

2014 SESSION

LEGISLATION NOT PREPARED BY DLS
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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 26

Offered January 28, 2014

Establishing the Rules of the Senate.

Patron Prior to Engrossment—Senator McEachin

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the following are adopted as the Rules of the Senate to supersede all previous Rules of the Senate:

RULES OF THE SENATE

I.

Presiding Officer.

1. The presiding officer of the Senate shall be the Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth as the President of the Senate in accordance with Article V, Section 14, of the Constitution.

2 (a). There shall be elected by the Senate, ~~on the first day of the session following the election of the Senate,~~ a President pro tempore who shall ~~serve for a term of four years thereafter continue in office until another is chosen~~ and be a senior member in the Senate.

2 (b). In the event of the absence, disability or vacancy in the office of the Lieutenant Governor, the President pro tempore shall carry out the duties of the Lieutenant Governor as presiding officer. Further, the President pro tempore shall be the Chair of the Commission on Interstate Cooperation of the Senate.

2 (c). The President pro tempore shall have the right to name in open session, or if he is absent, in writing, a Senator to perform the duties of the presiding officer, but such substitution shall not extend beyond an adjournment of a daily session, except by unanimous consent of those present.

2 (d). In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Lieutenant Governor, or whenever the powers and duties of the Governor shall devolve upon the Lieutenant Governor, the President pro tempore shall have the right to name, in writing, a Senator to perform the duties of the presiding officer during his absence; and the Senator so named shall have the right to name, in open session, or in writing, if he is absent, a Senator to perform the duties of the presiding officer, but such substitution shall not extend beyond adjournment of a daily session, except by unanimous consent of those present.

3. The presiding officer, after taking the Chair pursuant to these Rules, and a quorum being present, shall cause the Journal of the preceding day to be read. The reading of the Journal may be waived by a majority of those Senators present and voting. The reading of the Journal may be waived at a reconvened session of a special session by at least two members present and voting, only if there is no business to consider in accordance to Article IV, Section 6 of the Constitution of Virginia. Any errors in the entries shall be corrected, and the Journal being found correct, shall be signed by the presiding officer for that day and the Clerk of the Senate. The Journals, when so signed, shall be the official records of the proceedings of the Senate.

4. If any question is put upon a bill or resolution, the presiding officer shall state the same without argument.

II.

Membership, Attendance, and Adjournment.

5. A member of the Senate shall be a Senator elected to represent one of the 40 senatorial districts. A majority of Senators shall constitute a quorum to do business; two may adjourn, and nine may order a call of the Senate, send for absentees, and make any order for their censure or discharge. However, not less than 16 may meet by proclamation of the Governor under the provisions of Article IV, Section 8 of the Constitution. At a special session or a reconvened session of a special session when there is no business to consider in accordance with Article IV, Section 6 of the Constitution of Virginia, two members may convene the Senate, dispense with the reading of the Journal, recess or adjourn the Senate.

6. No Senator shall absent himself from the service of the Senate without leave.

III.

The Pages.

7. The Senate shall elect 11 Pages representing each of the Congressional districts and five Pages shall be appointed by the following: one by the Lieutenant Governor; one by the President pro tempore; one by the chair of the caucus of the majority party; one by the majority leader; and one by the minority leader. The Pages shall be no less than 13 and no more than 14 years of age at the time of election or appointment, shall be residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and shall be elected or appointed for a term of one year. No Page shall be eligible for reelection. Any such Page so elected or appointed may be suspended or dismissed for cause by the Clerk of the Senate.

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The Clerk of the Senate.

8 (a). A Clerk of the Senate shall be elected by the Senate for a term of four years and shall thereafter continue in office until another is chosen. The oath of office shall be administered to the Clerk of the Senate by any person qualified by law to administer oaths. If a vacancy in the office of Clerk of the Senate occurs when the General Assembly is not in session, a successor shall be elected by the Committee on Rules to serve until the first day of the next session, at a meeting to be called by the Chair, or in his absence or inability to act, the next senior member of such Committee able and willing to do so. At least five days notice by certified mail of the time, place and purpose of the meeting shall be given all members of the Committee, and, at such meeting, the person receiving the votes of a majority of the members present and voting shall be elected to fill the vacancy.

8 (b). The Clerk of the Senate shall be the custodian of the public seal and design of armorial bearings of the Senate.

8 (c). The Clerk of the Senate shall be the custodian of all records and papers of the Senate and the Clerk shall not suffer any such records or papers to be taken from the Clerk's desk or out of the Clerk's custody by any person except the Chair or the clerk of a Committee, or any Senator on taking receipts for same. Amendments agreed to by the Senate shall be handled only by the Clerk of the Senate, or staff members designated by the Clerk.

8 (d). It shall be the duty of the Clerk of the Senate to refer all bills and resolutions to the appropriate standing Committee or the Committee on Rules as provided in these Rules. If there is any objection as to the referral by the Clerk of the Senate of any bill or resolution to any standing committee or the Committee on Rules, the Committee on Rules shall hear the same, resolve the issue and report to the Senate.

8 (e). The Clerk of the Senate shall prepare a list of the Senators in order of seniority. Seniority shall be based upon longest continuous service in the Senate. However, if a Senator has previous interrupted service in the Senate, then the beginning date of such previous Senate service shall qualify the Senator for seniority before those Senators elected at the same time not having previous service in the Senate, and if a Senator has previous service in the House of Delegates then seniority shall be based upon longest continuous service in the House of Delegates and shall qualify the Senator to seniority before those Senators elected to the Senate at the same time not having previous service in the House of Delegates. Senators elected at the same time without previous service in the Senate or House of Delegates shall have their seniority determined by a public drawing of lots, conducted by the Clerk of the Senate, to which all Senators involved shall be invited to attend. After the name of each Senator there shall be indicated the name of the political party under which the Senator was elected or abbreviation of the same; e.g., "Rep." or "Dem." If a Senator was not elected as a nominee of a political party, then such Senator shall be listed as an Independent, or "Ind."; however, if any Senator is elected at a special or general election and such Senator has, prior to such election, declared himself in writing a member of a political party during and prior to such election and the political party of his choice did not hold a convention or call a primary election for such election, such Senator shall be listed as a member of the party of which he declared himself a member.

8 (f). The Clerk of the Senate, after the election of Senators, shall assign chamber desks to the individual Senators with the Senators elected as members of the majority party in the Senate in the chamber area beginning at the ~~south~~ north side of the chamber until all such desks have been assigned, and then the Senators elected as members of the minority party in the Senate, and then any Senator not elected as a member of the two major political parties. The Clerk of the Senate shall also assign office space in such buildings as may be made available for the use of the Senate. Whenever feasible, the Clerk of the Senate shall give due consideration in assigning chamber desks and office space to the seniority and request of a Senator. However, the chamber desk or office space of a Senator having immediate prior service in the Senate shall not be reassigned unless he shall so request the Clerk of the Senate.

Should any Senator, however, during his term of office, cease to be a member of the political party of which he was a member at the time of his election either by self-declaration or through other conduct as confirmed by a two-thirds majority of the members elected to the Senate, or if a special election results in a change of political party membership, the Clerk of the Senate, upon such change in political party membership, is authorized to reassign chamber desks and office space accordingly.

8 (g). The area of the General Assembly Building assigned to the members of the Senate, their legislative support staff, the staff of the Senate, the facilities and space for those charged with the maintenance, repair, and security of such building, and such space designated for the news media shall not be utilized or occupied as office space by any other person or persons, except by vote of the Committee on Rules.

8 (h). During the sessions, the Clerk shall provide office supplies for official use by the Senators.

9. The Journal of the Senate shall be daily drawn up by the Clerk of the Senate, and shall be read the succeeding day, unless the reading thereof is waived as provided in these Rules; it shall be printed

under the supervision of the Clerk of the Senate and delivered to the Senators without delay.

