rule and the Chair has  
1072 put the pending proposition to a vote.

1073 (3) Upon sustaining a point of order that a quorum is not  
1074 present, the Chair may announce that, following a regular  
1075 quorum call under paragraph (a), the minimum time for  
1076 electronic voting on the pending question shall be not less  
1077 than two minutes.

1078 (c) When ordering a quorum call in the Committee of the  
1079 Whole House, the Chair may announce an intention to  
1080 declare that a quorum is constituted at any time during  
1081 the quorum call when the Chair determines that a  
1082 quorum has appeared. If the Chair interrupts the quorum  
1083 call by declaring that a quorum is constituted,  
1084 proceedings under the quorum call shall be considered as  
1085 vacated, and the Committee of the Whole shall continue  
1086 its sitting and resume its business.

1087 (d) A quorum is not required in the Committee of the  
1088 Whole House for adoption of a motion that the Committee  
1089 rise.

1090 (e) In the Committee of the Whole House, the Chair shall  
1091 order a recorded vote on a request supported by at least 2  
1092 Members.

1093 (f) In the Committee of the Whole House, the Chair may  
1094 reduce to not less than two minutes the minimum time for  
1095 electronic voting on any or all pending amendments after  
1096 a record vote has been taken on the first pending  
1097 amendment, if in the discretion of the Chair, Members  
1098 would be afforded an adequate opportunity to vote.

1099 (g) The Chair may postpone a request for a recorded vote  
1100 on any amendment. The Chair may resume proceedings



1101 on a postponed request at any time. The Chair may  
1102 reduce to not less than two minutes the minimum time for  
1103 electronic voting—

1104 (1) on any postponed question that follows another  
1105 electronic vote, provided that the minimum time for  
1106 electronic voting on the first in any series of questions  
1107 shall be 5 minutes; or

1108 (2) on any postponed question taken after the Committee  
1109 of the Whole resumes its sitting if in the discretion of the  
1110 Chair, Members would be afforded an adequate  
1111 opportunity to vote.

1112 (h) Whenever a recorded vote on any question has been  
1113 decided by a margin within which the votes cast by the  
1114 Members have been decisive, the Committee of the Whole  
1115 shall rise and the Speaker shall put such question de novo  
1116 without intervening motion. Upon the announcement of  
1117 the vote on that question, the Committee of the Whole  
1118 shall resume its sitting without intervening motion.

1119 Dispensing with the Reading of an Amendment

1120 7. It shall be in order in the Committee of the Whole  
1121 House to move that the Committee of the Whole dispense  
1122 with the reading of an amendment that has been printed  
1123 in the bill or resolution as reported by a committee, or an  
1124 amendment that a Member has caused to be printed in  
1125 the House Record. Such a motion shall be decided without  
1126 debate.

1127 Closing Debate

1128 8. (a) Subject to paragraph (b) at any time after the  
1129 Committee of the Whole House has begun five-minute  
1130 debate on amendments to any portion of a bill or  
1131 resolution, it shall be in order to move that the Committee  
1132 of the Whole close all debate on that portion of the bill or  
1133 resolution or on the pending amendments only. Such a  
1134 motion shall be decided without debate. The adoption of  
1135 such a motion does not preclude further amendment, to be  
1136 decided without debate.

1137 (b) If the Committee of the Whole House closes debate on  
1138 any portion of a bill or resolution before there has been  
1139 debate on an amendment that a Member has caused to be  
1140 printed in the House Record at least one day before its  
1141 consideration, the Member who caused the amendment to  
1142 be printed in the Record shall be allowed five minutes to  
1143 explain it, after which the Member who shall first obtain  
1144 the floor shall be allowed five minutes to speak in  
1145 opposition to it. There shall be no further debate thereon.

1146 (c) Material submitted for printing in the House Record  
1147 under this clause shall indicate the full text of the  
1148 proposed amendment, the name of the Member proposing  
1149 it, the number of the bill or resolution to which it will be  
1150 offered, and the point in the bill or resolution or  
1151 amendment thereto where the amendment is intended to  
1152 be offered. The amendment shall appear in a portion of  
1153 the Record designated for that purpose. Amendments to a  
1154 specified measure submitted for printing in that portion of  
1155 the Record shall be numbered in the order printed.

1156 Striking the Enacting Clause

1157 9. A motion that the Committee of the Whole House rise  
1158 and report a bill or resolution to the House with the  
1159 recommendation that the enacting or resolving clause be  
1160 stricken shall have precedence of a motion to amend, and,  
1161 if carried in the House, shall constitute a rejection of the  
1162 bill or resolution. Whenever a bill or resolution is reported  
1163 from the Committee of the Whole with such adverse  
1164 recommendation and the recommendation is rejected by  
1165 the House, the bill or resolution shall stand recommitted  
1166 to the Committee of the Whole without further action by  
1167 the House. Before the question of concurrence is  
1168 submitted, it shall be in order to move that the House  
1169 refer the bill or resolution to a committee, with or without  
1170 instructions. If a bill or resolution is so referred, then  
1171 when it is again reported to the House it shall be referred  
1172 to the Committee of the Whole without debate.

1173 Applicability of Rules of the House

1174 10. The Rules of the House are the rules of the Committee  
1175 of the Whole House so far as applicable.

1176 Rule XIII

1177 CALENDARS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1178 Calendars

1179 1. (a) All business reported by committees shall be  
1180 referred to one of the following three calendars:

1181 (1) A Calendar of the Committee of the Whole House, to  
1182 which shall be referred public bills and public resolutions  
1183 raising revenue, involving a tax or charge on the people,  
1184 directly or indirectly making appropriations of money or  
1185 property or requiring such appropriations to be made,  
1186 authorizing payments out of appropriations already made,  
1187 or releasing any liability to the House for money or  
1188 property.

1189 (2) A House Calendar, to which shall be referred all public  
1190 bills and public resolutions not requiring referral to the  
1191 Calendar of the Committee of the Whole House.

1192 (3) A Private Calendar, to which shall be referred all  
1193 private bills and private resolutions.

1194 (b) There is established a Calendar of Motions to  
1195 Discharge Committees.

1196 (c) There is established a Consensus Calendar.

1197 Filing and Printing of Reports

1198 2. (a)(1) Except as provided in subparagraph (2), all  
1199 reports of committees (other than those filed from the  
1200 floor) shall be delivered to the Clerk for printing and  
1201 reference to the proper calendar under the direction of the  
1202 Speaker in accordance with clause 1. The title or subject  
1203 of each report shall be entered on the Journal and printed  
1204 in the House Record.

1205 (2) A bill or resolution reported adversely (other than  
1206 those filed as privileged) shall be laid on the table unless  
1207 a committee to which the bill or resolution was referred  
1208 requests at the time of the report its referral to an  
1209 appropriate calendar under clause 1 or unless, within  
1210 three days thereafter, a Member makes such a request.

1211 (b)(1) It shall be the duty of the chair of each committee to  
1212 report or cause to be reported promptly to the House a  
1213 measure or matter approved by the committee and to take  
1214 or cause to be taken steps necessary to bring the measure  
1215 or matter to a vote.

1216 (2) In any event, the report of a committee on a measure  
1217 that has been approved by the committee shall be filed  
1218 within seven calendar days (exclusive of days on which  
1219 the House is not in session) after the day on which a  
1220 written request for the filing of the report, signed by the  
1221 members of the committee, has been filed with the clerk  
1222 of the committee. The clerk of the committee shall  
1223 immediately notify the chair of the filing of such a  
1224 request. This subparagraph does not apply to a report of  
1225 the Committee on Rules & Reform with respect to a rule,  
1226 joint rule, or order of business of the House.

1227 (c) All supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting  
1228 views filed by one or more members of a committee shall  
1229 be included in, and shall be a part of, the report filed by  
1230 the committee with respect to a measure or matter. When  
1231 time guaranteed has expired (or, if sooner, when all  
1232 separate views have been received), the committee may  
1233 arrange to file its report with the Clerk not later than one  
1234 hour after the expiration of such time. This clause does  
1235 not preclude the immediate filing or printing of a  
1236 committee report in the absence of a timely request for  
1237 the opportunity to file supplemental, minority, additional,  
1238 or dissenting views.

1239 Content of Reports

1240 3. (a)(1) Except as provided in subparagraph (2), the  
1241 report of a committee on a measure or matter shall be  
1242 printed in a single volume that—

1243 (A) shall include all supplemental, minority, additional, or  
1244 dissenting views that have been submitted by the time of  
1245 the filing of the report; and

1246 (B) shall bear on its cover a recital that any such  
1247 supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views

1248 (and any material submitted under paragraph (c)(3)) are  
1249 included as part of the report.

1250 (2) A committee may file a supplemental report for the  
1251 correction of a technical error in its previous report on a  
1252 measure or matter. A supplemental report only correcting  
1253 errors in the depiction of record votes under paragraph (b)  
1254 may be filed under this subparagraph and shall not be  
1255 subject to the requirement in clause 4 or clause 6  
1256 concerning the availability of reports.

1257 (b) With respect to each record vote on a motion to report  
1258 a measure or matter of a public nature, and on any  
1259 amendment offered to the measure or matter, the total  
1260 number of votes cast for and against, and the names of  
1261 members voting for and against, shall be included in the  
1262 committee report. The preceding sentence does not apply  
1263 to votes taken in executive session by the Committee on  
1264 Ethics, and applies only to the maximum extent  
1265 practicable to a report by the Committee on Rules &  
1266 Reform on a rule, joint rule, or the order of business.

1267 (c) The report of a committee on a measure that has been  
1268 approved by the committee shall include, separately set  
1269 out and clearly identified, the following:

1270 (1) Oversight findings and recommendations.

1271 (2) An estimate of new budget authority shall include,  
1272 when practicable, a comparison of the total estimated  
1273 funding level for the relevant programs to the appropriate  
1274 levels under current law.

1275 (3) An estimate and comparison if timely submitted to the  
1276 committee before the filing of the report.

1277 (4) A statement of general performance goals and  
1278 objectives, including outcome-related goals and objectives,  
1279 for which the measure authorizes funding.

1280 (5) On a bill or joint resolution that establishes or  
1281 reauthorizes a program, a statement indicating whether  
1282 any such program is known to be duplicative of another  
1283 such program.

1284 (d) Each report of a committee on a public bill or public  
1285 joint resolution shall contain the following:

1286 (1)(A) An estimate by the committee of the costs that  
1287 would be incurred in carrying out the bill or joint  
1288 resolution in the fiscal year in which it is reported and in  
1289 each of the five fiscal years following that fiscal year (or  
1290 for the authorized duration of any program authorized by  
1291 the bill or joint resolution if less than five years);

1292 (B) a comparison of the estimate of costs described in  
1293 subdivision (A) made by the committee with any estimate  
1294 of such costs made by a agency and submitted to such  
1295 committee; and

1296 (C) when practicable, a comparison of the total estimated  
1297 funding level for the relevant programs with the  
1298 appropriate levels under current law.

1299 (2)(A) In subparagraph (1) the term “agency” includes any  
1300 department, agency, establishment, wholly owned  
1301 corporation, or instrumentality of the House.

1302 (B) Subparagraph (1) does not apply to the Committee on  
1303 Rules & Reform or the Committee on Ethics, and does not  
1304 apply when a cost estimate and comparison has been  
1305 included in the report under paragraph (c)(3).

