

**2025
NORTH CAROLINA
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**SENATE
RULES - DIRECTORY**



RACHEL HUNT
President of the Senate

PHIL BERGER
President *Pro Tempore*

BILL RABON
Chairman, Rules and Operations of the Senate

**PRESIDENT
of the
SENATE**



**Rachel Hunt
Lieutenant Governor**

**310 N. Blount Street
Room 1115 Legislative Building
(919) 814-3680**

**PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE
of the
SENATE**



Senator Phil Berger

**Room 2007 Legislative Building
(919) 733-5708**

**SENATE
DIRECTORY
COMMITTEES
AND
RULES**

SESSION 2025

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**SENATE LEADERSHIP
AND
OFFICERS**

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President *Pro Tempore*
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Deputy President *Pro Tempore*
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REPUBLICAN PARTY OFFICERS

Majority Leader
Michael V. Lee (919) 715-2525

Majority Whips
Amy S. Gale (919) 301-1446
Todd Johnson (919) 733-7659

Republican Joint Caucus Leader
Carl Ford (919) 733-5665

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OFFICERS

Democratic Leader
Sydney Batch (919) 733-5653

Democratic Whip
Jay J. Chaudhuri (919) 715-6400

Democratic Caucus Secretary
Julie Mayfield (919) 715-3001

SENATE OFFICERS

Principal Clerk
Sarah Holland (919) 733-7761

Sergeant-at-Arms
Eddie Broughton (919) 733-5946

Gale Adcock



Democrat District 16 (919) 715-3036
Seat 43 Gale.Adcock@ncleg.gov Rm. 1104 LB
2 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Isabella Allen
4 Terms--**House**
Birthdate--1/25
Spouse: Kevin

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Health and Human Services
Commerce and Insurance
Finance
Health Care
Rules and Operations of the Senate
State and Local Government

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 1104
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

16th District--**Wake** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

W. Ted Alexander



Republican District 44 (919) 715-0690
Seat 13 Ted.Alexander@ncleg.gov Rm. 621 LOB
4 Terms--Senate Legislative Assistant: Lynn Tennant
Birthdate--8/14
Spouse: Patti

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on General Government and
Information Technology
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
State and Local Government
Appropriations/Base Budget
Commerce and Insurance
Elections
Finance

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 621
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

44th District--**Cleveland**, Gaston (Part), Lincoln
*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Val Applewhite



Democrat District 19 (919) 733-5776
Seat 34 Val.Applewhite@ncleg.gov Rm. 516 LOB
2 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Rochon Kearney
Birthdate--3/12

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on Education/Higher Education
Finance
Health Care
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
State and Local Government

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 516
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

19th District--**Cumberland** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Sydney Batch
Democratic Leader



Democrat District 17 (919) 733-5653
Seat 39 _____ Sydney.Batch@ncleg.gov _____ Rm. 1026 LB
2+ Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Fei Persing
1 Term--**House**
Birthdate--3/1
Spouse: Patrick

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety
Commerce and Insurance
Elections
Finance
Judiciary
Select Committee on Nominations

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 1026
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

17th District--**Wake** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Dan Blue



Democrat District 14 (919) 733-5752
Seat 38 Dan.Blue@ncleg.gov Rm. 1129 LB
8+ Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Bonnie McNeil
13+ Terms--**House**
Birthdate--4/18
Spouse: Edna

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on Health and Human Services
Commerce and Insurance
Finance
Judiciary
Rules and Operations of the Senate
Select Committee on Nominations

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 1129
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

Preferred
205 Fayetteville Street
Suite 300
Raleigh, NC 27601

Alternate Phone:
(919) 833-1931

14th District--**Wake** (Part)

Woodson Bradley



Democrat District 42 (919) 715-8331
Seat 42 Woodson.Bradley@ncleg.gov Rm. 518 LOB
1 Term--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Ryan Terhune
Birthdate--2/5
Spouse: William

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on General Government and Information Technology
Education/Higher Education
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
Regulatory Reform

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 518
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
P.O. Box 49068
Charlotte, NC 28277

42nd District--**Mecklenburg** (Part)

Danny Earl Britt, Jr.



Republican District 24 (919) 733-5651
Seat 9 Danny.Britt@ncleg.gov Rm. 523 LOB
5 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Camille McDougald
Birthdate--7/6
Spouse: Jill

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety
Commerce and Insurance
Judiciary
Appropriations/Base Budget
Health Care
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
Rules and Operations of the Senate

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 523
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

24th District--Hoke, **Robeson**, Scotland
*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Jim Burgin



Republican District 12 (919) 733-5748
Seat 15 _____ Jim.Burgin@ncleg.gov _____ Rm. 620 LOB
4 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Christie Darling
Birthdate--5/20
Spouse: Ann

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Health and Human Services
Health Care
Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations/Base Budget
Finance
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
State and Local Government

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 620
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
P.O. Box 1
Angier, NC 27501

12th District--**Harnett**, Lee, Sampson (Part)

Jay J. Chaudhuri
Democratic Whip



Democrat District 15 (919) 715-6400
Seat 46 Jay.Chaudhuri@ncleg.gov Rm. 1117 LB
5+ Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Harlan Solsbery
Birthdate--8/6
Spouse: Sejal

Standing/Select Committees:

Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations on Education/Higher Education
Commerce and Insurance
Education/Higher Education
Rules and Operations of the Senate
Transportation

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 1117
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

Preferred
P.O. Box 1007
Raleigh, NC 27602

15th District--**Wake** (Part)

Sophia Chitlik



Democrat District 22 (919) 733-4809
Seat 31 Sophia.Chitlik@ncleg.gov Rm. 1111 LB
1 Term--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Kharrington Godbee
Birthdate--5/31
Spouse: Benjamin Abram

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Education/Higher Education
Education/Higher Education
Judiciary
Regulatory Reform

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 1111
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

22nd District--**Durham** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Kevin Corbin



Republican District 50 (919) 733-5875
Seat 19 Kevin.Corbin@ncleg.gov Rm. 623 LOB
3 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Cindy Hobbs
2 Terms--**House**
Birthdate--7/18
Spouse: Beth

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Education/Higher Education
Education/Higher Education
Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on Health and Human Services
Commerce and Insurance
Health Care
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
State and Local Government

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 623
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

50th District--Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood (Part), Jackson, **Macon**, Swain,
Transylvania

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

David W. Craven, Jr.



Republican District 29 (919) 733-5870
Seat 16 David.Craven@ncleg.gov Rm. 2108 LB
3+ Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Suzanne Castleberry
Birthdate--2/10

Standing/Select Committees:

Finance
Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations on Education/Higher Education
Commerce and Insurance
Judiciary
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
Regulatory Reform

Co-Chairman

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 2108
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

29th District--Anson, Montgomery, **Randolph** (Part), Richmond, Union (Part)
*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Warren Daniel



Republican District 46 (919) 715-7823
Seat 6 Warren.Daniel@ncleg.gov Rm. 627 LOB
8 Terms--Senate Legislative Assistant: Andy Perrigo
Birthdate--12/15
Spouse: Lydia

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety
Elections
Judiciary
Rules and Operations of the Senate
Appropriations/Base Budget
Finance
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
Select Committee on Nominations

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman
Vice Chairman

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 627
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
P.O. Box 1854
Morganton, NC 28680

Alternate Phone:
(828) 433-0700

46th District--Buncombe (Part), **Burke**, McDowell

Terence Everitt



Democrat District 18 (919) 733-5850
Seat 45 Terence.Everitt@ncleg.gov Rm. 1419 LB
1 Term--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Kendall Rosenberg
3 Terms--**House**
Birthdate--6/5
Spouse: Jennifer

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on General Government and Information Technology
Judiciary
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
Regulatory Reform

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 1419
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

18th District--Granville, **Wake** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Carl Ford
Republican Joint Caucus Leader



Republican District 33 (919) 733-5665
Seat 14 Carl.Ford@ncleg.gov Rm. 625 LOB
4 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Angela Ford
3 Terms--**House**
Birthdate--7/11
Spouse: Angela

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on General Government and
Information Technology
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
State and Local Government
Appropriations/Base Budget
Elections
Finance
Rules and Operations of the Senate

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 625
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
P.O. Box 1388
Kannapolis, NC 28082

33rd District--**Rowan**, Stanly

Amy S. Galey
Majority Whip



Republican District 25 (919) 301-1446
Seat 20 _____ Amy.Galey@ncleg.gov _____ Rm. 311 LOB
3 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Haley Catherine White
Birthdate--5/5
Spouse: Fred

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Health and Human Services
Health Care
Appropriations/Base Budget
Education/Higher Education
Elections
Judiciary
Rules and Operations of the Senate
Select Committee on Nominations

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 311
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

25th District--**Alamance**, Randolph (Part)
*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Michael Garrett



Democrat District 27 (919) 733-5856
Seat 40 Michael.Garrett@ncleg.gov Rm. 1109 LB
4 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Justin Cundall
Birthdate--8/7
Spouse: Allison

Standing/Select Committees:

Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations on Department of Transportation
Commerce and Insurance
Education/Higher Education
Health Care
Rules and Operations of the Senate

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 1109
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

Preferred
7601 Business Park Drive
Suite 107
Greensboro, NC 27409

27th District--**Guilford** (Part)

Lisa Grafstein



Democrat District 13 (919) 733-9349
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2 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Sylvia Hammons
Birthdate--9/7

Standing/Select Committees:

Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety
Judiciary
Regulatory Reform
State and Local Government

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 1119
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

13th District--**Wake** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Bobby Hanig



Republican District 1 (919) 715-8293
Seat 22 Bobby.Hanig@ncleg.gov Rm. 629 LOB
2+ Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Edward Stiles
2 Terms--**House**
Birthdate--3/1
Spouse: Dana

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on General Government and
Information Technology
State and Local Government
Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Education/Higher Education
Regulatory Reform
Transportation

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 629
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
102 Orchard Lane
Powells Point, NC 27966

1st District--Bertie, Camden, **Currituck**, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Northampton,
Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell

Ralph Hise
Deputy President *Pro Tempore*



Republican District 47 (919) 733-3460
Seat 5 _____ Ralph.Hise@ncleg.gov _____ Rm. 300-A LOB
8 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Susan Fanning
Birthdate--8/15
Spouse: Linn

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations/Base Budget **Co-Chairman**
Elections **Co-Chairman**
Finance
Health Care
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
Rules and Operations of the Senate
Select Committee on Nominations
Ex-officio member of each committee (Senate Rule 34(b))

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 300-A
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
P.O. Box 86
Spruce Pine, NC 28777

47th District--Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Caldwell (Part), Haywood (Part),
Madison, **Mitchell**, Watauga, Yancey

Mark Hollo



Republican District 45 (919) 733-5876
Seat 29 Mark.Hollo@ncleg.gov Rm. 2119 LB
1 Term--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Linda Wente
3 Terms--**House**
Birthdate--7/24
Spouse: Barbara

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Department of Transportation
Commerce and Insurance
Education/Higher Education
Health Care
State and Local Government

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 2119
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

Preferred
P.O. Box 21
Conover, NC 28613

45th District--Caldwell (Part), **Catawba**

Steve Jarvis



Republican District 30 (919) 733-5743
Seat 18 Steve.Jarvis@ncleg.gov Rm. 525 LOB
3 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Tracey Drantel
1 Term--**House**
Birthdate--4/22
Spouse: Wendy