10 (a). The Clerk of the Senate shall appoint a chief deputy clerk and such staff as necessary to perform the work of the Senate. The Clerk may also appoint such number of messengers as may be required. The Clerk of the Senate shall also appoint such committee clerks as may be necessary after consultation with, and the approval of, the Chair of the Committee on Rules and the Chairs of the several Committees. The Clerk of the Senate shall also appoint such additional committee staff as may be necessary after consultation with, and the approval of, the Chair of the Committee on Rules. All committee clerks so appointed shall remain in the Capitol or other legislative facilities during the daily sessions of the Senate, and committee clerks shall be assigned for duties with various standing Committees by the Clerk of the Senate, after consultation by the Clerk of the Senate and with the approval of the Chair of each such Committee. Additional committee staff shall be assigned for duties with various standing Committees by the Clerk of the Senate, after consultation with, and the approval of, the Chair on the Committee on Rules and the Chair of the respective Committee. Each clerk shall perform any other duties that the Clerk of the Senate shall require, when not employed by their respective standing Committees. Clerks may be removed by the Clerk of the Senate, after consultation with, and the approval of, the Chair of the Committee on Rules. Additional committee staff may be removed by the Clerk of the Senate, after consultation with, and the approval of, the Chair of the Committee on Rules. The Clerk of the Senate shall have supervision over all employees of the Senate. During sessions, the Clerk shall provide office supplies for official use by the Senators.

10 (b). The Clerk of the Senate shall be the clerk to the Committee on Rules.

11 (a). Before reading each bill or resolution by title, the Clerk of the Senate shall announce, either by individual bill or resolution or en bloc, whether it is the first, second, or third time of such reading.

11 (b). The Clerk of the Senate shall keep at the Clerk's desk, during the sittings of the Senate, a calendar which shows the business of the Senate. The Clerk shall have printed and placed on the desk of each member, before the assembling of the Senate each day, a calendar of pending bills and resolutions. The Clerk shall prepare a list of all bills and resolutions offered on the preceding day, with the names of the patrons, titles of the bills or resolutions, and the Committees to which the same have been referred under these Rules.

12. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of the Senate, without special order therefor, to communicate to the House of Delegates any action of the Senate upon business coming from the House of Delegates, or upon matters requiring the concurrence of that body, but no such communication shall be made in relation to any action of the Senate while it remains open for consideration.

13. The Clerk of the Senate shall, at the beginning of the term after the election of Senators, have printed and bound with the manual and rules, etc., the Constitution of Virginia and the Constitution of the United States for the use of the Senators. Supplements to said manual shall be issued as circumstances may require.

14 (a). Whenever the Clerk of the Senate is absent, the chief deputy clerk appointed pursuant to law and these Rules shall exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred and imposed upon the Clerk of the Senate by law and these Rules, by and with the consent of the Committee on Rules.

14 (b). In the discharge of all the duties assigned to the Clerk, and such other duties as the Clerk may from time to time undertake, the Clerk shall be subject to the direction of the Committee on Rules.

V.

Sergeant-at-Arms and Doorkeepers.

15. A Sergeant-at-Arms shall be elected by the Senate, and shall continue in office at the pleasure of the Committee on Rules for a term not exceeding four years. Except as otherwise provided by these Rules, his duties shall be prescribed by the Committee on Rules.

16. Except by order of the Senate, no Senator shall be taken into custody by the Sergeant-at-Arms on any grounds other than to quell a breach of the peace until the matter is examined by the Committee on Privileges and Elections and reported to the Senate.

17 (a). The Doorkeepers shall be constantly at their post during the daily sessions of the Senate and shall permit no one to enter freely or remain upon the floor of the Senate during the daily session, except the President of the Senate; members of the General Assembly; officers and employees of the Clerk of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Delegates; and, representatives of the news media in such numbers as may be seated in accommodations provided for them at the press tables. The Committee on Rules shall consider and determine all matters concerning the news media in the Senate Chamber.

17 (b). Members of a Senator's family and such persons whom a Senator may invite shall be entitled to seats in a reserved section of the gallery. Representatives of the news media who cannot be accommodated with seats at press tables on the floor may also be entitled to seats in a reserved section of the gallery.

17 (c). Fifteen minutes prior to the convening of every daily session, the Sergeant-at-Arms shall

clear the floor of the Senate of all persons other than those who are authorized to be there during each session and shall not permit unauthorized persons upon the floor of the Senate for five minutes following the conclusion of every daily session.

17 (d). Interviews are not allowed in the Senate Chamber during the daily session or during the recesses during the daily session. Interviews in the Senate Chamber shall end 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the daily session and shall not commence until five minutes after the adjournment of the daily session.

17 (e). Whenever any person requests an interview with a Senator or the Clerk of the Senate, a Doorkeeper shall send the request by a Page.

17 (f). A Doorkeeper shall direct all persons not entitled to entry on the floor of the Senate, as set out above, to the gallery of the Senate.

VI.

Standing Committees.

18. At the commencement of each session after the election of Senators, a nominations report shall be submitted by the majority caucus to elect members to the standing Committees and the Committee on Rules for a term current coincident with their term of office in such numbers as hereinafter set forth. Such members shall be elected by a majority vote of those present and voting. The President of the Senate shall be empowered to break a tie vote, where there is an equal division among the Senators, on matters pertaining to committee assignments and other matters relating to the organization of the Senate.

18 (a). A Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources, 15 Senators, to consider matters concerning agriculture; air and water pollution and solid waste disposal; conservation of land and water resources; crustaceans and bivalves; all matters of environment, forest, fresh and salt water fishing, game, mining, parks and recreation, and petroleum products.

18 (b). A Committee on Commerce and Labor, 16 Senators, to consider all matters concerning banking; commerce; commercial law; corporations; economic development; industry; insurance; labor; manufacturing; partnerships; public utilities, except matters relating to transportation; tourism; workmen's compensation and unemployment matters.

18 (c). A Committee for Courts of Justice, 15 Senators, to consider matters relating to the Courts of the Commonwealth and the Justices and Judges thereof, including the nominations of such Justices and Judges where provided by the Constitution and statutes of Virginia; and all matters concerning the criminal laws of the Commonwealth; together with all matters concerning contracts, domestic relations, eminent domain, fiduciaries, firearms, garnishments, homestead and all other exemptions, immigration (with the exception of matters relating to the powers of the Governor or education), magistrates, mechanics' and other liens, notaries public and out-of-state commissioners, property and conveyances (except landlord and tenant and condominium matters), wills and decedents' estates.

It shall report to the Senate the names of such persons as it shall find qualified for election as a Justice or Judge of the Commonwealth. Senators, all or part of whose Senate Districts are within the Circuit or District for which a Judge is to be elected, shall nominate a qualified person for such election by affirmation of a majority of such Senators on a form provided by the Clerk of the Senate. If such Senators are unable to agree on a nominee, a Senator shall only nominate a person deemed qualified by the Committee for Courts of Justice for any judicial position.

Whenever a vacancy in the office of a justice of the Supreme Court or judge of the Court of Appeals is announced, the Chair of the Committee for Courts of Justice shall establish a date certain by which any Senator may forward the name of any potential nominee for such office to the Chair.

18 (d). A Committee on Education and Health, 15 Senators, to consider matters concerning education; human reproduction; life support; persons under disability; public buildings; public health; mental health; mental retardation and health professions.

18 (e). A Committee on Finance, 15 17 Senators, to consider matters concerning auditing; bills and resolutions for appropriations; the budget of the Commonwealth; claims; general and special revenues of the Commonwealth; all taxation and all matters concerning the expenditure of funds of the Commonwealth.

18 (f). A Committee on General Laws and Technology, 15 Senators, to consider matters concerning affirmation and bonds; the boundaries, jurisdiction and emblems of the Commonwealth; cemeteries; condominiums; consumer affairs; fire protection; gaming and wagering; housing; inter- or intra-government information technology applications and uses other than those proposed or used to support the operations of the General Assembly or the Senate; land offices; landlord and tenant; libraries; military and war emergency; nuisances; oaths; professions and occupations (except the health and legal professions); religious and charitable matters; state governmental reorganization; veterans' affairs; warehouses; and matters not specifically referable to other Committees, including, but not limited to, matters relating to technology, engineering, or electronic research, development, policy, standards, measurements, or definitions, or the scientific, technical, or technological requirements thereof, except for those affecting the operations of the General Assembly or the Senate.

18 (g). A Committee on Local Government, 15 Senators, to consider matters of local government in the counties, cities, towns, regions or districts, planning boards and commissions and authorities, except matters relating to the compensation of elected officeholders, where funds of the Commonwealth are involved.