1306 (e)(1) Whenever a committee reports a bill or joint  
1307 resolution proposing to repeal or amend a statute or part  
1308 thereof, it shall include in its report or in an  
1309 accompanying document (showing by appropriate  
1310 typographical devices the omissions and insertions  
1311 proposed)—

1312 (A) the entire text of each section of a statute that is  
1313 proposed to be repealed; and

1314 (B) a comparative print of each amendment to the entire  
1315 text of a section of a statute that the bill or joint  
1316 resolution proposes to make.

1317 (2) If a committee reports a bill or joint resolution  
1318 proposing to repeal or amend a statute or part thereof  
1319 with a recommendation that the bill or joint resolution be  
1320 amended, the comparative print required by

1321 subparagraph (1) shall reflect the changes in existing law  
1322 proposed to be made by the bill or joint resolution as  
1323 proposed to be amended.

1324 (f) Whenever the Committee on Rules & Reform reports a  
1325 resolution proposing to repeal or amend a standing rule of  
1326 the House, it shall include in its report or in an  
1327 accompanying document—

1328 (1) the text of any rule or part thereof that is proposed to  
1329 be repealed; and

1330 (2) a comparative print of any part of the resolution  
1331 proposing to amend the rule and of the rule or part  
1332 thereof proposed to be amended, showing by appropriate  
1333 typographical devices the omissions and insertions  
1334 proposed.

1335 Availability of Reports

1336 4. (a)(1) Except as specified in subparagraph (2), it shall  
1337 not be in order to consider in the House a measure or  
1338 matter reported by a committee until the proposed text of  
1339 each report of a committee on that measure or matter has  
1340 been available to Members for 72 hours.

1341 (2) Subparagraph (1) does not apply to—

1342 (A) a resolution providing a rule, joint rule, or order of  
1343 business reported by the Committee on Rules & Reform  
1344 considered under clause 6;

1345 (B) a resolution presenting a question of the privileges of  
1346 the House reported by any committee;

1347 (C) a measure for the declaration of an emergency; and

1348 (D) a measure providing for the disapproval of a decision,  
1349 determination, or action by a agency that would become,  
1350 or continue to be, effective unless disapproved or  
1351 otherwise invalidated by the House. In this subdivision  
1352 the term “agency” includes any department, agency,  
1353 establishment, wholly owned corporation, or  
1354 instrumentality of the House.

1355 (b) A committee that reports a measure or matter shall  
1356 make every reasonable effort to have its hearings thereon

1357 (if any) printed and available for distribution to Members  
1358 before the consideration of the measure or matter in the  
1359 House.

1360 Privileged Reports, generally

1361 5. (a) The following committees shall have leave to report  
1362 at any time on the following matters, respectively:

1363 (1) The Committee on Rules & Reform, on rules, joint  
1364 rules, and the order of business.

1365 (2) The Committee on Ethics, on resolutions  
1366 recommending action by the House with respect to a  
1367 Member as a result of an investigation by the committee  
1368 relating to the official conduct of such Member.

1369 (b) A report filed from the floor as privileged under  
1370 paragraph (a) may be called up as a privileged question  
1371 by direction of the reporting committee, subject to any  
1372 requirement concerning its availability to Members under  
1373 clause 4 or concerning the timing of its consideration  
1374 under clause 6.

1375 Privileged Reports by the Committee on Rules & Reform

1376 6. (a) A report by the Committee on Rules & Reform on a  
1377 rule, joint rule, or the order of business may not be called  
1378 up for consideration on the same day it is presented to the  
1379 House except—

1380 (1) when so determined by a vote of two-thirds of the  
1381 Members voting, a quorum being present;

1382 (2) in the case of a resolution proposing only to waive a  
1383 requirement of clause 4 concerning the availability of  
1384 reports; or

1385 (3) during the last three days of a session.

1386 (b) Pending the consideration of a report by the  
1387 Committee on Rules & Reform on a rule, joint rule, or the  
1388 order of business, the Speaker may entertain one motion  
1389 that the House adjourn but may not entertain any other  
1390 dilatory motion until the report shall have been disposed  
1391 of.



1392 (c) The Committee on Rules & Reform may not report a  
1393 rule or order that would prevent the motion to recommit a  
1394 bill or joint resolution from being made as provided,  
1395 including a motion to recommit with instructions to report  
1396 back an amendment otherwise in order.

1397 (d) The Committee on Rules & Reform shall present to the  
1398 House reports concerning rules, joint rules, and the order  
1399 of business, within three legislative days of the time when  
1400 they are ordered. If such a report is not considered  
1401 immediately, it shall be referred to the calendar. If such a  
1402 report on the calendar is not called up by the member of  
1403 the committee who filed the report within seven  
1404 legislative days, any member of the committee may call it  
1405 up as a privileged question on the day after the calendar  
1406 day on which the member announces to the House  
1407 intention to do so. The Speaker shall recognize a member  
1408 of the committee who seeks recognition for that purpose.

1409 (e) An adverse report by the Committee on Rules &  
1410 Reform on a resolution proposing a special order of  
1411 business for the consideration of a public bill or public  
1412 joint resolution may be called up as a privileged question  
1413 by a Member on the second and fourth Mondays of a  
1414 month.

1415 (f) If the House has adopted a resolution making in order  
1416 a motion to consider a bill or resolution, and such a  
1417 motion has not been offered within seven calendar days  
1418 thereafter, such a motion shall be privileged if offered by  
1419 direction of all reporting committees having initial  
1420 jurisdiction of the bill or resolution.

1421 (g) Whenever the Committee on Rules & Reform reports a  
1422 resolution providing for the consideration of a measure, it  
1423 shall to the maximum extent possible specify in the  
1424 accompanying report any waiver of a point of order  
1425 against the measure or against its consideration.

#### 1426 Resolutions of Inquiry

1427 7. A report on a resolution of inquiry addressed to the  
1428 head of an executive department may be filed from the  
1429 floor as privileged. If such a resolution is not reported to

1430 the House within 14 legislative days after its  
1431 introduction, a motion to discharge a committee from its  
1432 consideration shall be privileged.

1433 Rule XIV

1434 BUSINESS IN ORDER ON SPECIAL DAYS

1435 Suspensions

1436 1. (a) A rule may not be suspended except by a vote of  
1437 two-thirds of the Members voting, a quorum being  
1438 present. The Speaker may not entertain a motion that the  
1439 House suspend the rules except on Mondays, Tuesdays,  
1440 and Wednesdays and during the last six days of a session.

1441 (b) Pending a motion that the House suspend the rules,  
1442 the Speaker may entertain one motion that the House  
1443 adjourn but may not entertain any other motion until the  
1444 vote is taken on the suspension.

1445 (c) A motion that the House suspend the rules is  
1446 debatable for 40 minutes, one-half in favor of the motion  
1447 and one-half in opposition thereto.

1448 Discharge Motions

1449 2. (a)(1) A Member may present to the Clerk a motion in  
1450 writing to discharge—

1451 (A) a committee from consideration of a public bill or  
1452 public resolution that has been referred to it for 30  
1453 legislative days; or

1454 (B) the Committee on Rules & Reform from consideration  
1455 of a resolution that has been referred to it for seven  
1456 legislative days and that proposes a special order of  
1457 business for the consideration of a public bill or public  
1458 resolution that has been reported by a committee or has  
1459 been referred to a committee for 30 legislative days.

1460 (2) Only one motion may be presented for a bill or  
1461 resolution. A Member may not file a motion to discharge  
1462 the Committee on Rules & Reform from consideration of a  
1463 resolution providing for the consideration of more than  
1464 one public bill or public resolution or admitting or

1465 effecting a nongermane amendment to a public bill or  
1466 public resolution.

1467 (b) A motion presented under paragraph (a) shall be  
1468 placed in the custody of the Clerk, who shall arrange a  
1469 convenient place for the signatures of Members. A  
1470 signature may be withdrawn by a Member in writing at  
1471 any time before a motion is entered on the Journal. The  
1472 Clerk shall make the signatories a matter of public  
1473 record, causing the names of the Members who have  
1474 signed a discharge motion during a week to be published  
1475 in a portion of the House Record designated for that  
1476 purpose on the last legislative day of the week and  
1477 making cumulative lists of such names available each day  
1478 for public inspection in an appropriate office of the House.  
1479 The Clerk shall devise a means for making such lists  
1480 available to offices of the House and to the public in  
1481 electronic form. When a majority of the total membership  
1482 of the House shall have signed the motion, it shall be  
1483 entered on the Journal, published with the signatories  
1484 thereto in the Record, and referred to the Calendar of  
1485 Motions to Discharge Committees.

1486 (c)(1) A motion to discharge that has been on the calendar  
1487 for at least seven legislative days (except during the last  
1488 six days of a session) shall be privileged only at a time or  
1489 place, designated by the Speaker, in the legislative  
1490 schedule within two legislative days after the day on  
1491 which a Member whose signature appears thereon  
1492 announces to the House an intention to offer the motion.  
1493 When such a motion is called up, the House shall proceed  
1494 to its consideration under this paragraph without  
1495 intervening motion except one motion to adjourn.  
1496 Privileged motions to discharge shall have precedence in  
1497 the order of their entry on the Journal.

1498 (2) When a motion to discharge is called up, the bill or  
1499 resolution to which it relates shall be read by title only.  
1500 The motion is debatable for 20 minutes, one-half in favor  
1501 of the motion and one-half in opposition thereto.

1502 (d)(1) If a motion prevails to discharge the Committee on  
1503 Rules & Reform from consideration of a resolution, the

1504 House shall immediately consider the resolution, pending  
1505 which the Speaker may entertain one motion that the  
1506 House adjourn but may not entertain any other dilatory  
1507 motion until the resolution has been disposed of. If the  
1508 resolution is adopted, the House shall immediately  
1509 proceed to its execution.

1510 (2) If a motion prevails to discharge a committee from  
1511 consideration of a public bill or public resolution, a motion  
1512 that the House proceed to the immediate consideration of  
1513 such bill or resolution shall be privileged if offered by a  
1514 Member whose signature appeared on the motion to  
1515 discharge. The motion to proceed is not debatable. If the  
1516 motion to proceed is adopted, the bill or resolution shall  
1517 be considered immediately under the general rules of the  
1518 House. If unfinished before adjournment of the day on  
1519 which it is called up, the bill or resolution shall remain  
1520 the unfinished business until it is disposed of. If the  
1521 motion to proceed is rejected, the bill or resolution shall  
1522 be referred to the appropriate calendar, where it shall  
1523 have the same status as if the committee from which it  
1524 was discharged had duly reported it to the House.

1525 (e)(1) When a motion to discharge originated under this  
1526 clause has once been acted on by the House, it shall not be  
1527 in order to entertain during the same session—

1528 (A) a motion to discharge a committee from consideration  
1529 of that bill or resolution or of any other bill or resolution  
1530 that, by relating in substance to or dealing with the same  
1531 subject matter, is substantially the same; or

1532 (B) a motion to discharge the Committee on Rules &  
1533 Reform from consideration of a resolution providing a  
1534 special order of business for the consideration of that bill  
1535 or resolution or of any other bill or resolution that, by  
1536 relating in substance to or dealing with the same subject  
1537 matter, is substantially the same.