Standing/Select Committees:

Regulatory Reform **Co-Chairman**
Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on General Government and Information Technology
Commerce and Insurance
State and Local Government
Transportation

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 525
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

30th District--**Davidson**, Davie

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Todd Johnson
Majority Whip



Republican District 35 (919) 733-7659
Seat 12 _____ Todd.Johnson@ncleg.gov _____ Rm. 310 LOB
4 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Joseph Stansbury
Birthdate--9/5
Spouse: Amanda

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Agriculture, Natural, and
Economic Resources
Commerce and Insurance
Elections
Finance
Health Care
Rules and Operations of the Senate
Transportation

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

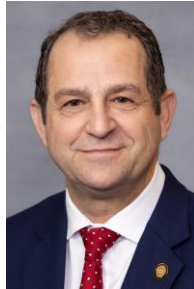
Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 310
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
P.O. Box 591
Monroe, NC 28111

35th District--Cabarrus (Part), **Union** (Part)

Michael A. Lazzara



Republican District 6 (919) 715-3034
Seat 21 _____ Michael.Lazzara@ncleg.gov Rm. 300-C LOB
3 Terms--Senate Legislative Assistant: Adam McKell
Birthdate--9/10

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Department of Transportation
Transportation
Finance
Judiciary
Regulatory Reform
Rules and Operations of the Senate
State and Local Government

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 300-C
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
105 Dover Lane
Jacksonville, NC 28540

Michael V. Lee
Majority Leader



Republican District 7 (919) 715-2525
Seat 4 Michael.Lee@ncleg.gov Rm. 300-B LOB
5+ Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Aubrey Tuell
Birthdate--11/29
Spouse: Heidi

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations/Base Budget
Education/Higher Education
Commerce and Insurance
Health Care
Judiciary
Rules and Operations of the Senate
Select Committee on Nominations

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 300-B
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

7th District--**New Hanover** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Paul A. Lowe, Jr.



Democrat District 32 (919) 733-5620
Seat 37 Paul.Lowe@ncleg.gov Rm. 1127 LB
5+ Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Ryan Stoddard
Birthdate--5/19
Spouse: LaGail

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on Agriculture, Natural, and Economic Resources
Commerce and Insurance
Elections
Finance
Rules and Operations of the Senate

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 1127
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

Preferred
1580 Brockton Lane
Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Alternate Phone:
(336) 652-0796

32nd District--**Forsyth** (Part)

Julie Mayfield
Democratic Caucus Secretary



Democrat District 49 (919) 715-3001
Seat 49 Julie.Mayfield@ncleg.gov Rm. 1025 LB
3 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Irma Avent Hurst
Birthdate--4/5

Standing/Select Committees:

Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations on Agriculture, Natural, and Economic Resources
Elections
Health Care
Rules and Operations of the Senate
Transportation

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 1025
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

49th District--**Buncombe** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Tom McInnis



Republican District 21 (919) 733-5953
Seat 8 Tom.McInnis@ncleg.gov Rm. 314 LOB
6 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Lynn Taylor
Birthdate--4/16
Spouse: Janice

Standing/Select Committees:

Finance
Regulatory Reform
Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Commerce and Insurance
Education/Higher Education
Rules and Operations of the Senate
Transportation

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 314
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
P.O. Box 3776
Pinchurst, NC 28374

Alternate Phone:
(910) 895-3871

21st District--Cumberland (Part), **Moore**

Chris Measmer
(appointed 4/8/25)



Republican District 34 (919) 733-7223
Seat 30 Chris.Measmer@ncleg.gov Rm. 2106 LB
+ Term-**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Lorie Byrd
Birthdate--7/13

Standing/Select Committees:

Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations on General Government and Information Technology
Judiciary
Regulatory Reform
State and Local Government

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 2106
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

34th District--**Cabarrus** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Graig Meyer
(resigned 3/31/26)



Democrat District 23 (919) 733-5804
Seat 50 Graig.Meyer@ncleg.gov Rm. 1121 LB
2 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Daphne Quinn
4+ Terms--**House**
Birthdate--7/5
Spouse: Kym

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on General Government and Information Technology
Commerce and Insurance
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
Regulatory Reform
State and Local Government

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 1121
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

23rd District--Caswell, **Orange**, Person
*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Timothy D. Moffitt



Republican District 48 (919) 733-5745
Seat 23 Tim.Moffitt@ncleg.gov Rm. 520 LOB
2 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Dina Moffitt
3+ Terms--**House**
Birthdate--9/25
Spouse: Dina

Standing/Select Committees:

Regulatory Reform **Co-Chairman**
Appropriations on Agriculture, Natural, and Economic Resources
Commerce and Insurance
Finance
Health Care
Transportation

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 520
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
P.O. Box 768
Hendersonville, NC 28793

48th District--**Henderson**, Polk, Rutherford

Mujtaba A. Mohammed



Democrat District 38 (919) 733-5955
Seat 47 Mujtaba.Mohammed@ncleg.gov Rm. 517 LOB
4 Terms--Senate Legislative Assistant: Sean Grier
Birthdate--6/8
Spouse: Saba

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety
Elections
Finance
Health Care
Judiciary
Transportation
Select Committee on Nominations

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 517
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
P.O. Box 30773
Charlotte, NC 28230

38th District--**Mecklenburg** (Part)

Natalie S. Murdock



Democrat District 20 (919) 733-4599
Seat 48 Natalie.Murdock@ncleg.gov Rm. 1118 LB
3+ Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Divine Earth-Dowd
Birthdate--1/25

Standing/Select Committees:

Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on Department of Transportation
Finance
Health Care
Transportation

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 1118
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

20th District--Chatham, **Durham** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Buck Newton



Republican District 4 (919) 733-5878
Seat 10 _____ Buck.Newton@ncleg.gov _____ Rm. 308 LOB
5 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Debbie Lown
Birthdate--7/5
Spouse: Hope

Standing/Select Committees:

- Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety
- Finance
- Judiciary
- Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
- Education/Higher Education
- Finance
- Transportation

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 308
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

4th District--Greene, Wayne, **Wilson**

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Brad Overcash



Republican District 43 (919) 733-5734
Seat 25 Brad.Overcash@ncleg.gov Rm. 526 LOB
2 Terms--Senate Legislative Assistant: James Von Canon
Birthdate--12/18
Spouse: Jennifer

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Education/Higher Education
Education/Higher Education
Elections
Commerce and Insurance
Finance
Judiciary

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 526
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
P.O. Box 1442
Belmont, NC 28012

43rd District--Gaston (Part)

Bill Rabon



Republican District 8 (919) 733-5963
Seat 2 Bill.Rabon@ncleg.gov Rm. 2010 LB
8 Terms--Senate Legislative Assistant: Paula Fields
Birthdate--7/6

Standing/Select Committees:

Rules and Operations of the Senate
Select Committee on Nominations
Appropriations on Department of Transportation
Transportation
Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations/Base Budget
Elections
Finance

Chairman
Chairman
Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 2010
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

Preferred
521 Cherrytree Road
Winnabow, NC 28479

8th District--**Brunswick**, Columbus, New Hanover (Part)

Gladys A. Robinson



Democrat District 28 (919) 715-3042
Seat 36 Gladys.Robinson@ncleg.gov Rm. 1028 LB
8 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Zuri Kornegay
Birthdate--11/17

Standing/Select Committees:

Health Care
Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on Health and Human Services
Education/Higher Education
Elections
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
State and Local Government
Select Committee on Nominations

Advisory Member

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 1028
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

28th District--**Guilford** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

DeAndrea Salvador



Democrat District 39 (919) 733-5655
Seat 41 DeAndrea.Salvador@ncleg.gov Rm. 1120 LB
3 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Matteo Santoianni
Birthdate--9/6

Standing/Select Committees:

Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations on Agriculture, Natural, and Economic Resources
Commerce and Insurance
Finance
Rules and Operations of the Senate
Transportation

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 1120
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

39th District--**Mecklenburg** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Norman W. Sanderson



Republican District 2 (919) 733-5706
Seat 7 Norman.Sanderson@ncleg.gov Rm. 309 LOB
7 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Diane Cook
1 Term--**House**
Birthdate--7/7
Spouse: Linda

Standing/Select Committees:

Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations on Agriculture, Natural, and
Economic Resources
Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety
Education/Higher Education
Judiciary
Regulatory Reform
Rules and Operations of the Senate
Select Committee on Nominations

Co-Chairman

Co-Chairman

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 309
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

Preferred
269 Bennett Rd. #4
Arapahoe, NC 28510

Alternate Phone:
(252) 249-6039

2nd District--Carteret, Chowan, Halifax, Hyde, Martin, **Pamlico**, Warren,
Washington

Benton G. Sawrey



Republican District 10 (919) 715-3040
Seat 26 Benton.Sawrey@ncleg.gov Rm. 521 LOB
2 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Faith Daniel
Birthdate--1/20
Spouse: Beth

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Health and Human Services
Health Care
Appropriations/Base Budget
Elections
Judiciary
Rules and Operations of the Senate

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 521
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

10th District--**Johnston**

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Vickie Sawyer



Republican District 37 (919) 715-3038
Seat 11 Vickie.Sawyer@ncleg.gov Rm. 312 LOB
4+ Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Kade Cooper
Birthdate--8/8
Spouse: Brett

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Department of Transportation
Transportation
Appropriations/Base Budget
Commerce and Insurance
Finance
Regulatory Reform
Rules and Operations of the Senate

Co-Chairman
Co-Chairman

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 312
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

37th District--**Iredell**, Mecklenburg (Part)
*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Eddie D. Settle



Republican District 36 (919) 733-5742
Seat 24 Eddie.Settle@ncleg.gov Rm. 2117 LB
2 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Shelia Settle
Birthdate--11/12
Spouse: Shelia

Standing/Select Committees:

Commerce and Insurance **Co-Chairman**
Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations on Agriculture, Natural, and Economic Resources
Health Care
State and Local Government
Transportation

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 2117
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

36th District--Alexander, Surry, **Wilkes**, Yadkin
*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Caleb Theodros



Democrat District 41 (919) 715-3050
Seat 32 Caleb.Theodros@ncleg.gov Rm. 515 LOB
1 Term--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Aurian Bayat
Birthdate--5/27

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations on Department of Transportation
Education/Higher Education
Regulatory Reform
Transportation

Address:

Legislative*
Rm. 515
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

41st District--**Mecklenburg** (Part)

*Legislative address is preferred mailing address

Joyce Waddell



Democrat District 40 (919) 733-5650
Seat 33 Joyce.Waddell@ncleg.gov Rm. 1106 LB
6 Terms--**Senate** Legislative Assistant: Anita Bennett
Birthdate--7/11

Standing/Select Committees:

Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on Education/Higher Education
Finance
Health Care
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
Rules and Operations of the Senate

Addresses:

Legislative
Rm. 1106
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

Preferred
8105-251 Old Concord Road
Charlotte, NC 28126

40th District--**Mecklenburg** (Part)

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. (as needed)	Appropriations/Base Budget 544 Subcommittees on: Ag./Nat./Econ. Res. Leg. Aud. Transportation 1228/1327 Education/Higher Ed. 423 General Gov. and IT 421 Health and Human Serv. 643 Justice and Public Safety 422	Appropriations/Base Budget 544 Subcommittees on: Ag./Nat./Econ. Res. Leg. Aud. Transportation 1228/1327 Education/Higher Ed. 423 General Gov. and IT 421 Health and Human Serv. 643 Justice and Public Safety 422	Appropriations/Base Budget 544 Subcommittees on: Ag./Nat./Econ. Res. Leg. Aud. Transportation 1228/1327 Education/Higher Ed. 423 General Gov. and IT 421 Health and Human Serv. 643 Justice and Public Safety 422	Committee meetings may be announced
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Rules 1027	Ag./Energy/Env. (2 nd hour) 1124	Rules 1027	
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Ag./Energy/Env. 1124	Health Care 544 Regulatory Reform 1027	Health Care (2 nd hour) 544	
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Judiciary 544	Education/Higher Ed. 544	Commerce and Ins. (2 nd hour) 544	
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	State & Local Gov't 423	Transportation 1027 Pensions 1124	SESSION	
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Commerce and Ins. 544	Finance (2 nd hour) 544		
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Finance 544	Judiciary (2 nd hour) 544		
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.				
4:00 p.m.	SESSION	SESSION		

SENATE SESSION: Monday – 7 p.m., Tuesday – 4 p.m., Wednesday – 4 p.m., Thursday – 12 p.m. (session times subject to change) CALL OF THE CHAIR: Additional meetings may be scheduled upon call of the Chair for Rules and Operations of the Senate, Appropriations/Base Budget, Elections, Select Committee on Nominations.