18 (h). A Committee on Privileges and Elections, 15 Senators, to consider matters concerning voting; apportionment; conflict of interests, except those concerning members of the judiciary or solely the legal profession, provided that any such matter, after being reported by the Committee, shall be rereferred by the Committee to the Committee for Courts of Justice for consideration of the matters relating only to members of the judiciary or solely to the legal profession; constitutional amendments; elections; elected officeholders; reprimand, censure, or expulsion of a Senator; and nominations and appointments to any office or position in the Commonwealth (except Justices and Judges of the Commonwealth). It shall consider all grievances and propositions, federal relations and interstate matters. It shall examine the oath taken by each Senator and the certificate of election furnished by the proper office and report thereon to the Senate. It shall review and report as may be required in cases involving financial disclosure statements and shall recommend disciplinary action by majority vote where appropriate. It shall report in all cases involving contested elections the principles and reasons upon which their resolves are founded. It shall determine and report on all matters referred to it by the Senate Ethics Advisory Panel as set forth in the statutes.

Whenever the Clerk receives a report of the Senate Ethics Advisory Panel or a resolution seeking the reprimand, censure, or expulsion of a Senator, the report shall be referred forthwith to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. The Committee shall consider the matter, conduct such hearings as it shall deem necessary, and, in all cases report its determination of the matter, together with its recommendations and reasons for its resolves, to the Senate. If the Committee deems disciplinary action warranted, it shall report a resolution offered by a member of the Committee to express such action. Any such resolution reported by the Committee shall be a privileged matter. The Senate as a whole shall then consider the resolution, and, by recorded vote, either defeat the resolution or take one or more of the following actions: (i) reprimand the Senator with a majority vote of the Senators present and voting; (ii) censure the Senator and place the Senator last in seniority with a majority vote of the elected membership of the Senate; (iii) expel the Senator with a two-thirds vote of the elected membership of the Senate; or (iv) refer the matter to the Attorney General for appropriate action with a majority vote of the Senators present and voting, in the event the Senate finds a knowing violation of § 30-108 or subsection C of § 30-110 of the Code of Virginia.

18 (i). A Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services, 15 Senators, to consider matters concerning alcoholic beverages; correctional and penal institutions; morals; social services and welfare; and substance abuse.

18 (j). A Committee on Transportation, 15 Senators, to consider matters concerning airports; airspaces; airways; the laws concerning motor vehicles relating to rules of the road or traffic regulations; heliports; highways; port facilities; public roads and streets; transportation safety; public waterways; railways; seaports; transportation companies or corporations; and transportation public utilities. Any matter relating to rules of the road or traffic regulations which include a change in a penalty shall be rereferred by the Committee to the Committee for Courts of Justice.

VII.

Committee on Rules.

19 (a). A Committee on Rules, which shall be in addition to the foregoing standing Committees, consisting of the standing Committee Chairs; the President pro tempore, if the person is not a Chair; the Majority Leader, if the person is not a Chair; the Minority Leader; and other Senators to comprise not more than 17. The Chair of the Committee on Rules shall not be Chair of any standing Committee. The Committee shall consider all resolutions amending or altering the Rules of the Senate; all joint rules with the House of Delegates; all bills and resolutions creating study committees or commissions; and all other resolutions (except those of a purely procedural nature, those concerning nominations and appointments to any office or position in the Commonwealth including the nominations of Justices and Judges, and those concerning constitutional amendments). The Committee may report such bills or resolutions with the recommendation that they be passed, or that they be rereferred to another Committee. In considering a bill or resolution, the Committee is empowered to sit while the Senate is in session. There shall be a subcommittee of the Committee, consisting of the Chair and members appointed by the Chair to equal the number of House members appointed to the subcommittee, which shall exercise on behalf of the Committee such powers as are delegated to the Committee when acting jointly with the Committee on Rules of the House of Delegates or a subcommittee thereof.

19 (b). If there is any objection as to the referral by the Clerk of the Senate of any bill or resolution to any standing Committee or any matter relating to the Office of the Clerk, the Committee on Rules shall hear the same, resolve the issue and report to the Senate.

305 19 (c). The Chair of the Committee on Rules, in consultation with the Clerk, shall consider and
306 determine all matters concerning the news media in the Senate Chamber; all policies concerning travel
307 expenses and reimbursements; all matters concerning joint assemblies with the House of Delegates and
308 such persons, not members of the Senate, who are to be permitted to address the Senate; and all matters
309 concerning the utilization of the facilities available to the Senate and its membership. The Chair, in
310 consultation with the Clerk, shall prescribe the duties not otherwise prescribed for the Clerk,
311 Sergeant-at-Arms, and Doorkeepers. The Chair, in consultation with the Clerk, shall approve the
312 appointment, removal, and assignment for duties of the additional committee staff authorized in Rule 10
313 (a).

314 19 (d). The Committee on Rules shall from time to time prescribe such requirements as will
315 expedite the flow of the work of the Senate, all such requirements being subject to the approval of the
316 Senate.

317 19 (e). The Chair of the Committee on Rules shall appoint a subcommittee to review the financial
318 disclosure statements filed annually by members or candidates and shall determine whether each
319 statement is correct and complete as filed or requires correction, augmentation, or revision by the
320 member or candidate involved, who shall be directed in writing to make the changes required within
321 such time as shall be set by the Committee.

322 Additional review shall be made of any financial disclosure statement by the Committee on Rules
323 upon a request in writing by 20 percent of the membership of the Senate on the basis of newly
324 discovered evidence. This review shall be made promptly, the adequacy of filing determined, and notice
325 of the determination of the Committee sent in writing to the member involved. If a financial disclosure
326 statement is found to need correction, augmentation, or revision, the member or candidate involved shall
327 be directed in writing to make the changes required within such time as shall be set by the Committee.
328 Failure to make the correction shall result in the matter being referred to the Committee on Privileges
329 and Elections for disciplinary action pursuant to Rules 18 (h) and 53 (b).

330 19 (f). There shall be a Subcommittee on Standards of Conduct of the Committee on Rules,
331 consisting of three members, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party, appointed by the
332 Chair. The Subcommittee shall consider any request by a Senator for an advisory opinion as to whether
333 the facts in a particular case would constitute a violation of the Rules of the Senate or any statute
334 enacted relative to conflicts of interests, and may consider any other matters assigned to it by the
335 Committee on Rules. Any Senator requesting such an advisory opinion shall submit the request in
336 writing, addressed to the Chair of the Committee on Rules, and shall set forth specifically the facts
337 relative to the opinion sought. The Subcommittee shall convene as soon as practicable, granting the
338 Senator requesting the opinion the right to appear and, upon the conclusion of its deliberations, the
339 Subcommittee shall submit its written opinion to the full Committee on Rules. The Committee on Rules
340 shall consider the written opinion submitted by the Subcommittee and, if accepted, the same shall
341 constitute an advisory opinion for the conduct of the members of the Senate on the issues set forth. The
342 Clerk of the Senate shall maintain a record of such advisory opinions, which shall be available to any
343 member of the Senate.

344 19 (g). Any Senator who wishes to present a person to the Senate shall first seek the approval of the
345 Chair of the Committee on Rules. The Senator shall submit a written request to the Chair of the
346 Committee and a copy of the request to the Clerk of the Senate, 48 hours prior to the time of the
347 presentation. The Chair shall determine the merit of the presentation and notify the Senator of the
348 decision. The submission of the written request and the approval of the Chair shall not be required to
349 present members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation and former members of the Virginia Senate.

350 The Chair, in consultation with the Clerk, shall approve the dates for the presentations. During the
351 regular session, presentations shall not be made on Fridays, crossover, or any day involving action on
352 the appropriation act.

353 19 (h). The Committee on Rules shall make all Senate appointments to study committees and
354 commissions in the number authorized for the Senate, whether the authority is limited to Senate
355 members or other persons. It shall appoint members of the Senate to such other committees as may be
356 required to serve as joint committees with the House of Delegates under its Rules, and shall appoint
357 members of the Senate to serve as Senate members on any Committee or Commission required by
358 statute. Senate membership on all joint subcommittees and commissions with the House of Delegates
359 shall be of equal membership. If no member of a standing Committee of the Senate specified in a study
360 resolution is able to serve, the Committee on Rules may appoint a member of the Senate at large to the
361 study notwithstanding the provisions of the enabling resolution.