1538 (2) A motion to discharge on the Calendar of Motions to  
1539 Discharge Committees that is rendered out of order under  
1540 subparagraph (1) shall be stricken from that calendar.

1541 Adverse Report by the Committee on Rules & Reform,  
1542 second and fourth Mondays

1543 3. An adverse report by the Committee on Rules & Reform  
1544 on a resolution proposing a special order of business for  
1545 the consideration of a public bill or public joint resolution  
1546 may be called up as a privileged question by a Member on  
1547 the second and fourth Mondays of a month.

1548 Private Calendar

1549 4. (a) On the first Tuesday of a month, the Speaker shall  
1550 direct the Clerk to call the bills and resolutions on the  
1551 Private Calendar after disposal of such business on the  
1552 Speaker's Table as requires reference only. If two or more  
1553 Members object to the consideration of a bill or resolution  
1554 so called, it shall be recommitted to the committee that  
1555 reported it. No other business shall be in order before  
1556 completion of the call of the Private Calendar on this day  
1557 unless three-fourths of the Members voting, a quorum  
1558 being present, agree to a motion that the House dispense  
1559 with the call.

1560 (b)(1) On any day, after the disposal of such business on  
1561 the Speaker's Table as requires reference only, the  
1562 Speaker may direct the Clerk to call any bill or resolution  
1563 that has been on the Private Calendar for at least seven  
1564 days, but only on the second legislative day after the  
1565 legislative day on which the Speaker or a designee  
1566 announces to the House an intention to do so. Preference  
1567 shall be given to omnibus bills containing the texts of bills  
1568 or resolutions that have previously been objected to on a  
1569 call of the Private Calendar. If two or more Members  
1570 object to the consideration of a bill or resolution so called  
1571 (other than an omnibus bill), it shall be recommitted to  
1572 the committee that reported it. Three-fourths of the  
1573 Members voting, a quorum being present, may adopt a  
1574 motion that the House dispense with the call on this day.

1575 (2) Omnibus bills shall be read for amendment by  
1576 paragraph. No amendment shall be in order except to  
1577 strike or to reduce amounts of money or to provide  
1578 limitations. An item or matter stricken from an omnibus  
1579 bill may not thereafter during the same session of the

1580 House be included in an omnibus bill. Upon passage such  
1581 an omnibus bill shall be resolved into the several bills and  
1582 resolutions of which it is composed. The several bills and  
1583 resolutions, with any amendments adopted by the House,  
1584 shall be engrossed, when necessary, and otherwise  
1585 considered as passed severally by the House as distinct  
1586 bills and resolutions.

1587 (c) The Speaker may not entertain a reservation of the  
1588 right to object to the consideration of a bill or resolution  
1589 under this clause. A bill or resolution considered under  
1590 this clause shall be considered in the House as in the  
1591 Committee of the Whole. A motion to dispense with the  
1592 call of the Private Calendar under this clause shall be  
1593 privileged. Debate on such a motion shall be limited to  
1594 five minutes in support and five minutes in opposition.

1595 Calendar Call of Committees, Wednesdays

1596 5. (a) On Wednesday of each week, business shall not be  
1597 in order before completion of the call of those committees  
1598 whose chair, or other member authorized by the  
1599 committee, has announced to the House a request for such  
1600 call on the preceding legislative day.

1601 (b) A bill or resolution on either the House or the Whole  
1602 House Calendar, except bills or resolutions that are  
1603 privileged under the Rules of the House, may be called  
1604 under this clause. A bill or resolution called up from the  
1605 Whole House Calendar shall be considered in the  
1606 Committee of the Whole House without motion. General  
1607 debate on a measure considered under this clause shall be  
1608 confined to the measure and may not exceed two hours  
1609 equally divided between a proponent and an opponent.

1610 (c) This clause does not apply during the last two weeks of  
1611 a session.

1612 Consensus Calendar

1613 6. (a)(1) At least once during any week in which the House  
1614 convenes, the House shall consider a measure on the  
1615 Consensus Calendar as designated by the Speaker.

1616 (2) This paragraph does not apply before March 1 of an  
1617 odd-numbered year or after September 30 of an even-  
1618 numbered year.

1619 (b)(1) The sponsor of a measure that has accumulated at  
1620 least 2 cosponsors and has not been reported by the  
1621 committee of primary jurisdiction may present to the  
1622 Clerk a motion in writing to place that measure on the  
1623 Consensus Calendar.

1624 (2) A proper motion presented under subparagraph (1)  
1625 shall be placed in the custody of the Clerk, and shall  
1626 appear in a portion of the House Record designated for  
1627 that purpose. The Clerk shall maintain a cumulative list  
1628 of such motions, and shall make such list publicly  
1629 available in electronic form.

1630 (3) A motion presented under subparagraph (1) shall be  
1631 considered as withdrawn if the measure is reported by the  
1632 committee of primary jurisdiction prior to its placement  
1633 on the Consensus Calendar.

1634 (c) After a measure has maintained at least 2 cosponsors  
1635 for a cumulative period of 25 legislative days after the  
1636 presentation of a motion under paragraph (b)(1), the  
1637 measure shall be placed on the Consensus Calendar. Such  
1638 measure shall remain on the Consensus Calendar until it  
1639 is—

1640 (1) considered in the House; or

1641 (2) reported by the committee of primary jurisdiction.

1642 Rule XV

1643 RESPONSE TO SUBPOENAS

1644 1. (a) Members may be subpoenaed by any standing or  
1645 select Committee of the House for one of the following  
1646 purposes—

1647 (1) For a deposition for legislative purposes;

1648 (2) To produce documents for legislative purposes; or

1649 (3) To testify for legislative purposes.

1650 (b) Members can be subpoenaed for multiple purposes as  
1651 described in paragraph (a).

1652 2. Members are required to comply will all duly issued  
1653 subpoenas.

1654 3. If a Subpoena issued requires the Member not to be  
1655 able to attend the House, the Member shall, in writing,  
1656 notify the Speaker.

1657 Rule XVI

1658 ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEES

1659 Committees and their Legislative Jurisdictions

1660 1. There shall be in the House the following standing  
1661 committees, each of which shall have the jurisdiction and  
1662 related functions assigned by this clause. All bills,  
1663 resolutions, and other matters relating to subjects within  
1664 the jurisdiction of the standing committees listed in this  
1665 clause shall be referred to those committees as follows:

1666 (a) Committee on Vacation.

1667 (1) Intent on Vacation matters.

1668 (2) Vacation travel requirements.

1669 (3) Fulfill requirements outlined in The Better Vacation  
1670 Planning Act.

1671 (b) Committee on Rules & Reform.

1672 (1) Rules and joint rules (other than those relating to the  
1673 Code of Official Conduct) and the order of business of the  
1674 House.

1675 (2) Recesses and final adjournments of Assembly.

1676 (3) Reforms relating to House agencies, services, or  
1677 taxation.

1678 (4) Budgets.

1679 (5) Repeal or establishment of new House agency or  
1680 service.

1681 (6) Oversight on laws and compliance with the law.



- 1682 (7) Holidays.
- 1683 (c) Committee on Education & Health.
- 1684 (1) Welfare of the House.
- 1685 (2) Safety equipment.
- 1686 (3) Health recommendations and requirements.
- 1687 (4) Education related requirements or recommendations.
- 1688 (d) Committee on Ethics.
- 1689 (1) The Code of Official Conduct
- 1690 (e) Committee on Natural Resources.
- 1691 (1) Roadways.
- 1692 (2) Outside efforts in respect to landscaping or tree  
1693 removal.
- 1694 (3) External improvements to the land.
- 1695 (f) Committee on Food & Agriculture.
- 1696 (1) Agriculture practices and recommendations.
- 1697 (2) Food planning.
- 1698 (3) Food regulations.
- 1699 (4) Healthy eating recommendations.
- 1700
- 1701 General Oversight Responsibilities
- 1702 2. (a) The various standing committees shall have general  
1703 oversight responsibilities as provided in paragraph (b) in  
1704 order to assist the House in—
- 1705 (1) its analysis, appraisal, and evaluation of—
- 1706 (A) the application, administration, execution, and  
1707 effectiveness of laws; and
- 1708 (B) conditions and circumstances that may indicate the  
1709 necessity or desirability of enacting new or additional  
1710 legislation; and

1711 (2) its formulation, consideration, and enactment of  
1712 changes in laws, and of such additional legislation as may  
1713 be necessary or appropriate.

1714 (c)(1) In order to determine whether laws and programs  
1715 addressing subjects within the jurisdiction of a committee  
1716 are being implemented and carried out in accordance with  
1717 the intent of the House and whether they should be  
1718 continued, curtailed, or eliminated, each standing  
1719 committee shall review and study on a continuing basis—

1720 (A) the application, administration, execution, and  
1721 effectiveness of laws and programs addressing subjects  
1722 within its jurisdiction;

1723 (B) the organization and operation of House agencies and  
1724 entities having responsibilities for the administration and  
1725 execution of laws and programs addressing subjects  
1726 within its jurisdiction;

1727 (C) any conditions or circumstances that may indicate the  
1728 necessity or desirability of enacting new or additional  
1729 legislation addressing subjects within its jurisdiction  
1730 (whether or not a bill or resolution has been introduced  
1731 with respect thereto); and

1732 (D) future research and forecasting on subjects within its  
1733 jurisdiction.

1734 (d) Each standing committee shall review and study on a  
1735 continuing basis the impact or probable impact of tax  
1736 policies affecting subjects within its jurisdiction.

1737 (e)(1) Not later than March 1 of the first session of an  
1738 Assembly, the chair of each standing committee (other  
1739 than the Committee on Ethics and the Committee on  
1740 Rules & Reform) shall—

1741 (A) prepare, in consultation with the ranking member, an  
1742 oversight plan for that Assembly;

1743 (B) provide a copy of that plan to each member of the  
1744 committee for at least seven calendar days before its  
1745 submission; and

1746 (C) submit that plan (including any supplemental,  
1747 minority, additional, or dissenting views submitted by a  
1748 member of the committee) simultaneously to the  
1749 Committee on Rules and Reform.

1750 (2) In developing the plan, the chair of each committee  
1751 shall, to the maximum extent feasible—

1752 (A) consult with other committees that have jurisdiction  
1753 over the same or related laws, programs, or agencies with  
1754 the objective of ensuring maximum coordination and  
1755 cooperation among committees when conducting reviews  
1756 of such laws, programs, or agencies and include in the  
1757 plan an explanation of steps that have been or will be  
1758 taken to ensure such coordination and cooperation;

1759 (B) review specific problems with rules, regulations,  
1760 statutes, and court decisions that are ambiguous,  
1761 arbitrary, or nonsensical, or that impose severe financial  
1762 burdens on individuals;

1763 (C) give priority consideration to including in the plan the  
1764 review of those laws, programs, or agencies operating  
1765 under permanent budget authority or permanent  
1766 statutory authority;

1767 (D) have a view toward ensuring that all significant laws,  
1768 programs, or agencies within the committee's jurisdiction  
1769 are subject to review every 10 years; and

1770 (E) have a view toward insuring against duplication of  
1771 programs.