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

Agriculture, Energy, and Environment

Co-Chairman Senator Barnes
Co-Chairman Senator Jackson
Co-Chairman Senator Sanderson
Members Senators Brinson, Burgin, Chaudhuri, Craven, Garrett, Grafstein, Hanig, Jarvis, Mayfield, McInnis, Measmer, Murdock, Newton, Rabon, Salvador, Settle, Smith

Appropriations/Base Budget

Co-Chairman Senator Hise
Co-Chairman Senator Jackson
Co-Chairman Senator Lee
Members Senators Alexander, Applewhite, Barnes, Batch, Blue, Britt, Burgin, Corbin, Daniel, Ford, Galey, Grafstein, Jarvis, Lowe, Murdock, Rabon, Robinson, Sanderson, Sawrey, Sawyer, Waddell

Appropriations on Agriculture, Natural, and Economic Resources

Co-Chairman Senator Barnes
Co-Chairman Senator Johnson
Co-Chairman Senator Sanderson
Members Senators Brinson, Lowe, Mayfield, Moffitt, Salvador, Settle, Smith

Appropriations on Education/Higher Education

Co-Chairman Senator Corbin
Co-Chairman Senator Overcash
Members Senators Applewhite, Chaudhuri, Chitlik, Craven, Jones, Waddell

Appropriations on General Government and Information Technology

Co-Chairman Senator Alexander
Co-Chairman Senator Ford
Co-Chairman Senator Hanig
Members Senators Bradley, Everitt, Garson, Jarvis, Measmer

Appropriations on Health and Human Services

Co-Chairman Senator Burgin
Co-Chairman Senator Galey
Co-Chairman Senator Sawrey
Members Senators Adcock, Blue, Corbin, Robinson

Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety

Co-Chairman Senator Britt
Co-Chairman Senator Daniel
Co-Chairman Senator Newton
Members Senators Batch, Grafstein, Mohammed, Sanderson

Appropriations on Department of Transportation

Co-Chairman Senator Lazzara
Co-Chairman Senator Rabon
Co-Chairman Senator Sawyer
Members Senators Garrett, Hollo, Murdock, Theodros

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES (continued)

Commerce and Insurance

Co-Chairman Senator Britt
Co-Chairman Senator Johnson
Co-Chairman Senator Settle
Members Senators Adcock, Alexander, Batch, Blue, Chaudhuri, Corbin, Craven, Garrett, Garson, Hollo, Jackson, Jarvis, Lee, Lowe, McInnis, Moffitt, Overcash, Salvador, Sawyer

Education/Higher Education

Co-Chairman Senator Corbin
Co-Chairman Senator Lee
Co-Chairman Senator Overcash
Members Senators Barnes, Bradley, Brinson, Chaudhuri, Chitlik, Galey, Garrett, Hanig, Hollo, Jones, McInnis, Newton, Robinson, Sanderson, Smith, Theodros

Elections

Co-Chairman Senator Daniel
Co-Chairman Senator Hise
Co-Chairman Senator Overcash
Members Senators Alexander, Batch, Ford, Galey, Jackson, Johnson, Lowe, Mayfield, Mohammed, Rabon, Robinson, Sawyer, Smith

Finance

Co-Chairman Senator Craven
Co-Chairman Senator McInnis
Co-Chairman Senator Newton
Members Senators Adcock, Alexander, Applewhite, Batch, Blue, Burgin, Daniel, Ford, Hise, Jackson, Johnson, Lazzara, Lowe, Moffitt, Mohammed, Murdock, Newton, Overcash, Rabon, Salvador, Sawyer, Waddell

Health Care

Co-Chairman Senator Burgin
Co-Chairman Senator Galey
Co-Chairman Senator Sawrey
Advisory Member Senator Robinson
Members Senators Adcock, Applewhite, Barnes, Britt, Corbin, Garrett, Hise, Hollo, Johnson, Lee, Mayfield, Moffitt, Mohammed, Murdock, Settle, Waddell

Judiciary

Co-Chairman Senator Britt
Co-Chairman Senator Daniel
Co-Chairman Senator Newton
Members Senators Batch, Blue, Chitlik, Craven, Everitt, Galey, Grafstein, Lazzara, Lee, Measmer, Mohammed, Overcash, Sanderson, Sawyer

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES (continued)

Pensions and Retirement and Aging

Co-Chairman Senator Alexander
Co-Chairman Senator Ford
Members Senators Applewhite, Bradley, Britt, Burgin, Corbin,
Craven, Daniel, Everitt, Hise, Robinson, Waddell

Regulatory Reform

Co-Chairman Senator Jarvis
Co-Chairman Senator McInnis
Co-Chairman Senator Moffitt
Members Senators Barnes, Bradley, Chitlik, Craven, Everitt,
Garson, Grafstein, Hanig, Jackson, Jones, Lazzara,
Measmer, Sanderson, Sawyer, Theodros

Rules and Operations of the Senate

Chairman Senator Rabon
Vice Chairman Senator Daniel
Members Senators Adcock, Barnes, Blue, Britt, Chaudhuri, Ford,
Galey, Garrett, Hise, Jackson, Johnson, Lazzara, Lee,
Lowe, Mayfield, McInnis, Salvador, Sanderson,
Sawrey, Sawyer, Waddell

State and Local Government

Co-Chairman Senator Alexander
Co-Chairman Senator Ford
Co-Chairman Senator Hanig
Members Senators Adcock, Applewhite, Brinson, Burgin, Corbin,
Garson, Grafstein, Hollo, Jarvis, Jones, Lazzara,
Measmer, Robinson, Settle, Smith

Transportation

Co-Chairman Senator Lazzara
Co-Chairman Senator Rabon
Co-Chairman Senator Sawyer
Members Senators Brinson, Chaudhuri, Hanig, Jarvis, Johnson,
Jones, Mayfield, McInnis, Moffitt, Mohammed,
Murdock, Newton, Salvador, Settle, Smith, Theodros

Select Committee on Nominations

Chairman Senator Rabon
Members Senators Batch, Blue, Daniel, Galey, Hise, Jackson,
Lee, Mohammed, Robinson, Sanderson

**PERMANENT RULES OF
THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE
SENATE
2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
NORTH CAROLINA**

- I. Order of Business, Rules 1-7
- II. Conduct of Debate, Rules 8-17
- III. Motions, Rules 18-24.1
- IV. Voting, Rules 25-30
- V. Committees, Rules 31-37.2
- VI. Handling Bills, Rules 38-59.2
- VII. Legislative Officers and Employees,
Rules 60-65
- VIII. General Rules, Rules 66-77.

I. ORDER OF BUSINESS

RULE 1. Rules controlling the Senate of North Carolina and its committees. – The following rules shall govern and control all actions and procedures of the Senate and its committees.

RULE 1.1. Emergencies. – In the event of a disaster, natural or otherwise, that precludes the General Assembly from meeting in the Legislative Building, the members will be notified by the President Pro Tempore where and when the Senate will convene.

RULE 2. Convening hour. – (a) The Presiding Officer shall take the Chair at the hour fixed by the Senate upon adjournment on the preceding legislative day and shall call the members to order. In case the Senate adjourned on the preceding legislative day without having fixed the hour of reconvening, the Senate shall reconvene on the next legislative day at 2:00 P.M.

(b) At the hour fixed by the Senate upon adjournment on the preceding legislative day, or at the hour to which the Senate has previously recessed on that same legislative day, and upon direction from the President Pro Tempore of the Senate or the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, the Principal Clerk of the Senate may convene the Senate for the purpose of announcing to the Chamber that the Senate stands in recess until a later, specified hour.

RULE 3. Opening the session. – The Presiding Officer shall, upon order being obtained, have the sessions of the Senate opened with prayer.

RULE 4. Convening and presiding in absence of President. – In the absence of the President, the President Pro Tempore or a Senator designated by the President Pro Tempore shall convene or reconvene the Senate and preside, and during such time shall be vested with all powers of the President of the Senate except that of casting a vote in case of a tie when the President Pro Tempore or the designated Presiding Officer has already voted on the question as a Senator. In the event of the absence of the President and President Pro Tempore at any time fixed for the reconvening of the Senate, the Senate shall be called to order by a member designated by the President Pro Tempore, or if no member is designated, by the Deputy President Pro Tempore of the Senate. If no member has been designated and the Deputy President Pro Tempore is also absent, the Senate shall be called to order by the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, who shall designate some member to act as Presiding Officer. The Principal Clerk of the Senate may convene the Senate for the purpose of notifying the Chamber that the Senate stands in recess pursuant to Rule 2(b) of these rules.

RULE 5. Quorum. – (a) A quorum consists of a majority of all the qualified members of the Senate.

(b) When a lesser number than a quorum convenes, the Senators present may send the Sergeant-at-Arms or any person, for any or all absent Senators, as a majority of the Senators present determines.

RULE 6. Approval of Journal. – After the prayer, the Presiding Officer shall cause the Journal of the preceding day to be read and approved, unless the President Pro Tempore or, in the President Pro Tempore's absence, the Deputy President Pro Tempore of the Senate or some member of the Senate by motion sustained by a majority of the members present, has the reading thereof dispensed with and the same approved as written.

RULE 7. Order of business. – After approval of the Journal, the order of business shall be as follows:

- (1) Reports of standing committees.
- (2) Reports of select committees.
- (3) Introduction of bills, petitions, and resolutions.
- (4) Messages from the House of Representatives.
- (5) Veto messages from the Governor.
- (6) Unfinished business of preceding day.
- (7) Special orders.
- (8) General orders:
 - a. Local bills in numerical order, Senate bills first:
 1. Third reading roll call and electronic voting system votes.
 2. Second reading roll call and electronic voting system votes.
 3. Second reading viva voce.
 4. Third reading viva voce.
 - b. Public bills in numerical order, Senate bills first:

1. Third reading roll call and electronic voting system votes.
 2. Second reading roll call and electronic voting system votes.
 3. Second reading viva voce.
 4. Third reading viva voce.
- (9) Moments of Personal Privilege, reading of Senatorial Statements, and explanation of votes.