362 19 (i). *The Chair of the Committee on Rules may direct the Clerk to refer to the Committee on Rules*
363 *any Senate legislation, which in the opinion of the Chair of the Committee on Rules was substantially*
364 *amended by the House of Delegates and is pending before the Senate as unfinished business. The*
365 *Committee shall meet and after considering the legislation, the Committee shall take a vote either (i) to*
366 *report to the Senate the legislation with the recommendation that the House amendment (s) be adopted*

or (ii) to pass the legislation by indefinitely. [Provided however, this Rule shall not apply to revenue or expenditure bills.]

VIII.

Composition and Procedures of Committees.

20 (a). The total membership of all Committees and the membership of each standing Committee shall be composed of members of the two major political parties in the Commonwealth and as nearly as practicable with equal membership of resident Senators from the several congressional districts of the Commonwealth as the same exist on the date of election of the Senate. ~~Senators shall serve terms on such Committees coincident with their current terms of office.~~ No member shall be removed from a Committee, except by a ~~two-thirds~~ majority vote of the members present and voting or by forfeiture under these rules or upon submission of the member's resignation from the Committee.

The standing Committees may also include any Senator not elected as a member of the two major political parties. All members of the Senate shall be elected to the standing Committees, where practicable. When the Committees are elected, the Senator first named shall be the Chair, *except that in the case of the Committee for Courts of Justice and the Committee on Finance, the first two Senators named to these Committees shall be Co-Chairs. All references in these Rules to the Chair of a standing Committee shall be interpreted to include and apply to the Co-Chairs.* – ~~However,~~ *a* Senator shall not serve as Chair of ~~only one of the~~ *more than two* standing Committees. Next shall be listed the members, listed by seniority and by the date elected to the Committee. At the first meeting of the Committee, the Chair may appoint and announce a vice chair.

Should any Senator, during his term of office, cease to be a member of the political party of which he was a member at the time of his election either by self-declaration or through other conduct as confirmed by a two-thirds majority of the members elected to the Senate, he shall be deemed, thereby, to have forfeited all Committee memberships to which he may have been elected.

20 (b). Any vacancy in Committee membership during the four-year term of the Committee members shall be filled in the manner in which Committee members are elected in the first instance.

20 (c). The standing Committees shall meet at such time and place as shall be designated by the Committee on Rules, after consultation with the respective Committee Chair, and the fixed time and place of Committee meetings shall be published. All committees shall be governed by the Rules of the Senate.

20 (d). All Committee meetings shall be held in public. All votes on bills shall be recorded.

However, executive sessions may be held pursuant to applicable provisions of law upon a recorded vote. Except as provided herein, a recorded vote of members upon each measure shall be taken and the name and number of those voting for, against or abstaining reported with the bill or resolution and ordered printed on the Calendar. A recorded vote shall not be necessary to report a resolution, if that resolution does not have a specific vote requirement pursuant to these Rules. A Senator who has a personal interest in the transaction, as defined in § 30-101 of the Code of Virginia, shall neither vote nor be counted upon it, and he shall withdraw, or invoke this Rule not to be counted, prior to the taking of any vote upon it, by stating the same before the Committee, and the fact shall be recorded by the Committee Clerk and reported along with the votes of the Committee members on the bill or resolution. If a Senator invokes this rule, the Senator shall not participate, directly or indirectly, in the matter wherein the rule is invoked. Pairs may be taken in Committee voting as provided in Rule 36.

20 (e). The majority of any Committee shall constitute a quorum. Any Senator attending and recorded as present at a Committee meeting who must depart prior to the rising of the Committee, may designate, in writing on committee proxy forms, one member of the Committee to vote his proxy for the duration of his absence, but for no longer than the meeting of the Committee at which the proxy is given. Proxies are not transferable. The Chair shall be informed in open session of the proxy authority prior to the departure of the Senator so leaving.

20 (f). Any bill or resolution introduced in an even-numbered year, and not reported to the Senate by a Committee may, upon the majority vote of the elected membership of the Committee to which it has been referred, be continued on the agenda of the Committee for hearings and Committee action during the interim between sessions or for future action by the Committee during the following odd-numbered year regular sessions. A bill or resolution may be continued only one year from an even-numbered year session and not otherwise. The Committee shall report, prior to the adjournment sine die of the Senate, such bills or resolutions as shall be continued and the Clerk of the Senate shall enter upon the Journal the fact that such bill or resolution has been continued.

20 (g). The Senate, upon consideration of any bill or resolution on the Calendar, may recommit, in accordance with these Rules, the bill or resolution to the Committee reporting the same, and direct the Committee to continue the bill or resolution until the following odd-numbered year regular session, and hold such hearings or render such further consideration of the bill or resolution as the Committee may deem proper.

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428 20 (h). The Chair of the Committee, or the majority of the elected membership of a Committee, may
429 call meetings of the Committee during the interim between sessions to study, call hearings, and consider
430 any bill or resolution continued for further action at the odd-numbered year session, or to consider such
431 other matters as may be germane to the duties of the Committee.

432 20 (i). The provisions of this Rule relating to legislative continuity between sessions shall be subject
433 to the provisions of Article IV, Section 7 of the Constitution of Virginia.

434 20 (j). Each Committee shall have a clerk appointed by the Clerk of the Senate, after consultation
435 with the Chair of the Committee on Rules and the Chair of the respective Committee. The Clerk of the
436 Senate shall be the clerk to the Committee on Rules.

437 20 (k). The Chair of any Committee may appoint subcommittees to consider a particular bill or
438 resolution or to consider matters relative to a portion of the work of the Committee. Such
439 subcommittees shall not take final votes and shall only make recommendations to the Committee. The
440 Chair of the full Committee shall be an ex officio member of all subcommittees and entitled to vote, but
441 shall not be counted as a member for purposes of a quorum. All subcommittees shall be governed by
442 the Rules of the Senate.

443 20 (l). Any Committee of the Senate may, at its discretion, confer with any Committee of the House
444 of Delegates having under consideration the same subject and arrange joint meetings, hearings or
445 studies, as the Committees deem appropriate.

446 20 (m). A Committee, after considering a bill or resolution referred to it may:

447 A. Rerefer the same to another Committee, in the same form received, to consider applicable portions
448 of such bill or resolution as are germane to another Committee under the Rules, or may

449 B. Report it to the Senate

450 (i) without amendment,

451 (ii) with recommendation that a Committee amendment(s) be adopted, or

452 (iii) with recommendation that it be rereferred to another Committee (either with or without
453 amendment), in which latter event the Clerk of the Senate shall so rerefer unless the Senate shall
454 otherwise direct.

455 A recorded vote of members shall be taken upon any motion listed in A and B above and the name
456 and number of those voting for, against or abstaining reported with the bill or resolution and ordered
457 printed on the Calendar. The report recorded by the Committee Clerk shall be the recorded vote on the
458 motion and cannot be changed unless the vote is reconsidered and voted upon again. A recorded vote
459 shall not be necessary to report or rerefer a resolution, if that resolution does not have a specific vote
460 requirement pursuant to these Rules.

461 20 (n). Any bill, except the budget bill sent down by the Governor, whose principal objective is
462 taxation or which establishes a special fund or any type of nonreverting fund, whether or not such bill
463 may also require an appropriation, tax, special or general revenue, shall first be referred to the Standing
464 Committee which has jurisdiction of the subject matter of the bill as defined in rules 18 (a) through 18
465 (j) of the Rules of the Senate. If said bill is reported by the Committee of original jurisdiction then said
466 bill shall be rereferred by the Committee to the Finance Committee.

467 20 (o). A Committee may refer the subject matter of a bill or resolution to any agency, board,
468 commission, council, or other governmental or nongovernmental entity for comment, but the bill or
469 resolution shall remain with the Committee. The Chair of the Committee shall direct the Clerk of the
470 Senate to prepare the appropriate letter and the action of the Committee shall be made available to the
471 public.

472 20 (p). Committees of the Senate are authorized to seek and obtain, in the period of time between
473 sessions of the General Assembly, the services of citizens of the Commonwealth whose function will be
474 to participate with such Committees or Subcommittees thereof in reviewing legislation or in performing
475 any referred study or study initiated by the Committee or its Chair.