1772 (3) Not later than April 15 in the first session of a  
1773 Assembly, after consultation with the Speaker, the  
1774 Committee on Rules & Reform shall report to the House  
1775 the oversight plans submitted under subparagraph (1)  
1776 together with any recommendations that it may make to  
1777 ensure the most effective coordination of oversight plans  
1778 and otherwise to achieve the objectives of this clause.

1779 (f) The Speaker, with the approval of the House, may  
1780 appoint special ad hoc oversight committees for the  
1781 purpose of reviewing specific matters within the  
1782 jurisdiction of two or more standing committees.

1783 Additional Functions of Committees

1784 3.

1785 (a) The Committee on Rules & Reform may at any time  
1786 conduct investigations of any matter conferring  
1787 jurisdiction over the matter to another standing  
1788 committee. The findings and recommendations of the  
1789 committee in such an investigation shall be made  
1790 available to any other standing committee having  
1791 jurisdiction over the matter involved.

1792 (b)(1) The Committee on Rules & Reform may adopt a  
1793 rule authorizing and regulating the taking of depositions  
1794 by a member or counsel of the committee, including  
1795 pursuant to subpoena.

1796 (2) A rule adopted by the committee pursuant to this  
1797 subparagraph—

1798 (A) may provide that a deponent be directed to subscribe  
1799 an oath or affirmation before a person authorized by law  
1800 to administer the same; and

1801 (B) shall ensure that all members of the committee are  
1802 accorded equitable treatment with respect to notice of and  
1803 a reasonable opportunity to participate in any proceeding  
1804 conducted thereunder.

1805 (C) Information secured pursuant to the authority  
1806 described in subdivision (1) shall retain the character of  
1807 discovery until offered for admission in evidence before  
1808 the committee, at which time any proper objection shall  
1809 be timely.

1810 (c)(1) The Committee on Rules & Reform shall—

1811 (A) provide policy direction for the oversight of the Clerk,  
1812 Sergeant-at-Arms, and Chief Administrative Officer; and

1813 (B) establish and maintain standards for making  
1814 documents publicly available in electronic form by the  
1815 House and its committees.

1816 (d)(1) Each standing committee shall, in its consideration  
1817 of all public bills and public joint resolutions within its  
1818 jurisdiction, ensure that appropriations for continuing

1819 programs and activities of the House will be made  
1820 annually to the maximum extent feasible and consistent  
1821 with the nature, requirement, and objective of the  
1822 programs and activities involved. In this subparagraph  
1823 programs and activities of the House includes programs  
1824 and activities of any department, agency, establishment,  
1825 wholly owned corporation, or instrumentality of the  
1826 House.

1827 (2) Each standing committee shall review from time to  
1828 time each continuing program within its jurisdiction for  
1829 which appropriations are not made annually to ascertain  
1830 whether the program should be modified to provide for  
1831 annual appropriations.

#### 1832 Election and Membership of Standing Committees

1833 4. (a) The standing committees specified in clause 1 shall  
1834 be elected by the House within seven calendar days after  
1835 the commencement of each Assembly, from nominations  
1836 submitted by the Speaker. A resolution proposing to  
1837 change the composition of a standing committee shall be  
1838 privileged if offered by direction of a Member concerned.

1839 (b) Membership on a standing committee during the  
1840 course of an Assembly shall be contingent on a Member's  
1841 behavior and can be striped of committee assignments if  
1842 the House passes a resolution to remove such  
1843 assignments from a Member.

1844 (c) The House shall fill a vacancy on a standing committee  
1845 by an appointment by the Speaker, with the consent of  
1846 the House.

#### 1847 Rule XVII

#### 1848 PROCEDURES OF COMMITTEES AND UNFINISHED 1849 BUSINESS

#### 1850 In General

1851 1. (a)(1)(A) The Rules of the House are the rules of its  
1852 committees and subcommittees so far as applicable.

1853 (B) Each subcommittee is a part of its committee and is  
1854 subject to the authority and direction of that committee  
1855 and to its rules, so far as applicable.

1856 (2)(A) In a committee or subcommittee—

1857 (i) a motion to recess from day to day, or to recess subject  
1858 to the call of the Chair (within 24 hours), shall be  
1859 privileged; and

1860 (ii) a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a  
1861 bill or resolution shall be privileged if printed copies are  
1862 available.

1863 (B) A motion accorded privilege under this subparagraph  
1864 shall be decided without debate.

1865 (b)(1) Each committee may conduct at any time such  
1866 investigations and studies as it considers necessary or  
1867 appropriate in the exercise of its responsibilities. Subject  
1868 to the adoption of expense resolutions as required, each  
1869 committee may incur expenses, including travel expenses,  
1870 in connection with such investigations and studies.

1871 (2) A proposed investigative or oversight report shall be  
1872 considered as read in committee if it has been available to  
1873 the members for at least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays,  
1874 Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in  
1875 session on such a day).

1876 (3) A report of an investigation or study conducted jointly  
1877 by more than one committee may be filed jointly, provided  
1878 that each of the committees complies independently with  
1879 all requirements for approval and filing of the report.

1880 (4) After an adjournment sine die of the last regular  
1881 session, an investigative or oversight report may be filed  
1882 with the Clerk at any time, provided that a member who  
1883 gives timely notice of intention to file supplemental,  
1884 minority, additional, or dissenting views shall be entitled  
1885 to not less than seven calendar days in which to submit  
1886 such views for inclusion in the report.

1887 (c) Each committee may have printed and bound such  
1888 testimony and other data as may be presented at hearings  
1889 held by the committee or its subcommittees.

- 1890 (d)(1) Not later than January 2 of each odd-numbered  
1891 year, a committee shall submit to the House a report on  
1892 the activities of that committee.
- 1893 (2) Such report shall include—
- 1894 (A) separate sections summarizing the legislative and  
1895 oversight activities of that committee under this rule  
1896 during the Assembly;
- 1897 (B) a summary of the oversight plans submitted by the  
1898 committee;
- 1899 (C) a summary of the actions taken and recommendations  
1900 made with respect to the oversight plans specified in  
1901 subdivision (B);
- 1902 (D) a summary of any additional oversight activities  
1903 undertaken by that committee and any recommendations  
1904 made or actions taken thereon; and
- 1905 (E) a delineation of any hearings held pursuant to clauses  
1906 2(n), (o), or (p) of this rule.
- 1907 (3) After an adjournment sine die of the last regular  
1908 session of an Assembly, or after December 15 of an even-  
1909 numbered year, whichever occurs first, the chair of a  
1910 committee may file the report described in subparagraph  
1911 (1) with the Clerk at any time and without approval of the  
1912 committee, provided that—
- 1913 (A) a copy of the report has been available to each  
1914 member of the committee for at least seven calendar days;  
1915 and
- 1916 (B) the report includes any supplemental, minority,  
1917 additional, or dissenting views submitted by a member of  
1918 the committee.
- 1919 Adoption of Written Rules
- 1920 2. (a)(1) Each standing committee shall adopt written  
1921 rules governing its procedure. Such rules—
- 1922 (A) shall be adopted in a meeting that is open to the  
1923 public unless the committee, in open session and with a  
1924 quorum present, determines by record vote that all or

1925 part of the meeting on that day shall be closed to the  
1926 public;

1927 (B) may not be inconsistent with the Rules of the House or  
1928 with those provisions of law having the force and effect of  
1929 Rules of the House;

1930 (C) shall in any event incorporate all of the succeeding  
1931 provisions of this clause to the extent applicable; and

1932 (D) shall include provisions to govern the implementation  
1933 of clause 4 as provided in paragraph (f) of such clause.

1934 (2) Each committee shall make its rules publicly available  
1935 in electronic form and submit such rules for publication in  
1936 the House Record not later than 60 days after the chair of  
1937 the committee is elected.

1938 (3) A committee may adopt a rule providing that the chair  
1939 be directed to offer a motion whenever the chair considers  
1940 it appropriate.

1941 Regular Meeting Days

1942 (b) Each standing committee shall establish regular  
1943 meeting days for the conduct of its business, which shall  
1944 be not less frequent than monthly. Each such committee  
1945 shall meet for the consideration of a bill or resolution  
1946 pending before the committee or the transaction of other  
1947 committee business on all regular meeting days fixed by  
1948 the committee if notice is given pursuant to paragraph  
1949 (g)(3).

1950 Additional and Special Meetings

1951 (c)(1) The chair of each standing committee may call and  
1952 convene, as the chair considers necessary, additional and  
1953 special meetings of the committee for the consideration of  
1954 a bill or resolution pending before the committee or for  
1955 the conduct of other committee business, subject to such  
1956 rules as the committee may adopt. The committee shall  
1957 meet for such purpose under that call of the chair.

1958 (2) Any House Member may file in the offices of the  
1959 committee a written request that the chair call a special  
1960 meeting of the committee. Such request shall specify the



1961 measure or matter to be considered. Immediately upon  
1962 the filing of the request, the Clerk of the Committee shall  
1963 notify the chair of the filing of the request. If the chair  
1964 does not call the requested special meeting within three  
1965 calendar days after the filing of the request (to be held  
1966 within seven calendar days after the filing of the request)  
1967 the House may introduce and pass a resolution ordering  
1968 that a special meeting of the committee will be held. The  
1969 written notice shall specify the date and hour of the  
1970 special meeting and the measure or matter to be  
1971 considered. The committee shall meet on that date and  
1972 hour. Immediately upon the adoption of the resolution or  
1973 the granting the written request, the Clerk of the  
1974 Committee shall notify all members of the committee that  
1975 such special meeting will be held and inform them of its  
1976 date and hour and the measure or matter to be  
1977 considered. Such notice shall also be made publicly  
1978 available in electronic form and shall be deemed to satisfy  
1979 paragraph (g)(3)(A)(ii). Only the measure or matter  
1980 specified in that notice may be considered at that special  
1981 meeting.

1982 Temporary Absence of Chair

1983 (d) The ranking member shall serve as chair of a  
1984 committee or subcommittee upon the temporary absence  
1985 of the chair. If the chair and ranking member of a  
1986 committee or subcommittee are not present at any  
1987 meeting of the committee or subcommittee, the Speaker  
1988 shall preside at that meeting.

1989 Committee Records

1990 (e)(1)(A) Each committee shall keep a complete record of  
1991 all committee action which shall include—

1992 (i) in the case of a meeting or hearing transcript, a  
1993 substantially verbatim account of remarks actually made  
1994 during the proceedings, subject only to technical,  
1995 grammatical, and typographical corrections authorized by  
1996 the person making the remarks involved; and

1997 (ii) a record of the votes on any question on which a record  
1998 vote is taken.

1999 (B)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (B)(ii) and subject  
2000 to paragraph (k)(7), the result of each such record vote  
2001 shall be made available by the committee for inspection  
2002 by the public at reasonable times in its offices and also  
2003 made publicly available in electronic form within 48 hours  
2004 of such record vote. Information so available shall include  
2005 a description of the amendment, motion, order, or other  
2006 proposition, the name of each member voting for and each  
2007 member voting against such amendment, motion, order,  
2008 or proposition, and the names of those members of the  
2009 committee present but not voting.

2010 (ii) The result of any record vote taken in executive  
2011 session in the Committee on Ethics may not be made  
2012 available for inspection by the public without an  
2013 affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the  
2014 committee.