II. CONDUCT OF DEBATE

RULE 8. Presiding Officer to maintain order. – The Presiding Officer shall have general direction of the Hall of the Senate and shall be authorized to take such action as is necessary to maintain order. In case of any disturbance or disorderly conduct in the galleries or lobbies, the Presiding Officer shall have the power to order those areas cleared. In addition, the Presiding Officer shall, upon request by the President Pro Tempore, the Deputy President Pro Tempore, or the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, order those areas cleared.

RULE 9. (Reserved for future use).

RULE 10. Points of order. – (a) The Presiding Officer shall preserve order and decorum and proceed with the business of the Senate according to the rules adopted. The Presiding Officer shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, whose decision may be appealed to the Senate by any member, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once unless by leave of the Senate. A two-thirds vote of the membership of the Senate present and voting is necessary to sustain any appeal from the ruling of the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.

(b) In the event the Senate Rules do not provide for or cover any point of order raised by any Senator, the rules of the United States House of Representatives shall govern.

(c) When a Senator is called to order, that Senator shall take the assigned seat until the Presiding Officer determines whether that Senator was in order or not; if decided to be out of order, that Senator shall not proceed without the permission of the Senate; and every question of order shall be decided by the Presiding Officer, subject to an appeal to the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, whose decision may be appealed to the Senate by any Senator; and if a Senator is called to order for words spoken, the words to which an exception is made shall be immediately preserved by the Principal Clerk, so that the Presiding Officer, Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, or Senate may be better able to judge the matter.

RULE 11. Debating and voting by Lieutenant Governor. – The Lieutenant Governor, as President of the Senate, being a Constitutional Officer, shall not have the right to debate any question or to address the Senate upon any proposition unless by permission of the majority of members present and shall have the right to vote only when there is a tie vote upon any question or election.

RULE 12. Obtaining recognition. – (a) When any Senator is about to speak in debate or deliver any matter to the Senate, that Senator shall rise and respectfully address the Presiding Officer. No member shall speak further until recognized by the Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer shall recognize the first to rise and, when two or more members rise at the same time, the Presiding Officer shall name the member to speak, giving priority to the President Pro Tempore, the Deputy President Pro Tempore, or the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.

(b) A Senator who has the floor may yield the floor to another Senator only for the purpose of allowing another Senator to state a question. Only the Presiding Officer may award the floor to any Senator.

(c) A Senator who has obtained the floor may be interrupted only for the following reasons:

- (1) A request that the member speaking yield for a question;
- (2) A point of order; or
- (3) A parliamentary inquiry.

(d) When a Senator refers to a bill, the bill number and short title must be used.

RULE 13. (Reserved for future use).

RULE 14. Limitations on individual debate. – (a) No Senator shall speak on the same reading more than (i) twice on the main question, (ii) 30 minutes for the first speech and 15 minutes for the second speech, and (iii) once on any motion or appeal, and then no longer than 10 minutes; provided, however, the President Pro Tempore, the Deputy President Pro Tempore, or the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate may alter some or all of the limitations in this rule following consultation with the minority leader of the Senate and approval of the majority of the members present.

(b) With leave of the Senate, any member of the Senate may address the Senate from the well of the Senate.

RULE 15. Senatorial Statements. – A Senatorial Statement may be utilized by a Senator to recognize constituents and events of significance and when a Resolution is not permitted under Rule 40.1. A Senatorial Statement may not be used to explain a vote, debate a bill, or in any way disrupt the regular business of the Senate. A Senatorial Statement shall be in writing and in a form prescribed by the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate. A Senatorial Statement shall

speaking in the voice of the Senator submitting the Statement, is not a statement by the Senate, and is not subject to a vote by the Senate. A Senator may use a Moment of Personal Privilege under Rule 15.1 for a time not to exceed three minutes to read some or all of a Senatorial Statement provided the Presiding Officer determines the question raised in the Statement is one of privilege. Upon motion supported by a majority present and voting, a Senatorial Statement may be spread upon the Journal.

RULE 15.1. Moments of Personal Privilege. – (a) Upon recognition by the Presiding Officer for that purpose, any Senator may speak for a time not exceeding three minutes on a Moment of Personal Privilege.

(b) A Moment of Personal Privilege may not be used to explain a vote, debate a bill, or in any way disrupt the regular business of the Senate, nor shall such opportunities be used to solicit support or sponsors for any bill. The Presiding Officer shall determine if the question raised is one of privilege and shall, without the point of order being raised, enforce this rule, subject to an appeal to the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate whose decision may be appealed to the Senate by any Senator, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once unless by leave of the Senate. A two-thirds vote of the membership of the Senate present and voting is necessary to sustain any appeal from the ruling of the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.

RULE 15.2. Explanation of vote. – Any Senator may explain that Senator's vote on any bill that day by obtaining permission of the Presiding Officer for that purpose. No more than three minutes shall be consumed in such explanation.

RULE 16. Final orders of business. – Senatorial Statements, Moments of Personal Privilege, and explanations of votes shall be the last orders of the Senate's business that day and explanations of votes shall be made after the final vote has been taken.

RULE 17. General decorum. – (a) Male Senators and male visitors shall not wear any head covering in the Senate Chamber while the Senate is in session, unless his religion requires his head to be covered. All persons on the Senate floor while the Senate is in session shall be dressed in business attire, including coat and tie for men.

(b) No derogatory remark reflecting personally upon any Senator or Senators shall be in order upon the floor of the Senate unless preceded by a motion or resolution of censure.

(c) When the Presiding Officer is putting a question, or a division by counting is in progress, no Senator shall walk out of or across the Chamber, nor when a Senator is speaking, pass between that Senator and the Presiding Officer.

(d) When a motion to adjourn or for recess is affirmatively determined, no member or officer shall leave that member's or officer's place until adjournment or recess is declared by the Presiding Officer.

(e) Smoking shall not be allowed in the Senate Chamber.

(f) No remark soliciting the donation of funds for the support of any person or organization shall be in order upon the floor of the Senate, unless the remark has some relevance to a bill or resolution before the body. No article of any kind soliciting business or donations may be placed by any person anywhere in the Senate Chamber or in any Senate office.

(g) The President Pro Tempore may authorize and provide for the broadcasting of Senate sessions via television or internet.

(h) Reading of newspapers, magazines, periodicals, or books shall not be permitted while the Senate is in session. This rule does not prohibit the use of electronic devices, the use of quotations during debate or for personal privilege.

(i) The operation of electronic devices whose sound cannot be muted is prohibited on the floor or in the gallery while the Senate is in session.

(j) No member of the Senate shall place any item on another Senator's Chamber desk or in another Senator's office unless the item conspicuously displays the name of the Senator placing the item.

(k) No person other than the member, the member's legislative assistant, or the Principal Clerk's office or staff under the direction of the Principal Clerk shall place any matter on the member's Chamber desk, then only materials relevant to the business of the Senate, or as allowed under subsection (j) of this rule.

(l) Neither food nor beverage shall be permitted in the galleries.

III. MOTIONS

RULE 18. Motions generally. – Any motion shall be reduced to writing, if requested by the Presiding Officer or a Senator, and read by the Presiding Officer or Reading Clerk before the same is debated. Any motion may be withdrawn by the introducer at any time before decision or amendment. No motion relating to a bill shall be in order which does not identify the bill by its number and short title. Except as otherwise specifically provided in these rules, no second is required.

RULE 19. Motion; order of precedence. – When a question is before the Senate, no motion shall be received except those herein specified, which motions shall have precedence as follows:

- (1) To adjourn.
- (2) To resolve into the Committee of the Whole Senate.
- (3) To lay on the table.
- (4) For the previous question.
- (5) To postpone indefinitely.
- (6) To postpone to a certain day.
- (7) To re-refer to a standing committee.
- (8) To refer to a select committee.
- (9) To amend.

RULE 20. Motions requiring a second. – The motions to adjourn, to resolve into the Committee of the Whole Senate, to lay on the table, and to call for the previous question shall be seconded and decided without debate.

RULE 21. Motions to postpone to certain day and to commit. – The respective motions to postpone to a certain day, to resolve into the Committee of the Whole Senate, or to commit to a standing or select committee shall preclude debate on the main question.

RULE 22. Motion to substitute. – Subject to Rule 19, a member may offer a motion to substitute to any motion, except the motions for the previous question, to table, to resolve into the Committee of the Whole Senate, or to adjourn. No motion to substitute shall be offered to a motion to substitute.

RULE 23. Motion for previous question. – (a) The previous question may be moved upon a pending single motion, any pending amendment or amendments, and/or the pending bill to its passage on that reading or all readings or the pending resolution to its adoption. An

authorized Senator moving the previous question shall specify to what the motion applies. Unless specified, the motion shall be deemed to apply to the current question.

(b) The previous question shall be as follows: "Shall the main question be now put?" and until it is decided shall preclude all amendments and debate. If this question is decided in the affirmative, the "main question" shall be on the passage of the bill, resolution, or other matter under consideration; but when amendments are pending, the question shall be taken upon such amendments in their inverse order, without further debate or amendment.

(c) Only one of the following Senators may move the previous question:

- (1) The chair of the committee submitting the report on the bill or other matter under consideration;
- (2) The member introducing the bill or other matter under consideration;
- (3) The member in charge of the measure, who shall be designated by the chair of the committee reporting the same to the Senate at the time the bill or other matter under consideration is reported to the Senate or taken up for consideration;
- (4) The Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate; or
- (5) The President Pro Tempore.

RULE 24. Motion to reconsider. – (a) When a question has been once put and decided, any Senator who voted in the majority may move to reconsider the vote thereof. No motion for reconsideration shall be in order unless made on the same day or on the next legislative day on which the vote took place. When the next legislative day has by motion of the Senate been restricted as to matters which may be considered, a motion to reconsider shall be in order on the next succeeding day upon which regular business is conducted. No question shall be reconsidered more than once.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this rule, a motion to reconsider is in order at any time if made by the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate or the President Pro Tempore for the sole purpose of correcting grammatical errors in bills in the possession of the Senate.

(c) If a bill has gone out of the possession of the Senate and a motion to reconsider under these rules is passed, the bill shall not be enrolled unless it again passes third reading. The Principal Clerk shall notify the House of Representatives and the Enrolling Clerk of any action under this subsection.

RULE 24.1. Motion to adjourn; motion to stand in recess; standard stipulations. – A motion to adjourn or stand in recess shall be subject to receipt and referral of committee reports, the introduction of bills, referral and re-referral of bills, reading of Senatorial Statements, receipt of House messages, ratification of bills, announcement of committee assignments, and messages from the Governor.

A Senator may request that a motion to adjourn be made in honor or in memory of a person or an event of significance. The request shall be in writing and shall be submitted to the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate on the day prior to the day the motion to adjourn is to be made.