476 Persons appointed to serve shall receive reimbursement for their actual and reasonable expenses
477 incurred in the performance of services for the Committees. For such other expenses as may be
478 occasioned by the conduct of any Committee study, payments shall have approval in advance by the
479 Chair of the Committee on Rules in consultation with the Clerk and shall be made from the general
480 appropriation to the Senate.

481 20 (q). Persons who are asked by a Committee Chair to appear before a Committee or subcommittee
482 or study to offer expert testimony may receive reimbursement for their actual and reasonable expenses if
483 approved in advance by the Chair of the Committee on Rules, in consultation with the Clerk.

484 IX.

485 Order of Business.

486 21. At the appointed hour, the presiding officer of the Senate shall take the chair and call the Senate
487 to order, and the order of business thereafter shall be as follows:

488 (a) A period of devotions.

489 (b) A roll call of members present.

- (c) The reading of the Journal.
- (d) A period to be called the "morning hour," for the following purposes:
- i. to dispose of communications from the House of Delegates, the Executive, and the Judiciary.
 - ii. to recognize and welcome visitors to the Senate.
 - iii. to receive resolutions and bills, but such resolutions and bills may be received at the Clerk's desk at any time after the "morning hour," with leave of the Senate.
- (e) Consideration of unfinished business. (Unfinished business is legislation before the Senate as a result of or pending action by the House of Delegates.)
- (f) Consideration of the Calendar of the Senate for that day, for which purpose the Calendar shall be called by the Clerk of the Senate.
- (g) Upon completion of the Calendar and then Senators expressing Point(s) of Personal Privilege and such other business as may come before the Senate, a recess or adjournment shall then be taken.
22. To expedite the business of the Senate, it may order the convening of a "special morning session," at which session no vote shall be taken or other business transacted except the introduction of bills and resolutions. Upon the completion thereof, such session shall recess to such time as the Senate may have theretofore ordered. Such "special morning session" shall be convened by the presiding officer or President pro tempore unless otherwise designated. The "special morning session" shall be considered adjourned upon the convening of the daily session.
- 23 (a). Notwithstanding Rule 21 and Rule 22, any subject may, by a recorded vote of a majority of the members present and voting, be made a special and continuing order, to commence at a time to be fixed by the Senate, and when the time so fixed for its consideration arises, the presiding officer shall lay it before the Senate.
- 23 (b). When two or more special and continuing orders have been made for the same time, they shall have precedence according to the order in which they were severally assigned, and that order shall only be changed by majority of those present and voting. All motions to change such order shall be decided without debate.
24. When a bill or resolution of the House of Delegates is passed or rejected by the Senate, the fact of the passage or rejection, with the bill or resolution, shall be communicated to the House of Delegates.
- 25 (a). All bills, resolutions or other business originating in the Senate and all bills, resolutions or other business sent from the House of Delegates shall be dispatched in the order in which they are introduced or received, unless the Senate shall otherwise direct.
- 25 (b). Bills or resolutions of either house shall be divided on the Calendar between the designation "Uncontested Calendar" and "Regular Calendar," and be considered in such order. When such a division is made for bills or resolutions, the Uncontested Calendar shall not include any bills or resolutions (i) which receive a dissenting vote or abstention in Committee, or (ii) to which objection is made by any Senator on first reading. Any bills or resolutions shall be removed from the Uncontested Calendar at any time at the request of any Senator. Resolutions which do not have a specific vote requirement pursuant to these Rules shall not be placed on the Uncontested Calendar but may be divided separately.
- 25 (c). It shall be the duty of the Clerk to see that the printing and engrossing, when ordered, shall be done in such time that the bills and resolutions may be acted upon according to their priorities upon the Calendar. If, however, any bill or resolution is not ready when it is reached upon the Calendar, it shall be passed by, and be allowed to retain its place upon the Calendar.
- 25 (d). When the Calendar has been called through, it may be called again in order to dispose of any business that may be ready, and if there is none, the business of the "morning hour" shall be resumed and disposed of; but the business of the "morning hour" shall in no case be allowed to interfere with that of the Calendar without the unanimous consent of the members present.
- 26 (a). No law shall be enacted except by bill. Every bill, upon its introduction, shall be referred to the appropriate Committee. No bill shall become a law until the procedures required by Article IV, Section 11 of the Constitution of Virginia have been observed.
- 26 (b). No bill expressly amending any existing law shall be offered by any member unless or until the original and all copies thereof have been prepared so as to indicate deletions and additions. Each bill or resolution shall be signed by at least one Senator or by the Clerk of the Senate upon authorization of a member who has become incapacitated or who is unavailable to sign the legislation. Upon the approval of the Committee on Rules, electronic filing of bills and resolutions may be permitted. Any bill or resolution offered for introduction in the Senate may show two or more Senators as chief patrons and as "House Patrons" the signatures of members of the House of Delegates. The title of any bill having any provisions pertaining to taxation or revenues shall so indicate. The form for deletions and additions shall be to set forth the material deleted with lines through such material, e.g., ~~deleted material or words~~, and to underscore the words added, before they are received in the Senate. However, the stricken material and underscoring and italics in the printed bill, enrolled bills, and printed Acts shall not be considered evidence of all amendments to any bill or existing statute, but merely as an aid for quick

551 reference to amended portions. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as requiring the use of
552 stricken material or underscoring when new words are substituted for existing words where the new
553 words or the omission of words does not change the sense or meaning of the act.

554 26 (c). The title of a bill or resolution and all amendments offered thereto shall be entered upon the
555 Journal, except the amendments in the nature of a substitute shall be printed separately, and only the
556 titles thereof entered upon the Journal.

557 26 (d). Any Senate bill or resolution which has been amended during the legislative process by the
558 Senate shall be engrossed and reproduced by the Clerk of the Senate, as soon as practicable, in
559 sufficient numbers for the members of the Senate and House of Delegates.

560 26 (e). The designation of "Senate Bill" or "Senate Resolution" or "Senate Joint Resolution" shall
561 not be changed nor amended after a bill or resolution is introduced in the Senate. Nor shall the
562 designation of "House Bill" or "House Joint Resolution" be changed or amended after the bill or
563 resolution is received by the Senate.

564 26 (f). Any member of the Senate or House of Delegates who requests in writing to the Clerk that
565 he be added as a co-patron of any bill or resolution, provided that the first vote on the passage of the
566 bill or agreement to the resolution has not occurred, or, if the bill or resolution is not reported from
567 Committee, then prior to the last action on such legislation, shall be listed in the Journal as a co-patron
568 of such bill or resolution, and shall be so listed on such bill or resolution at its next printing, if any.

569 Any member of the Senate or House of Delegates may also request in writing to the Clerk that his
570 name be removed as a co-patron of any bill or resolution provided that the first vote on the passage of
571 the bill or agreement to the resolution has not occurred, or, if the bill or resolution is not reported from
572 Committee, then prior to the last action on such legislation, and thereafter his name shall not be listed in
573 the Journal as a co-patron of such bill or resolution, nor shall his name be listed on such bill or
574 resolution at its next printing, if any.

575 26 (g). Any memorial or commending resolutions shall conform to the form and procedure set forth
576 by the Clerk of the Senate and shall not be referred to the Committee on Rules, but shall be placed
577 upon the Calendar on the next Thursday of the session and shall be considered for approval on said day;
578 however, any one member may object to such consideration and the same shall be continued to the next
579 Thursday session or any member may move that the same be referred to the Committee on Rules.

580 No Senator may introduce more than a combined total of ten commending and memorial resolutions
581 each session, except for the Chair of the Committee on Rules when introducing such resolutions
582 according to custom or protocol.

583 27. Bills or resolutions originating in the House of Delegates and communicated to the Senate shall
584 be read by title the first time when received and referred to the appropriate Committee unless otherwise
585 directed by the Senate.

586 28 (a). No bill or resolution reported from a Committee of the Senate shall be recommitted or
587 amended until it has been twice read by title, nor shall any Senate bill or resolution be amended after its
588 third reading, except by the unanimous consent of the Senate. House bills or resolutions may be
589 recommitted or amended at any time before their final passage, but a bill or resolution which has been
590 recommitted to a Committee, when reported by Committee, shall be restored on the Calendar to the
591 status it had before it was recommitted.