2015 (2)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (B), all committee  
2016 records (including hearings, data, charts, and files) shall  
2017 be kept separate and distinct from the office records of the  
2018 Member serving as its chair. Such records shall be the  
2019 property of the House, and each Member shall have access  
2020 thereto.

2021 (B) A Member, other than members of the Committee on  
2022 Ethics, may not have access to the records of that  
2023 committee respecting the conduct of a Member without  
2024 the specific prior permission of that committee.

2025 (3) Each committee shall include in its rules standards for  
2026 availability of records of the committee delivered to the  
2027 Clerk. Such standards shall specify procedures for orders  
2028 of the committee, including a requirement that  
2029 nonavailability of a record for a period longer than the  
2030 period otherwise applicable under that rule shall be  
2031 approved by vote of the committee.

2032 (4) Each committee shall make its publications available  
2033 in electronic form to the maximum extent feasible.

2034 (5) To the maximum extent practicable, each committee  
2035 shall—

2036 (A) provide audio coverage of each hearing or meeting for  
2037 the transaction of business in a manner that allows the  
2038 public to easily listen to and view the proceedings; and

2039 (B) maintain the recordings of such coverage in a manner  
2040 that is easily accessible to the public.

2041 (6) Not later than 24 hours after the adoption of any  
2042 amendment to a measure or matter considered by a  
2043 committee, the chair of such committee shall cause the  
2044 text of each such amendment to be made publicly  
2045 available in electronic form.

2046 Prohibition Against Proxy Voting

2047 (f) A vote by a member of a committee or subcommittee  
2048 with respect to any measure or matter may not be cast by  
2049 proxy.

2050 Open Meetings and Hearings

2051 (g)(1) Each meeting for the transaction of business,  
2052 including the markup of legislation, by a standing  
2053 committee or subcommittee thereof (other than the  
2054 Committee on Ethics or its subcommittees) shall be open  
2055 to the public, including still photography coverage, except  
2056 when the committee or subcommittee, in open session and  
2057 with a majority present, determines by record vote that  
2058 all or part of the remainder of the meeting on that day  
2059 shall be in executive session because disclosure of matters  
2060 to be considered would endanger security, would  
2061 compromise sensitive law enforcement information, would  
2062 tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or  
2063 otherwise would violate a law or rule of the House.  
2064 Persons, other than members of the committee and such  
2065 noncommittee Members, may not be present at a business  
2066 or markup session that is held in executive session. This  
2067 subparagraph does not apply to open committee hearings,  
2068 which are governed by subparagraph (2).

2069 (2)(A) Each hearing conducted by a committee or  
2070 subcommittee (other than the Committee on Ethics or its  
2071 subcommittees) shall be open to the public, including still  
2072 photography coverage, except when the committee or  
2073 subcommittee, in open session and with a majority

2074 present, determines by record vote that all or part of the  
2075 remainder of that hearing on that day shall be closed to  
2076 the public because disclosure of testimony, evidence, or  
2077 other matters to be considered would endanger security,  
2078 would compromise sensitive law enforcement information,  
2079 or would violate a law or rule of the House.

2080 (B) Notwithstanding the requirements of subdivision (A),  
2081 in the presence of the number of members required under  
2082 the rules of the committee for the purpose of taking  
2083 testimony, a majority of those present may—

2084 (i) agree to close the hearing for the sole purpose of  
2085 discussing whether testimony or evidence to be received  
2086 would endanger security, would compromise sensitive law  
2087 enforcement information, or would violate clause 2(k)(5);  
2088 or

2089 (ii) agree to close the hearing as provided in clause 2(k)(5).

2090 (C) A Member may not be excluded from nonparticipatory  
2091 attendance at a hearing of a committee or subcommittee  
2092 (other than the Committee on Ethics or its  
2093 subcommittees) unless the House by majority vote  
2094 authorizes a particular committee or subcommittee, for  
2095 purposes of a particular series of hearings on a particular  
2096 article of legislation or on a particular subject of  
2097 investigation, to close its hearings to Members by the  
2098 same procedures specified in this subparagraph for  
2099 closing hearings to the public.

2100 (D) The committee or subcommittee may vote by the same  
2101 procedure described in this subparagraph to close one  
2102 subsequent day of hearing may vote by the same  
2103 procedure to close up to five additional, consecutive days  
2104 of hearings.

2105 (3)(A) The chair of a committee shall announce the date,  
2106 place, and subject matter of—

2107 (i) a committee hearing, which may not commence earlier  
2108 than one week after such notice; or

2109 (ii) a committee meeting, which may not commence  
2110 earlier than the third calendar day (excluding Saturdays,

2111 Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in  
2112 session on such a day) on which members have notice  
2113 thereof.

2114 (B) A hearing or meeting may begin sooner than specified  
2115 in subdivision (A) in either of the following circumstances  
2116 (in which case the chair shall make the announcement  
2117 specified in subdivision (A) at the earliest possible time):

2118 (i) the chair of the committee, with the concurrence of the  
2119 ranking member, determines that there is good cause; or

2120 (ii) the committee so determines by majority vote in the  
2121 presence of the number of Members required under the  
2122 rules of the committee for the transaction of business.

2123 (C) An announcement made under this subparagraph  
2124 shall be published promptly in the Record and made  
2125 publicly available in electronic form.

2126 (D) This subparagraph and subparagraph (4) shall not  
2127 apply to the Committee on Rules & Reform.

2128 (4) At least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a  
2129 meeting for the markup of legislation, or at the time of an  
2130 announcement under subparagraph (3)(B) made within 24  
2131 hours before such meeting, the chair of the committee  
2132 shall cause the text of such legislation to be made publicly  
2133 available in electronic form.

2134 (5)(A) Each committee shall, to the greatest extent  
2135 practicable, require witnesses who appear before it to  
2136 submit in advance written statements of proposed  
2137 testimony and to limit their initial presentations to the  
2138 committee to brief summaries thereof.

2139 (B) In the case of a witness appearing in a  
2140 nongovernmental capacity, a written statement of  
2141 proposed testimony shall include a curriculum vitae.

2142 (C) Such statements, with appropriate redactions to  
2143 protect the privacy or security of the witness, shall be  
2144 made publicly available in electronic form not later than  
2145 one day after the witness appears.

2146 (6)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (B), a point of  
2147 order does not lie with respect to a measure reported by a  
2148 committee on the ground that hearings on such measure  
2149 were not conducted in accordance with this clause.

2150 (B) A point of order on the ground described in  
2151 subdivision (A) may be made by a member of the  
2152 committee that reported the measure if such point of  
2153 order was timely made and improperly disposed of in the  
2154 committee.

2155 Quorum Requirements

2156 (h)(1) A measure or recommendation may not be reported  
2157 by a committee unless the Chair and Ranking Member of  
2158 the committee is actually present.

2159 (2) Each committee may fix the number of its members to  
2160 constitute a quorum for taking testimony and receiving  
2161 evidence, which may not be less than two.

2162 (3) Each committee may fix the number of its members to  
2163 constitute a quorum for taking any action other than one  
2164 for which the presence of a majority of the committee is  
2165 otherwise required, which may not be less than one-third  
2166 of the members.

2167 (4)(A) Each committee may adopt a rule authorizing the  
2168 chair of a committee or subcommittee—

2169 (i) to postpone further proceedings when a record vote is  
2170 ordered on the question of approving a measure or matter  
2171 or on adopting an amendment; and

2172 (ii) to resume proceedings on a postponed question at any  
2173 time after reasonable notice.

2174 (B) A rule adopted pursuant to this subparagraph shall  
2175 provide that when proceedings resume on a postponed  
2176 question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the  
2177 previous question, an underlying proposition shall remain  
2178 subject to further debate or amendment to the same  
2179 extent as when the question was postponed.

2180 Calling and Questioning of Witnesses

2181 (i)(1) Whenever a hearing is conducted by a committee on  
2182 a measure or matter, the minority member of the  
2183 committee shall be entitled, upon request to the chair  
2184 before the completion of the hearing, to call witnesses  
2185 selected by the minority to testify with respect to that  
2186 measure or matter during at least one day of hearing  
2187 thereon.

2188 (2)(A) Subject to subdivisions (B) and (C), each committee  
2189 shall apply the five-minute rule during the questioning of  
2190 witnesses in a hearing until such time as each member of  
2191 the committee who so desires has had an opportunity to  
2192 question each witness.

2193 (B) A committee may adopt a rule or motion permitting a  
2194 specified number of its members to question a witness for  
2195 longer than five minutes. The time for extended  
2196 questioning of a witness under this subdivision shall be  
2197 equal for the majority party and the minority party and  
2198 may not exceed one hour in the aggregate.

2199 Hearing Procedures

2200 (j)(1) The chair at a hearing shall announce in an opening  
2201 statement the subject of the hearing.

2202 (2) A copy of the committee rules and of this clause shall  
2203 be made available to each witness on request.

2204 (3) Witnesses at hearings may be accompanied by their  
2205 own counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning  
2206 their constitutional rights.

2207 (4) The chair may punish breaches of order and decorum,  
2208 and of professional ethics, by censure and exclusion from  
2209 the hearings; and the committee may cite the offender to  
2210 the House for contempt.

2211 (5) Whenever it is asserted by a member of the committee  
2212 that the evidence or testimony at a hearing may tend to  
2213 defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or it is  
2214 asserted by a witness that the evidence or testimony that  
2215 the witness would give at a hearing may tend to defame,  
2216 degrade, or incriminate the witness—

2217 (A) notwithstanding paragraph (g)(2), such testimony or  
2218 evidence shall be presented in executive session if, in the  
2219 presence of the number of members required under the  
2220 rules of the committee for the purpose of taking  
2221 testimony, the committee determines by vote of a majority  
2222 of those present that such evidence or testimony may tend  
2223 to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person; and

2224 (B) the committee shall proceed to receive such testimony  
2225 in open session only if the committee, a majority being  
2226 present, determines that such evidence or testimony will  
2227 not tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

2228 In either case the committee shall afford such person an  
2229 opportunity voluntarily to appear as a witness, and  
2230 receive and dispose of requests from such person to  
2231 subpoena additional witnesses.

2232 (6) Except as provided in subparagraph (5), the chair shall  
2233 receive and the committee shall dispose of requests to  
2234 subpoena additional witnesses.

2235 (7) Evidence or testimony taken in executive session, and  
2236 proceedings conducted in executive session, may be  
2237 released or used in public sessions only when authorized  
2238 by the committee, a majority being present.

2239 (8) In the discretion of the committee, witnesses may  
2240 submit brief and pertinent sworn statements in writing  
2241 for inclusion in the record. The committee is the sole  
2242 judge of the pertinence of testimony and evidence adduced  
2243 at its hearing.

2244 (9) A witness may obtain a transcript copy of the  
2245 testimony of such witness given at a public session or, if  
2246 given at an executive session, when authorized by the  
2247 committee.

2248 Supplemental, Minority, Additional, or Dissenting Views

2249 (k) If at the time of approval of a measure or matter by a  
2250 committee (other than the Committee on Rules & Reform)  
2251 a member of the committee gives notice of intention to file  
2252 supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views  
2253 for inclusion in the report to the House thereon, all



2254 members shall be entitled to not less than two additional  
2255 calendar days after the day of such notice (excluding  
2256 Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays except when the  
2257 House is in session on such a day) to file such written and  
2258 signed views with the Clerk of the Committee.