IV. VOTING

RULE 25. Use of electronic voting system. – (a) Votes on the following questions shall be taken on the electronic voting system, and the ayes and noes shall be recorded on the Journal:

- (1) All questions on which the Constitution of North Carolina requires that the ayes and noes be taken and recorded on the Journal;
- (2) All questions on which a call for the ayes and noes under Rule 26(b) has been sustained;

(3) Second and third readings of bills proposing amendment of the Constitution of North Carolina; and

(4) The vote on approval of a bill that was vetoed by the Governor.

(b) Votes on the following questions shall be taken on the electronic voting system, and the resulting totals shall be recorded on the Journal:

(1) Second reading of all public bills, all amendments to public bills offered after second reading, third reading if a public bill was amended after second reading, and all conference reports on public bills.

(2) Any other question upon direction of the Presiding Officer or upon motion of any Senator supported by one-fifth of the Senators present.

(c) When the electronic voting system is used, the Presiding Officer shall fix and announce the time, not to exceed one minute, which shall be allowed for voting on the question before the Senate. The system shall be set to lock automatically and to record the vote when that time has expired. Once the system has locked and recorded a vote, the vote shall be printed by the system.

(d) The voting station at each Senator's desk in the Chamber shall be used only by the Senator to whom the station is assigned. Under no circumstances shall any other person vote at a Senator's station. It is a breach of the ethical obligation of a Senator either to request that another vote at the requesting Senator's station or to vote at another Senator's station. The Presiding Officer shall enforce this rule without exception.

(e) When the electronic voting system is used, the Presiding Officer shall state the question and shall then state substantially the following: "All in favor vote 'aye'; all opposed vote 'no'; _____ seconds will be allowed for voting on this question; the Clerk will record the vote." After the machine locks and records the vote, the

Presiding Officer shall announce the vote and declare the result, and no member may vote thereafter.

(f) One copy of the machine printout of the vote record shall be filed in the Office of the Principal Clerk, and one copy shall be filed in the Legislative Library where it shall be open to public inspection.

(g) When the Presiding Officer ascertains that the electronic voting system is inoperative before a vote is taken or while a vote is being taken on the electronic system, the Presiding Officer shall announce that fact to the Senate, and any partial electronic system voting record shall be voided. In such a case, if the Constitution of North Carolina or the Rules of the Senate require a call of the ayes and noes, the Clerk shall call the roll of the Senate, and the ayes and noes shall be taken manually and shall be recorded on the Journal. All other votes shall be taken as prescribed in Senate Rule 26. If, after a vote is taken on the electronic system, it is discovered that a malfunction caused an error in the electronic system printout, the Presiding Officer shall direct the Reading Clerk and the Principal Clerk to verify and correct the printout record and so advise the Senate.

(h) For the purpose of identifying motions on which the vote is taken on the electronic system (the identification codes having no relation to the order of precedence of motions), the motions are coded as follows:

- (1) To lay on the table.
- (2) To resolve into the Committee of the Whole Senate.
- (3) For the previous question.
- (4) To postpone indefinitely.
- (5) To postpone to a day certain.
- (6) To refer to a committee.
- (7) To reconsider.
- (8) To adopt.
- (9) To concur.
- (10) To take from the table.
- (11) Miscellaneous.

RULE 26. Voice votes; call for division; call for ayes and noes. – (a) When the electronic voting system is not used, all votes on which a call of the roll of the Senate is not required shall be taken by voice vote. The question shall be put as follows: "Those in favor say 'aye,'" and, after the affirmative vote is expressed, "Opposed 'no'"; after which the Presiding Officer shall announce the result. If a division on any vote is desired, it must be called for immediately before the result of the voting is announced on any question, and, upon such call, the Presiding Officer shall require the members to stand and be counted for and against the proposition under consideration.

(b) The ayes and the noes may be called for on any question before the vote is taken. If a Senator desires the ayes and noes recorded on the Journal on a question, that Senator shall address the Presiding Officer and obtain recognition and say, "Upon that question I call for the ayes and noes." Whereupon the Presiding Officer shall say, "Is the call sustained?" If one-fifth of the remaining Senators present then stand, the vote shall be taken on the electronic voting system if it is operative, and the ayes and noes shall be recorded on the Journal. If the electronic voting system is inoperative, the roll of the Senate shall be called and the ayes and noes taken manually and recorded on the Journal. If fewer than one-fifth of the Senators present stand to sustain the call, the Presiding Officer shall announce, "An insufficient number up," and a vote by electronic voting or by voice, whichever is appropriate under the Rules of the Senate, shall be taken.

RULE 27. (Reserved for future use).

RULE 28. Dividing question. – (a) If a bill is subject to division into separate parts so that each part states a separate and distinct proposition capable of standing alone, a Senator may move that the question be divided. The motion shall:

- (1) Be in writing,
- (2) Be submitted to the Principal Clerk at the time the motion is made, and
- (3) Clearly state how the question is to be divided.

Upon a majority vote of the membership of the Senate present and voting, the motion shall be adopted.

(b) If the motion to divide the question is adopted, then there shall be no further amendment or debate on any of the distinct propositions.

(c) If the question is divided and any part thereof fails, then the bill or resolution and any pending amendments shall be removed from the calendar and re-referred to the committee from which the bill or resolution was reported.

(d) Only one motion to divide the question shall be in order during consideration of a bill or resolution.

RULE 29. Duty to vote; excuses. – (a) Every Senator who is within the Senate Chamber when the question is stated by the Presiding Officer shall vote thereon unless that Senator is excused by the Senate.

(b) A Senator who is a member of a committee shall, upon request, be excused from deliberations and voting on the bill while it is before the committee. The Senator must make the request to the chair of the committee when the bill is first taken up for consideration and before any motion or vote on the bill or any amendment to the bill. The Senator making the request for excuse in committee must renew that request for excuse on the floor of the Senate as set forth in this rule.

(c) Any Senator may move to be excused at any time from voting on any matter. The Senator may make a brief statement of the reasons for the motion which question shall be taken without debate on the motion.

(d) The Senator may send forward to the Principal Clerk, on a form provided by the Clerk, a concise statement of the reason for the motion, and the Clerk shall include this statement in the Journal.

(e) The Senator so excused shall not debate the bill or any amendment to the bill, vote on the bill, offer or vote on any amendment to the bill, or offer or vote on any motion concerning the bill at that reading, any subsequent reading, or any subsequent consideration of the bill.

(f) A Senator may move that the excuse of that Senator from deliberations on a particular bill be withdrawn, which question shall be determined without debate. The Senator shall send forward to the Principal Clerk, on a form provided by the Clerk, the written request.

(g) A motion to be excused or for the withdrawal of an excuse shall be taken without debate.

(h) A motion by any Senator to change that Senator's vote must be made in open session on the same legislative day as the vote is taken. This subsection may not be suspended.

RULE 30. (Reserved for future use).

V. COMMITTEES

RULE 31. Appointment of committees. – The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall have the exclusive right and authority to appoint the membership of all committees, including regular and select, and to appoint committee chairs and vice-chairs and to establish select committees, but this does not exclude the right of the Senate by resolution to establish select committees. Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, the Senate may alter the name, number, and composition of the standing committees by a three-fifths vote of the membership of the Senate present and voting.

RULE 32. List of standing/select committees. –

The standing committees shall be:

Agriculture, Energy, and Environment
Appropriations/Base Budget
Appropriations on Department of Transportation
Appropriations on Education/Higher Education
Appropriations on General Government and
Information Technology
Appropriations on Health and Human Services
Appropriations on Justice and Public Safety
Appropriations on Agriculture, Natural, and
Economic Resources
Commerce and Insurance
Committee of the Whole Senate
Education/Higher Education
Elections
Finance
Health Care
Judiciary
Pensions and Retirement and Aging
Regulatory Reform
Rules and Operations of the Senate
State and Local Government
Transportation

RULE 33. Notice of committee meetings. – (a)

Public notice of all committee meetings shall be given in the Senate. The required notice may be waived as to any meeting by the attendance at that meeting of all of the members of the committee or by personal waiver.

(b) The chair of the committee shall notify or cause to be notified the sponsor of each bill that is set for hearing or consideration before the committee as to the date, time, and place of that meeting.

(c) The published calendar shall reflect those committee notices received in the Office of the Principal Clerk prior to 3:30 P.M. or as announced in the daily session.

RULE 34. Membership of committees; quorum. –

(a) Membership on standing committees shall consist of no fewer than five Senators, including the chairs and vice-chairs and ranking minority members.

The President Pro Tempore shall have the exclusive right and authority to determine the total number of members and the number of members of each political party of each committee. No Senator shall hold membership on more than 12 standing committees unless the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate provides otherwise.

A quorum of the Appropriations/Base Budget and Finance Committees shall consist of a majority of the committee. A quorum of any other committee shall consist of either the chair and five members or a majority of the committee, whichever is fewer.

(b) The President Pro Tempore and the Deputy President Pro Tempore may serve as voting ex officio members of each Senate committee and subcommittee.

(c) The Vice-Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate may exercise any authority given to the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate under these rules in the absence of, or at the direction of, the Chair.

RULE 35. Roll call vote in committee. – No roll call vote may be taken in any committee. The committee chair may vote in committee.

RULE 36. Standing committee and standing subcommittee meetings. – No committee or subcommittee shall hold a secret meeting. All meetings of committees and subcommittees shall be open to the public, except as provided in G.S. 143-318.14A(e). In no event shall final action be taken by any committee or subcommittee except in open session.

RULE 36.1. Committee minutes to Legislative Library. – The chair of a committee shall ensure that minutes, in a format and medium approved by the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, are compiled for each of the committee's meetings. The minutes shall indicate the number of members present and the actions taken by the committee at the meeting. Not later than 30 days after the adjournment of each session of the General Assembly, the chair shall deliver the minutes to the Legislative Library. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate may grant a reasonable extension of time for filing said minutes upon application of the committee chair.

RULE 37. Committee of the Whole Senate. – Notwithstanding the provisions of Rules 33, 34, and 35, the Senate may resolve into the Committee of the Whole Senate by motion. When such a motion is seconded, the President shall put the question without debate: "Shall the Senate resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole Senate for consideration of _____?", stating the matter or matters identified by the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate to be considered. Only the President Pro Tempore, the Deputy President Pro Tempore, or the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate may move to resolve into the Committee of the Whole Senate. The Committee of the Whole Senate shall convene in the Senate Chambers and shall utilize electronic voting. Unless otherwise stated, the Rules and Operations of the Senate apply to the Committee of the Whole Senate and the Principal Clerk of the Senate shall be the Committee Assistant, but shall not record committee activity on the Journal. The Chair shall be the President Pro Tempore of the Senate or his designee.

RULE 37.1. Membership, quorum, and voting. – Every Senator shall be a member of the Committee of the Whole Senate. A quorum of a Committee of the Whole Senate is 26 members.

RULE 37.2. Committee substitutes; report of the Committee of the Whole Senate; adjournment. – (a) The committee of the Whole Senate shall not consider committee substitutes.

(b) The Chair may entertain a motion that the Committee adjourn after the Chair has announced that the Committee has finished the business for which it was convened.