592 28 (b). In the case of a House bill or resolution, engrossment shall only apply to such amendments
593 as may have been made in the Senate.

594 29. Whenever a Senate bill or resolution is reported to the Senate with one or more House
595 amendments, copies of all such amendments shall be furnished to each Senator. The same shall apply to
596 amendments proposed by a Senate Committee or by a Senator, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate.

597 30. Every question shall be put in the affirmative and the presiding officer shall declare whether the
598 yeas or the nays have it, which declaration shall stand as the judgment of the Senate. The yeas and
599 nays on any question shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the Journal. On the
600 final vote of any bill, and on the vote in any election or impeachment conducted in the General
601 Assembly or on the expulsion of a Senator, the name of each Senator voting, and how he voted shall be
602 recorded in the Journal. After the roll has been taken, and before the vote is announced by the presiding
603 officer, any Senator shall have the right to correct any mistake committed in enrolling his name and the
604 presiding officer shall order the vote to be stricken.

605 31. Any Senator may call for a division of the question, which shall be divided if it comprehends
606 propositions so distinct in substance that, one being taken away, a substantive proposition shall remain
607 for the decision of the Senate.

608 32. Upon the determination of a question, any Senator may enter his protest upon the Journal, with
609 the consent of one-third of the Senators present; and on the question "Shall the protest be entered on the
610 Journal?", no privileged motion as set out in Rule 47 (a) or Rule 47 (b) shall be in order except to
611 adjourn.

612 33. Whenever the Senate proceeds to consider any nominations or appointments after the same have

been reported by the appropriate Committee, which are subject to the choice or ratification of the Senate, and when it is so ordered by the Senate pursuant to Chapter 37 of Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia, the same shall be considered in executive session.

X.

The Pending and Previous Question.

34. Upon a motion for the pending question, agreed to by a majority of the Senators present, as indicated by a recorded vote, and there being no other motions afforded priority by these Rules, the presiding officer shall immediately put the pending question. All incidental questions of order arising after a motion for the pending question is made, and pending such motion, shall be decided, whether on appeal or otherwise, without debate.

35. Upon a motion for the previous question, agreed to by a majority of the Senators present, as indicated by a recorded vote, and there being no other motions afforded priority by these Rules, the presiding officer shall immediately put the question, first upon the amendments in the order prescribed in the Rules, and then upon the main question. If the previous question be not ordered, debate may continue as if the motion had not been made.

XI.

Taking the Vote.

36. Every Senator present in the Chamber, when any question is put or vote taken, shall vote or be counted as voting on one side or the other, except in the case of pairs, as hereinafter provided. A Senator who has a personal interest in the transaction, as defined in § 30-101 of the Code of Virginia, shall neither vote nor be counted upon it, and he shall withdraw, or invoke this rule not to be counted, prior to the division and the fact shall be recorded on the voting machine. If a Senator invokes this rule, the Senator shall not participate, directly or indirectly, in the matter wherein the rule is invoked. Pairs upon any question pending may be made and entered upon the Journal, and in such cases shall be announced immediately upon completion of the roll call, and before the announcement of its result. Pairs may be general or special. General pairs shall extend to and include all motions, amendments, or other proceedings in aid of or against the question pending, and which is the subject of the pairs. Special pairs shall depend in their scope upon the agreement between the Senators making the same, but in absence of a specific agreement, the presumption shall be conclusive that the pairs are general. The Senator announcing a pair shall be counted as present for the purposes of establishing a quorum. Pairs may be taken in Committee votes under this rule herein set forth.

37. The voting machine may be used for the call of the roll, for recording abstentions under Rule 36, or for the affirmative and the negative of the question.

38 (a). No Senator shall be allowed to vote or submit a vote statement unless he is in attendance at the daily session at the time the Senate is being divided, or before a determination of the question upon a call of the roll, and is physically present in the Chamber, or one of its anterooms. A Senator may submit a vote statement if he was not recorded as voting or if his recorded vote does not reflect his intention. The statement shall be limited to the fact that his vote was not recorded or that his vote did not reflect his intention and must be submitted to the Clerk of the Senate by the adjournment of the daily session.

38 (b). In cases where the presiding officer is also a member of the Senate at the time a recorded vote is being taken, the presiding officer shall request another Senator to cast his vote for him or shall cast his vote from the Chair.

XII.

Committees of Conference.

39 (a). The Senate members of any committee of conference with the House of Delegates shall be designated by the Chair of the Committee to which the bill or resolution in conference was first referred by the Clerk of the Senate. If a Senate bill or resolution is in conference, the chief patron(s) of the same shall be a conferee and, where feasible, members of a Committee to which the bill or resolution was referred or rereferred shall comprise the conferees.

Any conference report must be agreed to by the majority of the members of each house on the conference committee before it may be filed with the Senate. If the report of the first named conference is rejected by the Senate or the conferees cannot agree, the Chair shall designate the same or new conferees in the event a second conference is formed.

Conferees shall not insert in their report matters not committed to them by either house, nor shall they strike from the bill or resolution in conference matters agreed to by both houses.

39 (b). When a committee of conference is meeting it shall inform the Clerk of the place of meeting; and, when a vote be put, the presiding officer shall, before calling the vote, inform the Senate conferees of the pending vote and grant them a reasonable opportunity to return to the Chamber to vote.

XIII.

Debate.

ENGROSSED

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674 40 (a). While the presiding officer is reporting or putting any question, or the Clerk of the Senate is
675 reporting a bill or resolution or calling the roll, or a Senator is addressing the Chair, strict order shall be
676 observed. No Senator or other person shall give audible expression to his or her approval or disapproval
677 of any proceeding before the Senate. The use of props is prohibited on the floor of the Senate.

678 40 (b). The use of audible electronic devices used for transmitting and receiving communications is
679 prohibited in Senate committee rooms and the Senate Chamber. The use of cellular telephones is
680 prohibited in Senate committee rooms and the Senate Chamber. Violations of this rule shall be
681 punishable as prescribed by the Committee on Rules.

682 41. If words are spoken in debate that give offense, exception thereto shall be taken the same day,
683 and be stated in writing; and in such case, if the words are decided by the presiding officer, or by the
684 Senate, upon an appeal, to be offensive, and they are not explained or retracted by the Senator who
685 uttered them, he shall be subject to such action as the Senate may deem necessary.

686 42. When any member is about to speak in debate or deliver any matter to the Senate, he shall rise
687 from his seat, and without advancing, with due respect, address "Mr. President," confining himself
688 strictly to the point in debate, and avoiding all disrespectful language.

689 43. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same subject without leave of the Senate, nor
690 more than once, until every member choosing to speak has spoken.

691 44. No question shall be debated until it has been stated by the presiding officer, and the mover
692 shall have the right to explain his views in preference to any Senator.

693 45. During any debate any Senator, though he has spoken to the matter, may rise and speak to the
694 orders of the Senate if they are transgressed, in case the presiding officer does not so rise and speak, but
695 if the presiding officer stands up at any time, he is first to be heard, and while he is standing Senators
696 shall keep their seats.

697 46. No Senator shall be allowed to be interrupted while speaking, except on points of order, to
698 correct erroneous statements, or for a Senator to answer any questions that may be stated by the Senator
699 speaking.

700 47 (a). The following motions shall not be debated or spoken to except as hereinafter provided:

701 (i) A motion to adjourn.

702 (ii) A motion calling for a vote on the pending question.

703 (iii) A motion calling for a vote on the previous question.

704 (iv) A motion to suspend the Rules.

705 (v) A motion to close debate.

706 (vi) A motion to limit debate.

707 (vii) A motion to extend the limit of debate.

708 (viii) A motion to reconsider matters not debatable.

709 (ix) A motion to change, in case of two or more special and continuing orders.

710 47 (b). Upon the following motions, the mover shall be allowed five minutes to speak to his motion,
711 to state the reasons therefor, and one member opposed to the motion shall be allowed a like time to
712 speak to the motion, to state his objections:

713 (i) A motion for a special and continuing order.

714 (ii) A motion to appeal a ruling of the Chair.