2259 Power to Sit and Act; Subpoena Power

2260 (l)(1) For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions  
2261 and duties under this rule, a committee or subcommittee  
2262 is authorized (subject to subparagraph (3)(A))—

2263 (A) to sit and act at such times and places within the  
2264 United States, whether the House is in session, has  
2265 recessed, or has adjourned, and to hold such hearings as it  
2266 considers necessary; and

2267 (B) to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance  
2268 and testimony of such witnesses and the production of  
2269 such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers,  
2270 and documents as it considers necessary.

2271 (2) The chair of the committee may administer oaths to  
2272 witnesses.

2273 (3)(A)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (A)(ii), a  
2274 subpoena may be authorized and issued by a committee or  
2275 subcommittee under subparagraph (1)(B) in the conduct  
2276 of an investigation or series of investigations or activities  
2277 only when authorized by the committee or subcommittee,  
2278 all Members of the committee being present. Authorized  
2279 subpoenas shall be signed by the chair of the committee  
2280 and attested by the Speaker.

2281 (ii) In the case of a subcommittee of the Committee on  
2282 Ethics, a subpoena may be authorized and issued only by  
2283 an affirmative vote of a majority of its members.

2284 (B) A subpoena duces tecum may specify terms of return  
2285 other than at a meeting or hearing of the committee or  
2286 subcommittee authorizing the subpoena.

2287 (C) Compliance with a subpoena issued by a committee or  
2288 subcommittee under subparagraph (1)(B) may be enforced  
2289 only as authorized or directed by the House.

2290 (m)(1) Each standing committee, or a subcommittee  
2291 thereof, shall hold at least one hearing during each 120-  
2292 day period following the establishment of the committee  
2293 on the topic of waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement in  
2294 programs which that committee may authorize.

2295 (2) A hearing described in subparagraph (1) shall include  
2296 a focus on the most egregious instances of waste, fraud,  
2297 abuse, or mismanagement as documented by any report  
2298 the committee has received.

2299 (n) Each committee, or a subcommittee thereof, shall hold  
2300 at least one hearing in any session in which the  
2301 committee has received disclaimers of agency financial  
2302 statements from auditors of any House agency that the  
2303 committee may authorize to hear testimony on such  
2304 disclaimers from representatives of any such agency.

2305 (o) Each standing committee, or a subcommittee thereof,  
2306 shall hold at least one hearing on issues raised by  
2307 indicating that programs or operations that the  
2308 committee may authorize are at high risk for waste,  
2309 fraud, and mismanagement, known as the “high-risk list”  
2310 or the “high-risk series.”

2311 Committee on Ethics

2312 3. (a) The Committee on Ethics has the following  
2313 functions:

2314 (1) The committee may recommend to the House from  
2315 time to time such administrative actions as it may  
2316 consider appropriate to establish or enforce standards of  
2317 official conduct for Members. A letter of reproof or other  
2318 administrative action of the committee pursuant to an  
2319 investigation under subparagraph (2) shall only be issued  
2320 or implemented as a part of a report required by such  
2321 subparagraph.

2322 (2) The committee may investigate, subject to paragraph  
2323 (b), an alleged violation by a Member of the Code of  
2324 Official Conduct or a rule, regulation, or other standard of  
2325 conduct applicable to the conduct of such Member in the  
2326 performance of the duties or the discharge of the  
2327 responsibilities of such individual. After notice and

2328 hearing (unless the right to a hearing is waived by the  
2329 Member), the committee shall report to the House its  
2330 findings of fact and recommendations, if any, for the final  
2331 disposition of any such investigation and such action as  
2332 the committee may consider appropriate in the  
2333 circumstances.

2334 (3) The committee may consider the request of a Member  
2335 for an advisory opinion with respect to the general  
2336 propriety of any current or proposed conduct of such  
2337 Member. With appropriate deletions to ensure the privacy  
2338 of the person concerned, the committee may publish such  
2339 opinion for the guidance of other Members.

2340 (4) The committee may consider the request of a Member  
2341 for a written waiver in exceptional circumstances.

2342 (b)(1)(A) Unless approved by an affirmative vote of a  
2343 majority of its members, the Committee on Ethics may  
2344 not report a resolution, report, recommendation, or  
2345 advisory opinion relating to the official conduct of a  
2346 Member, or, except as provided in subparagraph (2),  
2347 undertake an investigation of such conduct.

2348 (B)(i) Upon the receipt of information offered as a  
2349 complaint that is in compliance with this rule and the  
2350 rules of the committee, the chair and ranking member  
2351 jointly may appoint members to serve as an investigative  
2352 subcommittee.

2353 (ii) The chair and ranking member of the committee  
2354 jointly may gather additional information concerning  
2355 alleged conduct that is the basis of a complaint or of  
2356 information offered as a complaint until they have  
2357 established an investigative subcommittee or either of  
2358 them has placed on the agenda of the committee the issue  
2359 of whether to establish an investigative subcommittee.

2360 (2) Except in the case of an investigation undertaken by  
2361 the committee on its own initiative, the committee may  
2362 undertake an investigation relating to the official conduct  
2363 of an individual Member only—

2364 (A) upon receipt of information offered as a complaint, in  
2365 writing and under oath, from a Member and transmitted  
2366 to the committee by such Member; or

2367 (B) upon receipt of information offered as a complaint, in  
2368 writing and under oath, from a person not a Member  
2369 provided that a Member certifies in writing to the  
2370 committee that such Member believes the information is  
2371 submitted in good faith and warrants the review and  
2372 consideration of the committee.

2373 If a complaint is not disposed of within the applicable  
2374 periods set forth in the rules of the Committee on Ethics,  
2375 the chair and ranking member shall establish jointly an  
2376 investigative subcommittee and forward the complaint, or  
2377 any portion thereof, to that subcommittee for its  
2378 consideration. However, if at any time during those  
2379 periods either the chair or ranking member places on the  
2380 agenda the issue of whether to establish an investigative  
2381 subcommittee, then an investigative subcommittee may  
2382 be established only by an affirmative vote of a majority of  
2383 the members of the committee.

2384 (3) The committee may not undertake an investigation of  
2385 an alleged violation of a rule, regulation, or standard of  
2386 conduct that was not in effect at the time of the alleged  
2387 violation. The committee may not undertake an  
2388 investigation of such an alleged violation that occurred  
2389 before the third previous Assembly unless the committee  
2390 determines that the alleged violation is directly related to  
2391 an alleged violation that occurred in a more recent  
2392 Assembly.

2393 (4) A member of the committee shall be ineligible to  
2394 participate as a member of the committee in a committee  
2395 proceeding relating to the member's official conduct.  
2396 Whenever a member of the committee is ineligible to act  
2397 as a member of the committee under the preceding  
2398 sentence, the Speaker shall designate a Member as the  
2399 ineligible member to act in any proceeding of the  
2400 committee relating to that conduct.

2401 (5) A member of the committee may seek disqualification  
2402 from participating in an investigation of the conduct of a

2403 Member upon the submission in writing and under oath of  
2404 an affidavit of disqualification stating that the member  
2405 cannot render an impartial and unbiased decision in the  
2406 case in which the member seeks to be disqualified. If the  
2407 committee approves and accepts such affidavit of  
2408 disqualification, the chair shall so notify the Speaker and  
2409 request the Speaker to designate a Member as the  
2410 disqualifying member to act in any proceeding of the  
2411 committee relating to that case.

2412 (6) Information or testimony received, or the contents of a  
2413 complaint or the fact of its filing, may not be publicly  
2414 disclosed by any committee or staff member unless  
2415 specifically authorized in each instance by a vote of the  
2416 full committee.

2417 (7) The committee shall have the functions designated in  
2418 the Rules of the House.

2419 (c)(1) Each meeting of the Committee on Ethics or a  
2420 subcommittee thereof shall occur in executive session  
2421 unless the committee or subcommittee, by an affirmative  
2422 vote of a majority of its members, opens the meeting to  
2423 the public.

2424 (2) Each hearing of an adjudicatory subcommittee or  
2425 sanction hearing of the Committee on Ethics shall be held  
2426 in open session unless the committee or subcommittee, in  
2427 open session by an affirmative vote of a majority of its  
2428 members, closes all or part of the remainder of the  
2429 hearing on that day to the public.

2430 (d) Before a Member on the Committee on Ethics,  
2431 including Members of a subcommittee of the committee  
2432 selected and shared staff, may have access to information  
2433 that is confidential under the rules of the committee, the  
2434 following oath (or affirmation) shall be executed:

2435 “I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will not disclose, to  
2436 any person or entity outside the Committee on Ethics, any  
2437 information received in the course of my service with the  
2438 committee, except as authorized by the committee or in  
2439 accordance with its rules.”

2440 Copies of the executed oath shall be retained by the Clerk  
2441 as part of the records of the House. This paragraph  
2442 establishes a standard of conduct within the meaning of  
2443 paragraph (a)(2). Breaches of confidentiality shall be  
2444 investigated by the Committee on Ethics and appropriate  
2445 action shall be taken.

2446 (e) If a complaint or information offered as a complaint is  
2447 deemed frivolous by an affirmative vote of a majority of  
2448 the members of the Committee on Ethics, the committee  
2449 may take such action as it, by an affirmative vote of a  
2450 majority of its members, considers appropriate in the  
2451 circumstances.

2452 Committee Agendas

2453 (f) The committee shall adopt rules providing that the  
2454 chair shall establish the agenda for meetings of the  
2455 committee, but shall not preclude the ranking minority  
2456 member from placing any item on the agenda.

2457 Meetings and Hearings

2458 (g) The committee shall adopt rules providing that—

2459 (1) all meetings or hearings of the committee or any  
2460 subcommittee thereof, other than any hearing held by an  
2461 adjudicatory subcommittee or any sanction hearing held  
2462 by the committee, shall occur in executive session unless  
2463 the committee or subcommittee by an affirmative vote of a  
2464 majority of its members opens the meeting or hearing to  
2465 the public; and

2466 (2) any hearing held by an adjudicatory subcommittee or  
2467 any sanction hearing held by the committee shall be open  
2468 to the public unless the committee or subcommittee by an  
2469 affirmative vote of a majority of its members closes the  
2470 hearing to the public.

2471 Public Disclosure

2472 (h) The committee shall adopt rules providing that, unless  
2473 otherwise determined by a vote of the committee, only the  
2474 chair or ranking member, after consultation with each  
2475 other, may make public statements regarding matters  
2476 before the committee or any subcommittee thereof.

2477 Requirements to Constitute a Complaint

2478 (i) The committee shall adopt rules regarding complaints  
2479 to provide that whenever information offered as a  
2480 complaint is submitted to the committee, the chair and  
2481 ranking member shall have 14 calendar days or five  
2482 legislative days, whichever is sooner, to determine  
2483 whether the information meets the requirements of the  
2484 rules of the committee for what constitutes a complaint.