(c) The Chair of the Committee of the Whole Senate shall report the bill to the Senate immediately following the adjournment of the Committee, including any amendments that were adopted in the Committee.

(d) The Chair shall announce the adjournment of the Committee of the Whole Senate and the members shall adjourn and, if the Committee was resolved out of an unadjourned session, the Senate shall resume session.

VI. HANDLING BILLS

RULE 38. Application of rules. – All provisions of these rules applying to bills, including, but not limited to, provisions governing the introduction, eligibility, and filing of bills, shall apply also to resolutions and petitions.

RULE 39. Form of bills. – (a) Unless variation is authorized by the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, bills submitted for introduction shall be in a computer-generated form prepared by the Legislative Services Office and approved by the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.

(b) Whenever a bill is filed, it shall be submitted to the Principal Clerk in the form of a Senate e-jacket.

RULE 39.1. Public and local bills; limitation on local bills becoming public bills. – (a) A public bill is a bill affecting 15 or more counties. A local bill is one affecting fewer than 15 counties. No bill may be considered unless the bill has been made available to the entire membership of the Senate.

(b) A local bill that has become a public bill shall not be considered in the Senate unless one of the following applies:

(1) The North Carolina Constitution prescribes that the bill as filed must be a public bill because of its subject matter.

(2) The bill became a public bill because counties were added, but the bill relates to the subject matter contained in the original bill.

RULE 40. Introduction of bills. – (a) Pursuant to G.S. 120-11.1, on January 8, 2025, a simple resolution to establish the Senate Permanent Rules, and a joint resolution to adjourn to January 29, 2025, may be filed. No other bills are eligible to be filed on January 8, 2025.

(a1) Every bill filed for introduction shall contain on the Senate e-jacket the title of the document and the name of the Senator or Senators sponsoring it. No more than three Senators may be listed as primary sponsors. The Senator whose name appears first shall deliver the Senate e-jacket to the Office of the Principal Clerk either physically or electronically using the member's electronic dashboard. Subject to any authorization prescribed by the Principal Clerk, a member's legislative assistant may deliver a Senate e-jacket by any method allowed under this rule.

(a2) The Senate Principal Clerk shall receive bills for introduction during regular session on any day the Senate holds a session until 4:00 P.M.

(a3) All bills shall be numbered by the Office of the Principal Clerk when filed and shall be considered introduced when presented to the Senate on the next legislative day for the first reading. When a bill is presented with more than one primary sponsor, the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate shall designate, as bill manager, one of the primary sponsors. Senators may only cosponsor legislation electronically.

(b) Any Senator who wishes to cosponsor a bill or resolution that has been filed may do so no later than 5:00 P.M. on the next legislative day after the adjournment of the session during which the bill or resolution was first read and referred, but only electronically under procedures approved by the Principal Clerk.

(c) No member may introduce a public bill that has no substantive provisions. A member may introduce one local bill that contains no substantive provisions in an odd-numbered year. A member may introduce one local bill that contains no substantive provisions in an even-numbered year if the bill is otherwise eligible and either (i) the member did not introduce such a bill during the previous year or (ii) the member did introduce such a bill during the previous year but no substantive provisions were added.

RULE 40.1. Limitations on certain resolutions. –

(a) A Senator may file a resolution that memorializes, celebrates, commends, or commemorates a deceased former member of the General Assembly.

(b) Resolutions of this nature that do not relate to deceased former members shall be excluded from introduction and consideration by the Senate. Senators shall instead utilize Senatorial Statements to recognize other individuals or events of significance.

(c) The Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate may refer any such resolution to a committee or place the resolution on the Senate's calendar for a date certain.

(d) During the Senate's consideration of a resolution relating to a deceased member, the Presiding Officer shall order the Chamber secured by the Sergeant-at-Arms so as to prevent the entry or exit of any person.

RULE 40.2. Deadlines on filing for introduction of bills. – (a) All local bills must be submitted to either the Legislative Drafting Division or the Legislative Analysis Division of the Legislative Services Office by 4:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 13, 2025, and must be filed for introduction in the Senate before 4:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 27, 2025.

(b) All public bills and resolutions, except those listed in subsection (b1) of this rule, must be submitted to either the Legislative Drafting Division or the Legislative Analysis Division of the Legislative Services Office by 4:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 27, 2025, and must be filed for introduction in the Senate before 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 25, 2025.

(b1) The following bills are not subject to subsection (b) of this rule: (i) those providing for action on gubernatorial nominations or appointments, (ii) those providing for action on appointments by the General Assembly pursuant to G.S. 120-121, (iii) those proposing amendments to the North Carolina Constitution, (iv) those containing statutory amendments necessary to implement proposed amendments to the North Carolina Constitution, (v) those establishing districts for Congress or State or local entities, (vi) those addressing election laws, (vii) those ratifying amendments to the United States Constitution, and (viii) those adjourning the General Assembly.

(c) A two-thirds vote of the membership of the Senate present and voting shall be required to file for introduction any bill or resolution after the dates established by this rule.

(d) Bills that are subject to Rule 42 of these rules and local bills may be filed in any regular session that convenes in an even-numbered year.

RULE 41. Crossover bill deadline; exemptions. –

(a) In order to be eligible for consideration by the Senate during the 2025 or 2026 Regular Session of the 2025 General Assembly, all House bills other than those described in subsection (b) of this rule must be received and read on the floor of the Senate as a message from the House no later than Thursday, May 8, 2025, provided that a message from the House received by the next legislative day stating that a bill has passed its third reading and is being engrossed shall comply with the requirements of this rule and provided that the House accepts Senate bills ordered engrossed on the next legislative day.

(b) The following bills are not subject to subsection (a) of this rule: (i) those required to be referred to the Committee on Finance or the Committee on Appropriations/Base Budget by Rule 42, (ii) those providing for action on gubernatorial nominations or appointments, (iii) those providing for action on appointments by the General Assembly pursuant to G.S. 120-121, (iv) those providing for amendments to the North Carolina Constitution, (v) those containing statutory amendments necessary to implement proposed amendments to the North Carolina Constitution, (vi) those establishing districts for Congress or State or local entities, (vii) those addressing election laws, (viii) those ratifying an amendment or amendments to the Constitution of the United States, and (ix) those adjourning the General Assembly.

RULE 41.1. Effect of adjournment resolution. – Rules 40.2 and 41 are subject to and may be modified by a resolution jointly adjourning both chambers to a date certain.

RULE 42. Reference of appropriation and finance bills. – (a) All bills introduced in the Senate providing for appropriations from the State, or any subdivision thereof, shall, before being considered by the Senate, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations/Base Budget and bills referred to other committees carrying any such provisions shall be reported to the Senate as being bills to be referred to the Appropriations/Base Budget Committee before proper action may be taken by the Senate.

(b) All bills introduced in the Senate providing for bond issues, imposing or raising fees or other revenues payable to the State, its agencies, its licensing boards, or any of its subdivisions, levying taxes, or in any manner affecting the taxing power of the State or any subdivision thereof, shall, before being considered by the Senate, be referred to the Committee on Finance, and bills referred to other committees carrying any such provisions shall be reported to the Senate as being bills to be referred to the Committee on Finance before proper action may be taken by the Senate.

(c) This rule shall not apply to bills imposing civil penalties, criminal fines, forfeitures, or penalties for infractions.

RULE 42.1. Fiscal notes. – (a) A Chair of the Appropriations/Base Budget Committee, or of the Finance Committee, or of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, upon the floor of the Senate, may request that a fiscal analysis be made of a bill, resolution, or an amendment to a bill or resolution which is in the possession of the Senate and that a fiscal note be attached

to the measure, when in the opinion of that Chair the fiscal effects of that measure are not apparent from the language of the measure. No bill, resolution, or amendment for which a fiscal note has been requested may be considered for passage prior to the fiscal note being attached to it.

(b) The fiscal note shall be filed and attached to the bill, resolution, or amendment within two legislative days of the request. If it is impossible to prepare a fiscal note within two legislative days, the Director of Fiscal Research shall, in writing, so advise the Presiding Officer, the Principal Clerk, and the member introducing or proposing the measure and shall indicate the time when the fiscal note will be ready.

(c) The fiscal note shall be prepared by the Fiscal Research Division on a form approved by the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate as to content and form and signed by the staff member or members preparing it. If no estimate in dollars is possible, the fiscal note shall indicate the reasons that no estimate is provided. The fiscal note shall not comment on the merit but may identify technical problems. The Fiscal Research Division shall make the fiscal note available to the membership of the Senate.

(d) A sponsor of a bill, resolution, or amendment may deliver a copy of that member's bill, resolution, or amendment to the Fiscal Research Division for the preparation of a fiscal note. The sponsor shall attach the fiscal note to the bill when the sponsor files the bill or resolution or to the amendment when the sponsor moves its adoption.

(e) The sponsor of a bill, resolution, or amendment to which a fiscal note is attached who objects to the estimates and information provided may reduce to writing the objections. These objections shall be appended to the fiscal note attached to the bill, resolution, or amendment and to the copies of the fiscal note available to the membership.

(f) Subsection (a) of this rule shall not apply to the Current Operations Appropriations Bill or the Capital Improvement Appropriations Bill. This rule shall not apply to a bill, resolution, or amendment requiring an actuarial note under these rules.

RULE 42.2. Actuarial notes. – If required by State law:

(a) Every bill or resolution proposing any change in the law relative to any:

(1) State, municipal, or other retirement system funded in whole or in part out of public funds; or

(2) Program of hospital, medical, disability, or related benefits provided for teachers and State employees, funded in whole or in part by State funds,

shall have attached to it at the time of its consideration by any committee a brief explanatory statement or note that shall include a reliable estimate of the financial and actuarial effect of the proposed change, as provided in G.S. 120-114. The actuarial note shall be attached to the jacket of each proposed bill or resolution that is reported favorably by any committee and shall be clearly designated as an actuarial note. Upon its introduction, a bill or resolution described in subdivision (a)(1) of this rule shall be referred to the Committee on Pensions and Retirement and Aging.

(b) The sponsor of the bill or resolution shall present a copy of the measure, with the sponsor's request for an actuarial note, to the Fiscal Research Division, which shall prepare the actuarial note as promptly as possible but not later than two weeks after the request is made. Actuarial

notes shall be prepared in the order of receipt of request and shall be transmitted to the sponsor of the measure. The actuarial note of the Fiscal Research Division shall be prepared and signed by an actuary.

(c) The sponsor of the bill or resolution shall also present a copy of the measure to the chief administrative officer of the system affected by the measure. The chief administrative officer shall have an actuarial note prepared by the system's actuary on the measure and shall transmit the note to the sponsor of the measure not later than two weeks after the request is received. The actuarial note may be attached to the jacket of the measure.

(d) The note shall be factual and shall, if possible, provide a reliable estimate of both the immediate effect and, if determinable, the long-range fiscal and actuarial effect of the measure. If, after careful investigation, it is determined that no dollar estimate is possible, the note shall contain a statement to that effect, setting forth the reasons why no dollar estimate can be given. No comment or opinion shall be included in the actuarial note with regard to the merits of the measure for which the note is prepared. Technical and mechanical defects in the measure may be noted.