715 47 (c). When a question not debatable is before the Senate, all incidental questions arising after it is
716 stated shall be decided and settled without debate, whether on appeal or otherwise. This same Rule shall
717 apply to all incidental questions arising after the presiding officer has put any question to the Senate.

718 47 (d). A motion to strike out, being lost, shall preclude neither amendment nor a motion to insert,
719 nor a motion to strike out and insert.

720 47 (e). When a question is pending, no motion shall be received but to adjourn, to pass by for the
721 day, for the pending question, for the previous question, or to amend; which several motions shall have
722 precedence in the order in which they are herein set out.

723 47 (f). Except as otherwise provided herein, the provisions of Rule 47 (e), a primary motion may be
724 substituted once.

725 XIV.

726 Reconsideration.

727 48 (a). A question arising on a Senate Bill, Senate Resolution or Senate Joint Resolution being once
728 determined must stand as the judgment of the Senate, and cannot during the course of that session of
729 the General Assembly be drawn again into debate, unless a motion to reconsider a question which has
730 been decided has been made by a Senator voting with the prevailing side on the same day on which the
731 vote was taken.

732 However, if such action has not been communicated to the House, a motion to reconsider may be
733 made within the next two days of actual session of the Senate thereafter.

734 Unless unanimous consent of the members of the Senate present and voting on a motion for a second
735 or subsequent reconsideration be granted, no measure being once determined may be reconsidered more

than once by the Senate during that session of the General Assembly.

When any question is decided in the negative simply for the want of a majority of the whole Senate, any Senator who was absent from the city of Richmond or detained from his seat by sickness at the time of the vote sought to be reconsidered may move its reconsideration.

A Senator desiring such reconsideration shall confer with the Chair of the Committee on Rules, or in his absence the next listed available member of the Committee on Rules, who shall consult with the chief spokesman for and against the measure, if there is any, and thereafter such Chair or next listed member may direct the Clerk to defer or expedite the transmittal of the action of the Senate on the measure to the House of Delegates to permit the making of such motion for reconsideration; however, in no event shall such deferral of transmittal hereunder be for more than one legislative day.

This rule shall not preclude consideration of any House Bill, House Joint Resolution, or House amendment to a Senate Bill or a Senate Joint Resolution, regardless of whether such House measure involves a question already determined.

48 (b). If the Committee has possession of a bill or resolution, a motion to reconsider in Committee may be made no later than the next Committee meeting.

However, a motion to reconsider at a second or subsequent meeting may be made with unanimous consent if the Committee has possession of the bill or resolution.

XV.

Suspension of Rules.

49. Any rule of the Senate may only, except where otherwise provided by the Constitution of Virginia, be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the Senators present and voting. These Rules may be suspended by a vote of two-thirds of the Senators present and voting. If the Senate is meeting due to a state emergency or enemy attack pursuant to Article IV, Section 8 of the Constitution, then the Rules of the Senate may be suspended by a vote of two-thirds of the quorum.

XVI.

Appeals.

50. If the presiding officer rules on any matter under these Rules by his own act, or upon request of any Senator, and if any Senator objects to the ruling of the presiding officer, then an appeal to the Senate shall lie. The appeal shall be stated as a motion to sustain the ruling of the Chair. To overrule the ruling of the Chair shall require a majority of those present and voting. A ruling of the Chair shall not be overruled on appeal by a tie vote.

XVII.

Committee of the Whole.

51. The Senate may go into the Committee of the Whole only upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present and voting. When the Senate shall resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole, the President shall leave the Chair and the President pro tempore shall preside in the Committee. If the President pro tempore is absent from the Senate, then the Senate shall elect a chair to preside therein.

The Committee of the Whole shall consider and report on such subjects as may be committed to it by the Senate. The Rules of the Senate shall be observed in the Committee of the Whole, so far as they are applicable. The proceedings in the Committee of the Whole shall not be recorded on the Journal of the Senate, except so far as reported to the Senate by the Chair of the Committee.

XVIII.

Campaign Advocacy Contribution Limitations.

52. During any regular, special, or reconvened session of the General Assembly, no member of the Senate shall use his name or title or authorize another person to use the Senator's name or title, orally or in writing, to solicit monetary contributions if any part of the contributions would be used to pay for an advocacy campaign conducted through mass mailings, e-mails, telephone calls or other communication media to influence the outcome of legislative action by the General Assembly. This rule shall not apply during any recess of a special session. Nothing in this rule shall prohibit a Senator from using his name or title or authorizing another person to use the Senator's name or title in the letterhead or roster listing the membership of an organization.

XIX.

Senate Ethics and Senate Ethics Advisory Panel.

53 (a). The Senate Ethics Advisory Panel shall be composed of five members: three of whom shall be former members of the Senate; and two of whom shall be citizens of the Commonwealth who have not previously held such office. No member shall engage in activities requiring him to register as a lobbyist under § 2.2-422 of the Code of Virginia during his tenure on the Panel. The members shall be nominated by the Committee on Privileges and Elections of the Senate and confirmed by the Senate. Nominations shall be made so as to assure bipartisan representation on the Panel.

53 (b). Whenever the Clerk receives a report of the Senate Ethics Advisory Panel or a resolution

897 seeking the reprimand, censure, or expulsion of a Senator, the report shall be referred forthwith to the
 898 Committee on Privileges and Elections. The Committee shall consider the matter, conduct such hearings
 899 as it shall deem necessary, and, in all cases report its determination of the matter, together with its
 900 recommendations and reasons for its resolves, to the Senate. If the Committee deems disciplinary action
 901 warranted, it shall report a resolution offered by a member of the Committee to express such action.
 902 Any such resolution reported by the Committee shall be a privileged matter. The Senate as a whole
 903 shall then consider the resolution, and, by recorded vote, either defeat the resolution or take one or more
 904 of the following actions: (i) reprimand the Senator with a majority vote of the Senators present and
 905 voting; (ii) censure the Senator and place the Senator last in seniority with a majority vote of the elected
 906 membership of the Senate; (iii) expel the Senator with a two-thirds vote of the elected membership of
 907 the Senate; or (iv) refer the matter to the Attorney General for appropriate action with a majority vote of
 908 the Senators present and voting, in the event the Senate finds a knowing violation of § 30-108 or
 909 subsection C of § 30-110 of the Code of Virginia.

XX.

Court of Impeachment.

912 54. When, pursuant to the Constitution, the Senate sits as a Court for the trial of impeachments, the
 913 Rules covering the same shall be as the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the United States Senate
 914 when sitting on Impeachment Trials.

XXI.

Votes Required.

917 55. The votes required shall be as set forth in the Appendix to these Rules.

XXII.

Construction of Rules.

920 56. The Rules of the Senate shall be adopted at the commencement of the first regular session of the
 921 General Assembly after the election of the Senate, and shall be in force for the succeeding four years
 922 unless amended or suspended as provided by these Rules *or unless directed by the Senate whose*
 923 *membership has changed due to the election of a Senator or whose President of the Senate has changed*
 924 *due to the election of a new Lieutenant Governor.* In the construction of the Rules, reference shall be
 925 had to the following sources in the following order:

- 926 (a) Jefferson's Manual of Parliamentary Practice.
- 927 (b) Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure.
- 928 (c) Standing Rules for Conducting Business in the Senate of the United States.

