

January 25, 2007

**H 11. HOUSE RULES.** Filed 1/25/07. *ADOPTING THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE 2007 SESSION.* Same as 2005 rules with the following exceptions. Rule 1: Deletes restriction prohibiting Friday sessions for January and February 2005. Requires that actual time governs application of this rule and that chamber clock will not be followed if time is inaccurate. Rule 2: Deletes language limiting the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the first day of the legislative week. Rule 5: Specifies that the order of the business of the day may not be changed unless the change is requested by the Speaker or another House member and approved by a majority of the members present. Rule 6: Clarifies that specific rules override speaker's general power of direction. Rule 7: Adds guidelines for obtaining the floor. Specifies members' obligations in addressing the Speaker, and Speaker's duties in recognizing or declining to recognize a member. Rule 9: States that the Speaker is to apply these rules to questions of order that may arise. Changes the number of votes required (1) to sustain an appeal from the Speaker's ruling or (2) for a member, called to order by the Speaker, to proceed in debate, from a two-thirds vote to a majority vote of members present. Rule 12: Adds subsection (k) prohibiting the distribution in the chamber of written materials attacking members while the House is in session. Rule 16: Deletes requirement that a motion to table be decided without debate. Rule 18: Specifies that only a member on the prevailing side has the right to move for reconsideration of a question that has been decided. Removes from the list of motions requiring a two-thirds vote a motion to reconsider election of speaker. Rule 19: Expands the identification of members eligible to call the previous question to include (1) the majority leader or a majority whip; and (2) the minority leader or a minority whip. Requires that if there are three or more members that wish to speak on each side of a question, that before the previous question may be called, at least three members must have spoken in the affirmative and three in the negative. Rule 20: Requires electronic voting on all amendments to public bills. Rule 23: Requires that the Speaker or other presiding officer not disregard a member's timely call for a division. Rule 24: Specifies that the Speaker may not disregard a timely request for a roll call vote. Rule 24.1A: Requires that any member wishing to be excused from deliberations or voting on a bill must make a brief oral statement of the reasons for the request and submit a written statement of the reason for the request to the Principal Clerk for inclusion in the Journal. Rule 26: Eliminates language conferring an exclusive right to the Speaker to establish select committees. Requires the Speaker to appoint all members of permanent subcommittees and standing committees having no permanent subcommittees before the end of the tenth legislative day of the first regular session. Specifies that appointments to committees be made on a mathematical basis that reflects the partisan membership of the House. Rewrites subsection (h) to specify that once appointed to a committee or subcommittee under this rule, the member may be removed only for cause and additional members may be appointed to committees or subcommittees only to fill a vacancy. Previously subsection (h) delineated voting rights of ex officio members of standing committees and permanent subcommittees (floater voters). Requires that each House member, excepting the Speaker and Speaker Pro Tem., be assigned to the Committee on Appropriations and one of its subcommittees, or to the Committee on Finance. Rule 28.1: Prohibits subcommittee meetings on the House floor. Prohibits presiding officers from disregarding a call for the ayes and noes or for division. Rule 28: Prohibits holding meetings of subcommittees and permanent subcommittees on the House floor. States that no presiding officer may disregard a member that calls for a roll call vote or a division on a question before a committee or standing subcommittee. Rule 28.1: Rewrites subsection (a) to apply to any alleged violations by House members of any rule, standard of conduct, or law that applies to the conduct of business of the House or House members. Removes all references that would specify application of this rule only to violations of the Open Meetings Law. Adds subsection (d) stating that the ethics Committee will consider complaints against presiding officers for violations under this rule if the violation was brought to the presiding officer's attention in a timely manner and the presiding officer failed to take timely action in the matter. Rule 31: Prohibits introduction of blank bills. Removes prohibition on amending a public bill's title on the floor. Rule 31.1: Revises 2007 deadlines for (1) submissions of bills to Bill Drafting and (2) the introduction of bills as follows: public bills or resolutions recommended by commissions or standing committees and bills prepared to be introduced for departments, agencies, or state institutions—March 7 and March 14; local bills—March 20 and

March 28; public bills *not* requiring re-referral to the Appropriations or Finance Committees—April 11 and April 18; public bills requiring re-referral to the Appropriations and/or Finance Committees—May 2 and May 9. Sets Thursday, May 17, 2007, as crossover deadline. Rule 32: Requires that the Speaker refer bills to the standing committee or permanent subcommittee whose usual jurisdiction relates to the subject matter of the bill. Rule 36: Modifies requirements for reports by standing committees or permanent subcommittees, and placement of reported bills on the calendar, and advance notice of proposed committee substitutes. Rule 36.1: Requires that after a request for a fiscal note, the bill, resolution, or amendment must be removed from the calendar until the fiscal note is attached. Rule 36.4: Adds rule specifying content restrictions for appropriation bills. Rule 38.1: Adds new rule delineating special rules relating to the budget. Rule 39: Changes the voting requirements to support a motion regarding recall of a bill from a standing committee, from three-fifths to a majority of House members. Rule 39.3: Establishes procedures governing a motion to discharge a committee from consideration of a bill or resolution and for generating and circulating a discharge petition. Rule 40: Prohibits Speaker from varying from the order of the calendar with approval of the members. Rule 44: Adds a new subsection prohibiting voting on adoption of a conference report until the third legislative day following distribution of the report to the office of each House member. Rule 45: Amends subsection (a) to require the election of the Speaker by roll call of the members. Rule 59: Allows members to electronically identify themselves to the office of the Principal Clerk as co-sponsors of a bill or resolution within one hour after adjournment. Rule 61: Specifies procedure for assigning seats. Makes technical and conforming changes.

**Intro. by Blust.**

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