2485 Duties of Chair and Ranking Member Regarding Properly  
2486 Filed Complaints

2487 (j)(1) The committee shall adopt rules providing that  
2488 whenever the chair and ranking member jointly  
2489 determine that information submitted to the committee  
2490 meets the requirements of the rules of the committee for  
2491 what constitutes a complaint, they shall have 45 calendar  
2492 days or five legislative days, whichever is later, after that  
2493 determination (unless the committee by an affirmative  
2494 vote of a majority of its members votes otherwise) to—

2495 (A) recommend to the committee that it dispose of the  
2496 complaint, or any portion thereof, in any manner that  
2497 does not require action by the House, which may include  
2498 dismissal of the complaint or resolution of the complaint  
2499 by a letter to the Member or officer against whom the  
2500 complaint is made;

2501 (B) establish an investigative subcommittee; or

2502 (C) request that the committee extend the applicable 45-  
2503 calendar day or five-legislative day period by one  
2504 additional 45-calendar day period when they determine  
2505 more time is necessary in order to make a  
2506 recommendation under subdivision (A).

2507 (2) The committee shall adopt rules providing that if the  
2508 chair and ranking member jointly determine that  
2509 information submitted to the committee meets the  
2510 requirements of the rules of the committee for what  
2511 constitutes a complaint, and the complaint is not disposed  
2512 of within the applicable time periods under subparagraph  
2513 (1), then they shall establish an investigative  
2514 subcommittee and forward the complaint, or any portion

2515 thereof, to that subcommittee for its consideration.  
2516 However, if, at any time during those periods, either the  
2517 chair or ranking member places on the agenda the issue  
2518 of whether to establish an investigative subcommittee,  
2519 then an investigative subcommittee may be established  
2520 only by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members  
2521 of the committee.

2522 Duties of Chair and Ranking Member Regarding  
2523 Information not Constituting a Complaint

2524 (k) The committee shall adopt rules providing that  
2525 whenever the chair and ranking member jointly  
2526 determine that information submitted to the committee  
2527 does not meet the requirements of the rules of the  
2528 committee for what constitutes a complaint, they may—

2529 (1) return the information to the complainant with a  
2530 statement that it fails to meet the requirements of the  
2531 rules of the committee for what constitutes a complaint;  
2532 or

2533 (2) recommend to the committee that it authorize the  
2534 establishment of an investigative subcommittee.

2535 Investigative and Adjudicatory Subcommittees

2536 (l) The committee shall adopt rules providing that—

2537 (1)(A) an investigative subcommittee shall be composed of  
2538 two Members whenever such a subcommittee is  
2539 established pursuant to the rules of the committee;

2540 (B) an adjudicatory subcommittee shall be composed of  
2541 the members of the committee who did not serve on the  
2542 pertinent investigative subcommittee whenever such a  
2543 subcommittee is established pursuant to the rules of the  
2544 committee; and

2545 (C) notwithstanding any other provision of this clause, the  
2546 chair and ranking member of the committee may consult  
2547 with an investigative subcommittee either on their own  
2548 initiative or on the initiative of the subcommittee, shall  
2549 have access to information before a subcommittee with  
2550 which they so consult, and shall not thereby be precluded



2551 from serving as full, voting members of any adjudicatory  
2552 subcommittee;

2553 (2) at the time of appointment, the chair shall designate  
2554 one member of a subcommittee to serve as chair and the  
2555 ranking member, which does not require consent of the  
2556 House, shall designate one member of the subcommittee  
2557 to serve as the ranking member; and

2558 (3) the chair and ranking member of the committee may  
2559 serve as members of an investigative subcommittee, but  
2560 may not serve as non-voting, ex officio members.

2561 Standard of Proof for Adoption of Statement of Alleged  
2562 Violation

2563 (m) The committee shall adopt rules to provide that an  
2564 investigative subcommittee may adopt a statement of  
2565 alleged violation only if it determines by an affirmative  
2566 vote of a majority of the members of the subcommittee  
2567 that there is substantial reason to believe that a violation  
2568 of the Code of Official Conduct, or of a rule, regulation, or  
2569 other standard of conduct applicable to the performance of  
2570 official duties or the discharge of official responsibilities  
2571 by a Member of the House of Commons, has occurred.

2572 Subcommittee Powers

2573 (n)(1) The committee shall adopt rules providing that an  
2574 investigative subcommittee or an adjudicatory  
2575 subcommittee may authorize and issue subpoenas only  
2576 when authorized by an affirmative vote of a majority of  
2577 the members of the subcommittee.

2578 (2) The committee shall adopt rules providing that an  
2579 investigative subcommittee may, upon an affirmative vote  
2580 of a majority of its members, expand the scope of its  
2581 investigation when approved by an affirmative vote of a  
2582 majority of the members of the committee.

2583 (3) The committee shall adopt rules to provide that—

2584 (A) an investigative subcommittee may, upon an  
2585 affirmative vote of a majority of its members, amend its  
2586 statement of alleged violation anytime before the

2587 statement of alleged violation is transmitted to the  
2588 committee; and

2589 (B) if an investigative subcommittee amends its  
2590 statement of alleged violation, the respondent shall be  
2591 notified in writing and shall have 30 calendar days from  
2592 the date of that notification to file an answer to the  
2593 amended statement of alleged violation.

2594 Due Process Rights of Respondents

2595 (o) The committee shall adopt rules to provide that—

2596 (1) not less than 10 calendar days before a scheduled vote  
2597 by an investigative subcommittee on a statement of  
2598 alleged violation, the subcommittee shall provide the  
2599 respondent with a copy of the statement of alleged  
2600 violation it intends to adopt together with all evidence it  
2601 intends to use to prove those charges which it intends to  
2602 adopt, including documentary evidence, witness  
2603 testimony, memoranda of witness interviews, and  
2604 physical evidence, unless the subcommittee by an  
2605 affirmative vote of a majority of its members decides to  
2606 withhold certain evidence in order to protect a witness;  
2607 but if such evidence is withheld, the subcommittee shall  
2608 inform the respondent that evidence is being withheld  
2609 and of the count to which such evidence relates;

2610 (2) neither the respondent nor the counsel of the  
2611 respondent shall, directly or indirectly, contact the  
2612 subcommittee or any member thereof during the period of  
2613 time set forth in paragraph (1) except for the sole purpose  
2614 of settlement discussions where counsel for the  
2615 respondent and the subcommittee are present;

2616 (3) if, at any time after the issuance of a statement of  
2617 alleged violation, the committee or any subcommittee  
2618 thereof determines that it intends to use evidence not  
2619 provided to a respondent under paragraph (1) to prove the  
2620 charges contained in the statement of alleged violation (or  
2621 any amendment thereof), such evidence shall be made  
2622 immediately available to the respondent, and it may be  
2623 used in any further proceeding under the rules of the  
2624 committee;

- 2625 (4) evidence provided pursuant to paragraph (1) or (3)  
2626 shall be made available to the respondent and the counsel  
2627 of the respondent only after each agrees, in writing, that  
2628 no document, information, or other materials obtained  
2629 pursuant to that paragraph shall be made public until—
- 2630 (A) such time as a statement of alleged violation is made  
2631 public by the committee if the respondent has waived the  
2632 adjudicatory hearing; or
- 2633 (B) the commencement of an adjudicatory hearing if the  
2634 respondent has not waived an adjudicatory hearing; but  
2635 the failure of respondent and the counsel of the  
2636 respondent to so agree in writing, and their consequent  
2637 failure to receive the evidence, shall not preclude the  
2638 issuance of a statement of alleged violation at the end of  
2639 the period referred to in paragraph (1);
- 2640 (5) a respondent shall receive written notice whenever—
- 2641 (A) the chair and ranking member determine that  
2642 information the committee has received constitutes a  
2643 complaint;
- 2644 (B) a complaint or allegation is transmitted to an  
2645 investigative subcommittee;
- 2646 (C) an investigative subcommittee votes to authorize its  
2647 first subpoena or to take testimony under oath, whichever  
2648 occurs first;
- 2649 (D) an investigative subcommittee votes to expand the  
2650 scope of its investigation; or
- 2651 (E) the committee or an investigative subcommittee  
2652 determines to take into evidence the trial transcript or  
2653 exhibits admitted into evidence at a criminal trial  
2654 pursuant to subparagraph (9);
- 2655 (6) whenever an investigative subcommittee adopts a  
2656 statement of alleged violation and a respondent enters  
2657 into an agreement with that subcommittee to settle a  
2658 complaint on which that statement is based, that  
2659 agreement, unless the respondent requests otherwise,  
2660 shall be in writing and signed by the respondent and  
2661 respondent's counsel, the chair and ranking minority

2662 member of the subcommittee, and the outside counsel, if  
2663 any;

2664 (7) statements or information derived solely from a  
2665 respondent or the counsel of a respondent during any  
2666 settlement discussions between the committee or a  
2667 subcommittee thereof and the respondent shall not be  
2668 included in any report of the subcommittee or the  
2669 committee or otherwise publicly disclosed without the  
2670 consent of the respondent;

2671 (8) whenever a motion to establish an investigative  
2672 subcommittee does not prevail, the committee shall  
2673 promptly send a letter to the respondent informing the  
2674 respondent of such vote; and

2675 (9) in any investigation permitted by House or committee  
2676 rules, in addition to any other evidence which the  
2677 committee or an investigative subcommittee may  
2678 consider, if the respondent has been convicted by a court  
2679 of record for a crime which is related to the subject of the  
2680 investigation, the committee or investigative  
2681 subcommittee may take into evidence the trial transcript  
2682 and all exhibits admitted into evidence at the trial.

2683 Committee Reporting Requirements

2684 (p) The committee shall adopt rules to provide that—

2685 (1) whenever an investigative subcommittee does not  
2686 adopt a statement of alleged violation and transmits a  
2687 report to that effect to the committee, the committee may  
2688 by an affirmative vote of a majority of its members  
2689 transmit such report to the House of Commons;

2690 (2) whenever an investigative subcommittee adopts a  
2691 statement of alleged violation, the respondent admits to  
2692 the violations set forth in such statement, the respondent  
2693 waives the right to an adjudicatory hearing, and the  
2694 respondent's waiver is approved by the committee—

2695 (A) the subcommittee shall prepare a report for  
2696 transmittal to the committee, a final draft of which shall  
2697 be provided to the respondent not less than 15 calendar

2698 days before the subcommittee votes on whether to adopt  
2699 the report;

2700 (B) the respondent may submit views in writing regarding  
2701 the final draft to the subcommittee within seven calendar  
2702 days of receipt of that draft;

2703 (C) the subcommittee shall transmit a report to the  
2704 committee regarding the statement of alleged violation  
2705 together with any views submitted by the respondent  
2706 pursuant to subdivision (B), and the committee shall  
2707 make the report together with the respondent's views  
2708 available to the public before the commencement of any  
2709 sanction hearing; and

2710 (D) the committee shall by an affirmative vote of a  
2711 majority of its members issue a report and transmit such  
2712 report to the House of Commons, together with the  
2713 respondent's views previously submitted pursuant to  
2714 subdivision (B) and any additional views respondent may  
2715 submit for attachment to the final report; and

2716 (3) members of the committee shall have not less than 72  
2717 hours to review any report transmitted to the committee  
2718 by an investigative subcommittee before both the  
2719 commencement of a sanction hearing and the committee  
2720 vote on whether to adopt the report.