APPENDIX

930 VOTES REQUIRED PURSUANT TO
 931 CONSTITUTION
 932 OR RULES OF THE SENATE
 933

- | | |
|--|--|
| 934 (1) Appeals from ruling
935 of chair to overrule
936 chair
937
938 | -- a majority of the members present
and voting
not less than.....11
(Rule 50) |
| 939 (2) Bills: | |
| 940 (a) Ordinary bills
941
942
943
944 | -- a majority of the members voting,
not less than.....16
(Const. Art. IV, Sec. 11)
(Same for House amendment
or Conference report) |
| 945 (b) Appropriation,
946 Claim or Demand
947 of State, Debt or
948 Charge, New
949 Office, Tax | -- a majority of the members elected,
not less than.....21
(Const. Art. IV, Sec. 11)
(Same for House amendment
or Conference report) |
| 950 (c)(1) Bonds, general
951 obligation
952 | -- a majority of the members elected,
not less than.....21
(Const. Art. X, Sec. 9(b)) |
| 953 (2) Bonds, revenue
954
955 | -- 2/3 of the members elected,
not less than.....27
(Const. Art. X, Sec. 9(c)) |
| 956 (d) Charter or "Special Act" | -- 2/3 of the members elected, |

857	for county, city, town or	not less than.....27
858	regional government	(Const. Art. VII, Sec. 1)
859		(Same for House amendment
860		or Conference report)
861	(e) Printing or Reading	-- 4/5 of the members voting,
862	dispensed	not less than.....17
863		(Const. Art. IV, Sec. 11)
864	(f) Creating new	-- a majority of the members elected,
865	office	not less than.....21
866		(Const. Art. IV, Sec. 11)
867		
868	(3) Censure of a Senator	-- a majority of the members elected,
869		not less than.....21
870		(Rule 18(h) and Rule 53(b))
871		
872	(4) Committee of the Whole,	-- a majority of the members present
873	to go into	and voting,
874		not less than.....11
875		(Rule 51)
876		
877	(5) Constitution, amending	
878	(a) Virginia Constitution	-- a majority of the members elected,
879	Bills or Resolutions	not less than.....21
880	proposing to amend	(Const. Art. XII, Sec. 1)
881	(b) Amendment to Bill or	-- a majority of the members elected,
882	Resolution proposing to	not less than.....21
883	amend Virginia Constitution	(Const. Art. XII, Sec. 1)
884	(c) Virginia Constitutional	-- 2/3 of the members elected,
885	Convention, calling of	not less than.....27
886		(Const. Art. XII, Sec. 2)
887	(d) United States Constitution,	-- a majority of the members present
888	Resolutions proposing to	and voting,
889	ratify and amend	not less than.....11
890	(e) United States Constitution,	-- a majority of the members present
891	Resolutions proposing	and voting,
892	calling of a convention	not less than.....11
893	to amend	
894		
895	(6) Discharging Committee	-- a majority of the members voting,
896		not less than 2/5 of the
897		members elected.....16
898		(Const. Art. IV, Sec. 11)
899		
900	(7) Division of question	-- 1 Senator.....1
901	required	(Rule 31)
902		
903	(8) Emergency Clause	-- 4/5 of the members voting,
904		not less than.....17
905		(Const. Art. IV, Sec. 13)
906		
907	(9) Expulsion of a Senator	-- 2/3 of the members elected,
908		not less than.....27
909		(Const. Art. IV, Sec. 7;
910		Sec. 10; Rule 18(h) and
911		Rule 53(b))
912		

- 913 (10) Extended Session 30 days -- 2/3 of the members elected,
914 not less than.....27
915 (Const. Art. IV, Sec. 6)
916
- 917 (11) Governor, disability of -- 3/4 of the members elected,
918 not less than.....30
919 (Const. Art. V, Sec. 16)
920
- 921 (12) Governor's recommendation -- a majority of the members present.
922 for amending bill In case of refusal, bill
923 again sent to Governor
924 (Const. Art. V, Sec. 6)
925
- 926 (13) Impeachment -- 2/3 of the members present,
927 not less than.....14
928 (Const. Art. IV, Sec. 17;
929 Sec. 10)
930
- 931 (14) Journal, reading waived
932 (a) All sessions except -- a majority of the members voting
933 reconvened special not less than.....11
934 sessions with no business (Rule 3)
935 (b) Reconvened special -- 2 Senators.....2
936 sessions with no business (Rules 3 and 5)
937
- 938 (15) Protest entered upon -- 1/3 of the members present,
939 Journal not less than.....7
940 (Rule 32)
941
- 942 (16) Reading or printing of -- 4/5 of the members voting,
943 a Bill dispensed not less than.....17
944 (Const. Art. IV, Sec. 11)
945
- 946 (17) Recorded vote, yeas
947 and nays
948 (a) Floor -- 1/5 of the members present
949 Const.
950 Art. IV, Sec. 10 and
951 Rule 30)
952 (b) Committee -- 1/5 of the Committee
953 members present
954
- 955 (18) Referring certain -- a majority of the members voting,
956 violations of not less than.....11
957 Conflict of Interest (Rule 18(h) and Rule 53(b))
958 Act to Attorney General
959
- 960 (19) Reprimand of a Senator -- a majority of the members
961 present
962 and voting,
963 not less than.....11
964 (Rule 18(h) and Rule 53(b))
965
- 966 (20) Resolutions other than -- a majority of the members voting,
967 those proposing a not less than.....16
968 Constitutional amendment
969

970	(21) Suspending or amending	-- 2/3 of the members present
971	Rules	and voting,
972	(a) Regular quorum	not less than.....14
973		(Rule 49)
974	(b) Lesser quorum	-- 2/3 of the quorum,
975	pursuant to Art. IV, Sec. 8	not less than.....11
976	of the Constitution	(Rule 49)
977		
978	(22) (a) Special and	-- a majority of the members present
979	Continuing Order	and voting,
980		not less than.....11
981		(Rule 23(a))
982	(b) Changing Special and	-- a majority of the members
983	Continuing Order	present and voting,
984		not less than.....11
985		(Rule 23(b))
986		
987	(23) Supreme Court,	-- 3/5 of the members elected,
988	Increase size of	voting at 2 consecutive
989		regular sessions,
990		not less than.....24
991		(Const. Art. VI, Sec. 2)
992		
993	(24) Veto, to override	-- 2/3 of the members present,
994		not less than a majority
995		of the members elected..21
996		(Const. Art. V, Sec. 6)
997		
998	(25) Votes on elections,	-- names to be recorded in Journal
999	impeachments or expulsions	(Const. Art. IV, Sec. 10)
1000	of a Senator	(also see Secs. 7 & 17)
1001		
1002	(26) Vote to remove Senator	-- 2/3 a majority of the members present
1003	from a Committee	and voting,
1004		not less than..... 14 11
1005		(Rule 20(a))
1006		
1007	(27) Vote to elect Senator(s)	-- a majority of members present
1008	to Committee	and voting,
1009		not less than.....11
1010		(Rule 18)
1011		
1012	(28) Interruption of the	-- unanimous consent of
1013	Calendar	members present
1014		(Rule 25(d))
1015		
1016	(29) Amend Senate bill or	-- unanimous consent
1017	resolution after	(Rule 28(a))
1018	third reading	
1019		
1020	(30) Reconsideration	
1021	(a) Floor (Second and	-- unanimous consent of
1022	subsequent	members present
1023	Reconsideration)	(Rule 48(a))
1024		
1025	(b) Committee	-- unanimous consent of

1026 the committee
 1027 if later than the
 1028 next meeting
 1029 (Rule 48(b))
 1030
 1031 (31) President pro tempore's -- unanimous consent of members
 1032 substitute to continue present
 1033 to preside over the Senate (Rule 2(c))
 1034
 1035 (32) Call of the Senate to -- at least 9 Senators
 1036 send for absentee(s) (Rule 5)
 1037
 1038 (33) Adjournment
 1039 (a) Daily Session -- at least 2 Senators (Rule 5)
 1040 (b) Certain Special Session -- at least 2 Senators (Rule 5)
 1041 (c) Certain Reconvened -- at least 2 Senators (Rule 5)
 1042 Session of a
 1043 Special Session
 1044
 1045 (34) Quorum
 1046 (a) Emergency -- at least 16 Senators
 1047 (Const. Art. IV, Sec. 8)
 1048 (b) Daily Session -- a majority of members elected,
 1049 not less than.....21
 1050 (Const. Art. IV, Sec. 8; Rule 5)
 1051 (c) Reconvened Session -- a majority of members elected,
 1052 not less than.....21
 1053 (d) Certain Special -- at least 2 Senators (Rule 5)
 1054 Session
 1055 (e) Certain Reconvened -- at least 2 Senators (Rule 5)
 1056 Session of a Special
 1057 Session
 1058 (f) Committee -- at least 8 Senators
 1059 (Rule 20(e))
 1060
 1061 (35) Election of "Interim" -- a majority of Committee members
 1062 Clerk present and voting
 1063 at least 5 Senators
 1064 [~~(26) Vote to remove Senator~~ -- ~~2/3 a majority of the members present~~
 1065 ~~from a Committee~~ and voting,
 1066 ~~not less than.....1411~~
 1067 ~~(Rule 20(a))]~~