(e) When any committee reports a measure to which an actuarial note is attached at the time of committee consideration, with any amendment of such nature as would substantially affect the cost to or the revenues of any system, the chair of the committee reporting the measure shall obtain from the Fiscal Research Division and the administrator of the affected system an actuarial note of the fiscal and actuarial effect of the proposed amendment. The actuarial note shall be attached to the jacket of the measure. A chair of the Appropriations/Base Budget Committee, or of the Finance Committee, or of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, upon the floor of the Senate, may request that an actuarial note be attached to a bill, resolution, or an amendment that affects the costs to or the revenues of a system described in this rule and that is in the possession of the Senate,

when in the opinion of that chair, the effect to the cost to or the revenues of a system described in this rule are not apparent from the language of the measure. No bill, resolution, or amendment for which an actuarial note has been requested may be considered for passage prior to the actuarial note from both the Fiscal Research Division and the administrator of the affected system being attached to it.

(f) The Fiscal Research Division shall make all relevant actuarial notes available to the membership of the Senate.

RULE 42.3. Assessment reports. – Municipal Incorporations. Every legislative proposal introduced in the Senate, or received in the Senate from the House, proposing the incorporation of a municipality shall have attached to the jacket of the original bill at the time of its consideration on second or third readings by the Senate or by any committee of the Senate prior to a favorable report, a recommendation from the Municipal Incorporations Subcommittee of the Joint Legislative Committee on Local Government established by Article 20 of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes. The recommendation of that Subcommittee shall be made in accordance with the provisions and criteria set forth in Article 20 of Chapter 120 of the General Statutes and shall include the findings required to be made by G.S. 120-166 through G.S. 120-170.

RULE 42.3A. Proposed increases in incarceration.
– If required by State law:

(a) Every bill, amendment, and resolution proposing any change in the law that could cause a net increase in the length of time for which persons are incarcerated or the number of persons incarcerated, whether by increasing penalties for violating existing laws, by criminalizing behavior, or by any other means, shall have attached to it at the time of its consideration by the Senate a fiscal note prepared by the Fiscal Research Division. The fiscal note

shall be prepared in consultation with the Sentencing Policy and Advisory Commission and shall identify and estimate, for the first five fiscal years the proposed change would be in effect, all costs of the proposed net increase in incarceration, including capital outlay costs if the legislation would require increased cell space. If, after careful investigation, the Fiscal Research Division determines that no dollar estimate is possible, the note shall contain a statement to that effect, setting forth the reasons why no dollar estimate can be given. No comment or opinion shall be included in the fiscal note with regard to the merits of the measure for which the note is prepared. However, technical and mechanical defects may be noted.

(b) The sponsor of each bill, amendment, or resolution to which this subsection applies shall present a copy of the bill, amendment, or resolution with the request for a fiscal note to the Fiscal Research Division. Upon receipt of the request and the copy of the bill, amendment, or resolution, the Fiscal Research Division shall prepare the fiscal note as promptly as possible. The Fiscal Research Division shall prepare the fiscal note and transmit it to the sponsor within two weeks after the request is made, unless the sponsor agrees to an extension of time.

(c) This fiscal note shall be attached to the original of each proposed bill, amendment, or resolution that is reported favorably by any committee, but shall be separate from the bill, amendment, or resolution and shall be clearly designated as a fiscal note. A fiscal note attached to a bill, amendment, or resolution pursuant to this subsection is not a part of the bill, amendment, or resolution and is not an expression of legislative intent proposed by the bill, amendment, or resolution.

(d) If a committee reports favorably a proposed bill or resolution with an amendment that proposes a change in the law that could cause a net increase in the length of time for which persons are incarcerated or the number of persons incarcerated, whether by increasing penalties for violating existing laws, by criminalizing behavior, or by

any other means, the chair of the committee shall obtain from the Fiscal Research Division and attach to the amended bill or resolution a fiscal note as provided in this rule.

RULE 42.4. (Reserved for future use).

RULE 42.5. Appropriations/Base Budget Committee meetings. – The Appropriations/Base Budget Cochairs may in their exclusive discretion direct that the Appropriations/Base Budget Committee or its subcommittees or both may consider the budget and the budget plan, including all appropriations, in separate meetings from the House of Representatives and may do all things separately from the House of Representatives.

RULE 43. First reading; reference to committee. – All bills filed for introduction and all House bills received in the Office of the Principal Clerk not later than one and one-half hours preceding the convening of the Senate, upon presentation to the Senate, shall be read in regular order of business by their number and title, which shall constitute the first reading of the bill. The Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate or, in the Chair's absence, the Vice-Chair of the Committee or the President Pro Tempore may refer to a Senate committee all bills introduced in the Senate or received from the House of Representatives. Upon the referral being made, the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate shall notify the Principal Clerk of the Senate of the referral, and the Reading Clerk shall announce the referral of the bill. The Principal Clerk shall inform the Presiding Officer of the referral. The title and referral shall be entered upon the Journal.

Bills may be referred to more than one committee serially: e.g., "S.B. _____ is referred to the Committee on Finance and upon a favorable report referred to the Appropriations/Base Budget Committee."

RULE 44. Bills to receive three readings. – Every bill shall receive three readings before being passed, and the Presiding Officer shall give notice at each reading whether it be the first, second, or third. Unless a member of the Senate objects, a bill may be referred to, and presented to the Senate, by its bill number and short title. The Reading Clerk shall announce the referral as set forth in Rule 43. No bill shall be amended upon the floor of the Senate, except under Rule 45.1, until it has been twice read. Senate simple resolutions shall not require three readings.

RULE 45. Reports of committees. – Every Senator presenting a report of a committee shall endorse the report with the name of the committee. The report of the committee shall show that a quorum of the committee was present and a majority of those present voted in favor of the report. Every report of the committee upon a bill or resolution shall stand upon the general orders with the bill or resolution. No committee shall report a bill or resolution without prejudice.

RULE 45.1. Action on amendment or committee substitute; distribution of committee substitutes. – (a) If any committee recommends adoption of an amendment or committee substitute of a bill or resolution, the amendment or committee substitute shall be considered adopted upon the reading of the committee report. Unless otherwise calendared by the President Pro Tempore or the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate pursuant to Rule 47, the bill or resolution, as amended, or its adopted committee substitute shall be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day or re-referred if the bill or resolution was serially referred. The committee substitute's original bill or resolution shall lie on the table.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this rule, a committee substitute for a simple resolution shall be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day for a vote on its adoption.

(c) Unless (i) a committee substitute of a bill or resolution being considered by a committee is distributed to members of that committee no later than 6:00 P.M. the day prior to the committee meeting or (ii) prior approval is given by the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate to take up and vote on the committee substitute at the meeting noticed, the committee substitute shall be carried over to the next day.

RULE 46. Unfavorable report by committee. – All bills reported unfavorably by the committee to which they were referred shall lie upon the table but may be taken from the table and placed upon the calendar by a two-thirds vote of the membership of the Senate present and voting.

RULE 47. Recall of bill from committee and discharge petition; calendaring, re-calendaring, or referral of a bill to committee. – (a) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, only the President Pro Tempore, the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, or the chair of a committee to which a bill or other matter is assigned may, with the consent of a majority of the membership of the Senate present and voting, recall the measure from its assigned committee to be referred to another committee or the floor. Only the President Pro Tempore or the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate may, with the consent of a majority present and voting, calendar a bill or resolution, re-calendar a bill or resolution appearing on the calendar, or refer or re-refer it to committee.

(b) A motion to discharge a committee from consideration of a bill or resolution may be filed with the Principal Clerk if accompanied by a petition signed by two-thirds of the membership of the Senate asking that the committee be discharged from further consideration of the bill or resolution. No petition may be circulated for signatures until 10 legislative days after the bill has been referred to the committee. No petition may be circulated for signature until notice has been given on the floor of the Senate that the petition is to be circulated. If such a motion accompanied by a valid petition is filed, the Principal Clerk shall place that motion on the calendar for the next legislative day as a special order of business. If the motion is adopted by two-thirds of the membership of the Senate, then the committee to which the bill or resolution has been referred is discharged from further consideration of the bill or resolution, and that bill or resolution is placed on the calendar for the next legislative day as a special order of business. If the committee had, prior to discharge, adopted any amendment or committee substitute for the bill, it shall be in order to offer that amendment or substitute on the floor as if it were a committee amendment or substitute. The Principal Clerk shall provide a form for discharge petitions.

(c) This rule shall not be temporarily suspended.

RULE 48. Calendar; order to be followed. – The Presiding Officer and the Principal Clerk of the Senate shall see that all bills are acted upon by the Senate in the order in which they stand upon the calendar, unless otherwise ordered in accordance with Rule 47. The published calendar shall include all bills reported favorably from committees, or placed on the calendar on motion, and shall include the bill number and short title of each bill on the calendar.

RULE 49. Consideration of gubernatorial nominations or appointments. – When received by the Principal Clerk, written notice of a gubernatorial nomination or appointment that requires confirmation by the General Assembly or the Senate shall be read in session and shall be referred by the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, or in the Chair's absence the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, to the appropriate Senate committee. The Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate may file an appropriate resolution for consideration of the nomination or appointment. For statewide or at-large nominations or appointments, the Principal Clerk shall transmit a copy of the notice of nomination or appointment to the Senator or Senators representing the county in which the nominee or appointee resides. For nominations or appointments of persons to represent a particular district or region of the State, the Principal Clerk shall transmit a copy of the notice of nomination or appointment to the Senator or Senators representing all or a portion of the particular district or region to be represented. The chair of the Senate committee receiving referral of any nomination or appointment shall determine the procedure by which the committee shall consider that nomination or appointment and may make a report of its recommendation to the Senate.

RULE 50. Third reading requirements. – No bill on its third reading shall be acted upon out of the regular order in which it stands on the calendar, and no bill shall be acted upon on its third reading the same day on which it passed its second reading, unless so ordered by three-fifths of the membership of the Senate present and voting.

RULE 51. Special orders. – Any bill or other matter in consideration before the Senate may be made a special order for a subsequent day or hour by a vote of the majority of the Senators voting, and if action on the bill is not completed on that day, it shall be returned to its place on the calendar, unless it is made a special order for another day; and when a special order is under consideration it shall take precedence over any special order or subsequent order for the day, but such subsequent order may be taken up immediately after the previous special order has been disposed of.

RULE 52. Procedure when necessary number of Senators not present. – If, on taking the question on a bill, it appears that a constitutional quorum is not present, or if the bill requires a vote of a certain proportion of all the Senators to pass it, and it appears that such number is not present, the bill shall be again read and the question taken thereon; if the bill fails a second time for the want of the necessary number being present and voting, the bill shall not be finally lost but shall be returned to the calendar in its proper order.

RULE 53. Effect of defeated measure. – (a) After a bill has been tabled, or has failed to pass on any of its readings, the contents of such bill or the principal provisions of its subject matter shall not be embodied in any other measure. After an amendment has been tabled or defeated on the Senate floor, the contents of such amendment or the principal provisions of its subject matter shall not be embodied in any other measure. If a substitute amendment is adopted on the floor, the contents of the previously pending amendment which are not contained in the substitute shall be considered to have been defeated. Upon the point of order being raised and sustained by the Presiding Officer, such measure shall be

laid upon the table and shall not be taken therefrom except by a two-thirds vote of the membership of the Senate present and voting: Provided, no local bill shall be held by the Presiding Officer as embodying the provisions of, or being identical with, any statewide measure which has been laid upon the table or failed to pass any of its readings.