2721 (q) Upon receipt of any written notification from the board  
2722 of the Office of Ethics that the board is undertaking a  
2723 review of any alleged conduct of any Member and if the  
2724 committee is investigating such matter, the committee  
2725 may at any time so notify the board and request that the  
2726 board cease its review and refer the matter to the  
2727 committee for its consideration. If at the end of the  
2728 applicable time period (including any permissible  
2729 extension) the committee has not reached a final  
2730 resolution of the matter, the committee shall so notify the  
2731 board of the Office of Ethics in writing. The committee  
2732 may not request the same matter from the board more  
2733 than one time.

2734 (r) The committee may not take any action that would  
2735 deny any person any right or protection provided under  
2736 the Constitution of the United States.

2737 Audio and Visual Coverage of Committee Proceedings

2738 4. (a) The purpose of this clause is to provide a means, in  
2739 conformity with acceptable standards of dignity,  
2740 propriety, and decorum, by which committee hearings or  
2741 committee meetings that are open to the public may be  
2742 covered by audio and visual means—

2743 (1) for the education, enlightenment, and information of  
2744 the general public, on the basis of accurate and impartial  
2745 news coverage, regarding the operations, procedures, and  
2746 practices of the House as a legislative and representative  
2747 body, and regarding the measures, public issues, and  
2748 other matters before the House and its committees, the  
2749 consideration thereof, and the action taken thereon; and

2750 (2) for the development of the perspective and  
2751 understanding of the general public with respect to the  
2752 role and function of the House under the Constitution as  
2753 an institution of Government.

2754 (b) In addition, it is the intent of this clause that radio  
2755 and television tapes and television film of any coverage  
2756 under this clause may not be used for any partisan  
2757 political campaign purpose or be made available for such  
2758 use.

2759 (c) It is, further, the intent of this clause that the general  
2760 conduct of each meeting (whether of a hearing or  
2761 otherwise) covered under authority of this clause by audio  
2762 or visual means, and the personal behavior of the  
2763 committee members and staff, other Government officials  
2764 and personnel, witnesses, television, radio, and press  
2765 media personnel, and the general public at the hearing or  
2766 other meeting, shall be in strict conformity with and  
2767 observance of the acceptable standards of dignity,  
2768 propriety, courtesy, and decorum traditionally observed  
2769 by the House in its operations, and may not be such as  
2770 to—

2771 (1) distort the objects and purposes of the hearing or other  
2772 meeting or the activities of committee members in  
2773 connection with that hearing or meeting or in connection  
2774 with the general work of the committee or of the House; or

2775 (2) cast discredit or dishonor on the House, the committee,  
2776 or a Member or bring the House, the committee, or a  
2777 Member into disrepute.

2778 (d) The coverage of committee hearings and meetings by  
2779 audio and visual means shall be permitted and conducted  
2780 only in strict conformity with the purposes, provisions,  
2781 and requirements of this clause.

2782 (e) Whenever a hearing or meeting conducted by a  
2783 committee or subcommittee is open to the public, those  
2784 proceedings shall be open to coverage by audio and visual  
2785 means. A committee or subcommittee chair may not limit  
2786 the number of television or still cameras to fewer than  
2787 two representatives from each medium (except for  
2788 legitimate space or safety considerations, in which case  
2789 pool coverage shall be authorized).

2790 (f) Written rules adopted by each committee pursuant to  
2791 clause 2(a)(1)(D) shall contain provisions to the following  
2792 effect:

2793 (1) If audio or visual coverage of the hearing or meeting is  
2794 to be presented to the public as live coverage, that  
2795 coverage shall be conducted and presented without  
2796 commercial sponsorship.

2797 (2) The allocation among the television media of the  
2798 positions or the number of television cameras permitted  
2799 by a committee or subcommittee chair in a hearing or  
2800 meeting room shall be in accordance with fair and  
2801 equitable procedures.

2802 (3) Television cameras shall be placed so as not to  
2803 obstruct in any way the space between a witness giving  
2804 evidence or testimony and any member of the committee  
2805 or the visibility of that witness and that member to each  
2806 other.

2807 (4) Television cameras shall operate from fixed positions  
2808 but may not be placed in positions that obstruct  
2809 unnecessarily the coverage of the hearing or meeting by  
2810 the other media.

2811 (5) Equipment necessary for coverage by the television  
2812 and radio media may not be installed in, or removed from,  
2813 the hearing or meeting room while the committee is in  
2814 session.

2815 (6)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (B), floodlights,  
2816 spotlights, strobe lights, and flashguns may not be used in  
2817 providing any method of coverage of the hearing or  
2818 meeting.

2819 (B) The television media may install additional lighting in  
2820 a hearing or meeting room, without cost to the  
2821 Government, in order to raise the ambient lighting level  
2822 in a hearing or meeting room to the lowest level necessary  
2823 to provide adequate television coverage of a hearing or  
2824 meeting at the current state of the art of television  
2825 coverage.

2826 (7) If requests are made by more of the media than will be  
2827 permitted by a committee or subcommittee chair for  
2828 coverage of a hearing or meeting by still photography,  
2829 that coverage shall be permitted on the basis of a fair and  
2830 equitable pool arrangement devised by the Standing  
2831 Committee of Press Photographers.

2832 (8) Photographers may not position themselves between  
2833 the witness table and the members of the committee at  
2834 any time during the course of a hearing or meeting.

2835 (9) Photographers may not place themselves in positions  
2836 that obstruct unnecessarily the coverage of the hearing by  
2837 the other media.

2838 (10) Personnel providing coverage by the television and  
2839 radio media shall be currently accredited to the Radio and  
2840 Television Correspondents' Galleries.

2841 (11) Personnel providing coverage by still photography  
2842 shall be currently accredited to the Press Photographers'  
2843 Gallery.



2844 (12) Personnel providing coverage by the television and  
2845 radio media and by still photography shall conduct  
2846 themselves and their coverage activities in an orderly and  
2847 unobtrusive manner.

2848 Pay of Witnesses

2849 5. Witnesses appearing before the House or any of its  
2850 committees shall be paid the same per diem rate as  
2851 established, authorized, and regulated by the Committee  
2852 on Rules & Reform for Members, plus actual expenses of  
2853 travel to or from the place of examination. Such per diem  
2854 may not be paid when a witness has been summoned at  
2855 the place of examination.

2856 Unfinished Business of the Session

2857 6. All business of the House at the end of one session shall  
2858 be resumed at the commencement of the next session of  
2859 the same Assembly in the same manner as if no  
2860 adjournment had taken place.

2861 Rule XVIII

2862 GENERAL PROVISIONS

2863 1. The provisions of law that constituted the Rules of the  
2864 House at the end of the previous Assembly shall govern  
2865 the House in all cases to which they are applicable, and  
2866 the rules of parliamentary practice comprised by  
2867 Jefferson's Manual shall govern the house in all cases to  
2868 which they are applicable and in which they are not  
2869 inconsistent with the Rules and orders of the House.

2870 Rule XIX

2871 NOMINATIONS AND CONFIRMATION

2872 1. The following positions are considered as nominations  
2873 under this Rule:  
2874 (a) Chair and Ranking Member Committee Assignments;  
2875 (b) Health Advisor of the House;  
2876 (c) All Agencies Positions created under law; and

2877 (d) any additional position that the House may add under  
2878 law.

2879 2. The House does not treat the Clerk, Speaker, Sergeant-  
2880 at-Arms, and Chief Administrative Officer as nominated  
2881 positions under this Rule.

2882 3. The Speaker shall have the sole power to nominate  
2883 someone to the House upon a creation or vacancy of such  
2884 position. Such nominations shall be in writing, read as a  
2885 communication to the House, and, unless otherwise,  
2886 referred and placed on the House Calendar.

2887 4. Unless otherwise stated in an Act, nominated positions  
2888 are placed on the House Calendar until they are called up  
2889 by the Speaker.

2890 5. Upon the Speaker calling up a nomination on the  
2891 House Calendar, the Clerk shall report the nomination  
2892 and proceed immediately to the vote on confirmation of  
2893 the nomination.

2894 6. Upon confirmation of a nominee, the Speaker shall be  
2895 immediately notified of the House's actions. If a nominee  
2896 is not confirmed, the Speaker shall nominate someone  
2897 else.

2898 7. The Speaker may withdraw a nomination anytime  
2899 before the question is put thereon.

2900 8. Unless otherwise stated in an Act, nominated positions  
2901 are confined to Members of the House.

2902 9. The Speaker may remove any person from their  
2903 respective nominated position if so warranted. The House  
2904 may pass a Joint Resolution to find disapproval of a  
2905 person in a nominated position. If such measure passes  
2906 and is Assented, that shall be considered removed from  
2907 such position.

2908 10. The House may from time to time pass Acts to impose  
2909 term limits on nominations, creations of new nominated  
2910 positions, and amending this Rule.

2911 Rule XX

2912 QUESTIONS OF PRIVILEGE

2913 1. Questions of privilege shall be, first, those affecting the  
2914 rights of the House collectively, its safety, dignity, and the  
2915 integrity of its proceedings; and second, those affecting  
2916 the rights, reputation, and conduct of Members,  
2917 individually, in their respective capacity only.

2918 2. (a)(1) A resolution reported as a question of the  
2919 privileges of the House, or offered from the floor by the  
2920 Speaker as a question of the privileges of the House shall  
2921 have precedence of all other questions except motions to  
2922 adjourn. A resolution offered from the floor by a Member  
2923 other than the Speaker as a question of the privileges of  
2924 the House shall have precedence of all other questions  
2925 except motions to adjourn only at a time or place,  
2926 designated by the Speaker, in the legislative schedule  
2927 within two legislative days after the day on which the  
2928 proponent announces to the House an intention to offer  
2929 the resolution and the form of the resolution. Oral  
2930 announcement of the form of the resolution may be  
2931 dispensed with by unanimous consent.

2932 (2) The time allotted for debate on a resolution offered  
2933 from the floor as a question of the privileges of the House  
2934 shall be equally divided between (A) the proponent of the  
2935 resolution, and (B) the opponent of the resolution.

2936 (3) A resolution causing a vacancy in the Office of Speaker  
2937 shall not be privileged except if supported by one (1) other  
2938 Member.

2939 (b) A question of personal privilege shall have precedence  
2940 of all other questions except motions to adjourn.

2941 Rule XXI

## 2942 RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN BILLS

### 2943 Reservation of Certain Points of Order

2944 1. At the time of a general appropriation bill is reported,  
2945 all points of order against provisions therein shall be  
2946 considered as reserved.

### 2947 Taxation Measures

2948 2. Any measures that relate to taxation must—

2949 (a) not be passed via a motion to suspend the rules and  
2950 pass;

2951 (b) be reported out of committee; and

2952 (c) must have 72 hours period between the period of being  
2953 reported out of committee to debate on the House floor.

2954 Rule XXII

2955 CODE OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

2956 There is hereby established by and for the House the  
2957 following code of conduct, to be known as the “Code of  
2958 Official Conduct”:

2959 1. A Member shall behave at all times in a manner that  
2960 shall reflect creditably on the House.

2961 2. Before a Member may have access to classified  
2962 information, the following oath shall be executed:

2963 “I do solemnly swear that I will not disclose any classified  
2964 information received in the course of my service with the  
2965 House of Commons, except as authorized by the House of  
2966 Commons of in accordance with its Rules.”

2967 Copies of the executed oath shall be retained as Records  
2968 of the House.”

2969 *Resolved*, that the remainder of House Resolution 2 shall  
2970 remain standing.

---

*Speaker of the House Assent*