(b) When a bill has been postponed indefinitely by the Senate, the bill shall lie upon the table and shall not be taken therefrom except by a two-thirds vote of the membership of the Senate present and voting.

RULE 54. Taking bill from table. – No bill which has been laid upon the table shall be taken therefrom except by a two-thirds vote of the membership of the Senate present and voting.

RULE 54.1. Bill title. – The title of each bill shall adequately and fairly reflect its subject matter.

RULE 55. Amending titles of bills. – When a bill is materially modified or the scope of its application extended or decreased, or if the county or counties to which it applies is changed, the title of the bill shall be changed by the committee having it in charge or by the Principal Clerk, so as to indicate the full purport of the bill as amended and the county or counties to which it applies.

RULE 56. Corrections of typographical errors in bills. – The Enrolling Clerk is authorized to make corrections of typographical errors in the text of bills at any time prior to ratification. Before the correction is made, the Enrolling Clerk shall have the approval of the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate or, in the Chair's absence, the Vice-Chair of said Committee, the President Pro Tempore, or the Deputy President Pro Tempore.

RULE 56.1. Amendments and committee substitutes adopted by the House to bills originating in the Senate. –

(a) Whenever the House has adopted an amendment or a committee substitute for a bill originating in the Senate, and has returned the bill to the Senate for concurrence in that amendment or committee substitute, the Senate may not concur in that amendment or committee substitute until the next legislative day following the day on which the Senate receives that measure, unless otherwise calendared by the President Pro Tempore or the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate pursuant to Rule 47.

(b) The Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, (or in that Chair's absence the President Pro Tempore) may, or upon motion supported by a majority of the membership of the Senate present and voting shall, refer the bill to an appropriate committee for consideration of the amendment or committee substitute.

(c) The Presiding Officer shall, in placing the bill on the calendar, rule whether the amendment or committee substitute is a material amendment under Article II, Section 23, of the State's Constitution. If the measure is referred to committee, the committee shall:

- (1) Report the bill with the recommendation either that the Senate do concur or that the Senate do not concur; and
- (2) Advise the Presiding Officer as to whether or not the amendment or committee substitute is a material amendment under Article II, Section 23, of the State's Constitution.

(d) If the amendment or committee substitute for a bill is not a material amendment, the question before the Senate shall be concurrence. In the event there is more than one House amendment, the question shall be concurrence in all the House amendments, and the question may not be divided, notwithstanding Rule 28.

The question that shall be put before the Senate by the Presiding Officer shall be: "Does the Senate concur in the House amendments (committee substitute) to S.B. _____?".

(e) If the amendment or committee substitute for a bill is a material amendment, the receiving of that bill on messages shall constitute first reading, and the question before the Senate shall be concurrence on second reading. If the motion is passed, the question then shall be concurrence on third reading on the next legislative day.

(f) No committee substitute adopted by the House to a bill originating in the Senate may be amended by the Senate.

RULE 57. Conference committee. – The President Pro Tempore of the Senate, or in the President Pro Tempore's absence, the Deputy President Pro Tempore, upon motion, may appoint a conference committee when the Senate fails to concur in amendments or committee substitutes put by the House to a bill originating in the Senate, or when the House of Representatives fails to concur in amendments or committee substitutes put by the Senate to a bill originating in the House. Senate conferees shall include the primary sponsor of the bill. In considering the bill committed to the conferees, only such matters as are germane to the bill shall be considered by the conferees, and the conference report shall deal only with such matters. The matters referred to the conference committee by the conference committee chairs shall go to and be considered by the conferees appointed by the Senate and the House of Representatives. While the bill is in conference committee, the Senate's position shall be determined by a majority of the Senate conferees. Upon agreement by the Senate and House of Representatives, a conference report shall be drafted reflecting the matters considered and agreed upon by the conferees. The conference report shall not be amended. A conference report in order under this Rule when reported to the Senate

shall be calendared for consideration of the question of adoption on any date specified by the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, or in the absence of the Chair, by the President Pro Tempore. In the absence of any such specification it shall be calendared for the next legislative day.

RULE 57.1. Germaneness of amendment or committee substitute. – (a) All floor amendments shall be germane to the subject matter of the measure under consideration. The question of germaneness of the proposed floor amendment is in order at any time the measure is before the body prior to final action on its adoption.

(b) In committee, the germaneness of amendments or committee substitutes shall be determined by the chair of the committee in which such amendments or committee substitutes are offered.

RULE 58. Certification of passage of bills. – The Principal Clerk shall certify the passage of bills by the Senate, with the date thereof, together with the fact whether passed by vote of three-fifths or two-thirds of the membership of the Senate present and voting, whenever such vote may be required by the Constitution or laws of the State.

RULE 59. Transmittal of bills to House. – No bill shall be sent from the Senate on the day of its passage except on the last day of the session, unless otherwise ordered by a majority vote of the membership of the Senate present and voting.

RULE 59.1. Engrossment. – Bills which originate in the Senate and that are amended shall be engrossed before being sent to the House.

RULE 59.2. Vetoed bills. – (a) Unless directed otherwise by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate on behalf of the Senate, the Principal Clerk or an employee designated by the Principal Clerk shall receive Senate bills not approved by the Governor. The veto message shall be read in the Senate on the next legislative day following its receipt by the Principal Clerk.

(b) Upon a veto message's being read in the Senate, the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate shall either refer the bill and the Governor's objections and veto message to committee or place the bill on the calendar for a day certain. The Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate or the Chair's designee shall give the Senate Minority Leader at least 24 hours' notice that a vetoed bill may be considered by the Senate.

VII. LEGISLATIVE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

RULE 60. Pages. – (a) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint pages. The President Pro Tempore, or such person as the President Pro Tempore may designate, shall supervise the pages and assign to them their duties. Each page shall be in the tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade at the time of service.

(b) Members may designate honorary pages by a statement delivered to the Principal Clerk who will have a certificate issued therefor.

RULE 61. Sergeants-at-Arms. – (a) There shall be 16 positions of Assistant Sergeants-at-Arms, to be appointed upon the recommendation of the President Pro Tempore by the Sergeant-at-Arms, who are to work under his or her supervision and to be assigned such duties and powers as he or she shall direct.

(b) The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be responsible for the safety of the members and employees of the Senate while in the Senate Chamber or any place in which the Senate or its committees are in session.

(c) The Sergeant-at-Arms shall serve all warrants and subpoenas issued by orders of the Senate and signed by the Presiding Officer of the Senate, and said warrants and subpoenas shall be returnable to the Principal Clerk of the Senate.

RULE 62. Principal Clerk's staff. – The Principal Clerk of the Senate shall employ all necessary employees and clerks required to carry out the duties of that office. The Principal Clerk shall have supervision and control and shall assign such duties and powers as the Principal Clerk shall direct to the employees and clerks of that office.

RULE 63. Legislative assistants and other Senate staff. – (a) Each member shall be assigned one legislative assistant position. Additional staff positions may be allocated to members in the discretion of the President Pro Tempore. The selection of the person to fill a staff position assigned or allocated to an individual member's office shall be his or her prerogative.

(b) Persons seeking an employment position in the office of an individual member shall file initial applications for employment with the Director of Legislative Assistants and shall receive compensation as prescribed by the Legislative Services Commission. Their period of employment shall comply with the period as established by the Legislative Services Commission unless employment for an extended period is approved by the President Pro Tempore. They shall adhere to such uniform regulations and other conditions of employment (including retention) under the direction of the Director of Senate Legislative Assistants as the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate shall adopt.

(c) The Director of Senate Legislative Assistants and any assistants shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

RULE 64. Senate Journal. – The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall cause the Journal of the Senate to be examined daily before the hour of convening to determine if the proceedings of the previous day have been correctly recorded.

RULE 65. Deputy President Pro Tempore. – The Senate shall elect a Deputy President Pro Tempore. Upon a vacancy in the office of President Pro Tempore, the Senate shall elect one of its members to succeed to that office.

VIII. GENERAL RULES

RULE 66. President to sign papers. – All addresses and all warrants and subpoenas issued by order of the Senate shall be signed by the President, the President Pro Tempore, or the Deputy President Pro Tempore. All acts and resolutions shall be signed by the President, the President Pro Tempore, the Deputy President Pro Tempore, or by a Senator designated by the President Pro Tempore to act as Presiding Officer.

RULE 67. Admission to the floor of the Senate. – No person except members of the Senate, members of the House of Representatives, staff of the General Assembly; staff of the Lieutenant Governor; Judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Superior Courts; the Governor and members of the Council of State; former members of the General Assembly; and persons particularly invited and extended the privileges of the floor by the Presiding Officer shall be admitted to the floor of the Senate either during its session or be admitted to or remain on the floor of the Senate within 15 minutes prior

to the Senate's scheduled daily session. Notwithstanding any other provision of these rules, no registered lobbyist shall: (i) be admitted to the floor of the Senate or Senate Chamber while the Senate is in session, (ii) be admitted to or remain on the floor of the Senate within 15 minutes prior to the Senate's scheduled daily session, or (iii) except when a committee is meeting on the floor, be admitted to the floor of the Senate for the 15 minutes after adjournment of the Senate. When the Senate is not in daily session, the President Pro Tempore shall determine the privileges of the floor.

RULE 67.1. Recognition for extending courtesies.

– (a) Courtesies of the floor and galleries shall be extended only by the Presiding Officer on the Presiding Officer's own motion or upon the written request of a member of the Senate to former members of the General Assembly or to distinguished visitors.

(b) The Presiding Officer, upon written request at intervals between various orders of business, may extend courtesies to schools or other special large groups visiting in the galleries while they are present, and the Presiding Officer shall, at such times as deemed appropriate, express to those visitors in the galleries the pleasure of the Senate for their presence.

RULE 68. Privileges of the floor. – No group or individual other than members of the Senate may make remarks upon the floor of the Senate.

RULE 69. News media. – The President Pro Tempore is authorized to assign area and equipment on the floor of the Senate for the use of the representatives of news media, and the President Pro Tempore shall provide regulations for the operation of the representatives of the news media on the floor of the Senate.

RULE 70. Absence without leave. – No Senator or officer of the Senate shall depart the service of the Senate without leave or receive pay as a Senator or officer for the time absent without leave.

RULE 71. Circulation of materials. – Any material circulated to Senate members anywhere in the Legislative Building or the Legislative Office Building shall bear the name of the originator. No items may be placed on members' desks in the Senate Chamber except as permitted under Rule 17.

RULE 72. Assignment of seats; offices. – (a) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall assign seats in the Senate Chamber to the members elected. The President Pro Tempore, when assigning seats, may give preferential consideration to the respective members according to the length of service that each member has rendered in the Senate. No incumbent appointed to fill an unexpired term in the immediate preceding session shall retain the seat if requested by a Senator elected to said session.

(b) Not later than two weeks after the initial committee assignments become final, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate is authorized to make assignments of committee rooms and offices to designated committees, chairs, and members of the Senate. In making such assignments of individual offices, the President Pro Tempore may give preferential consideration to the respective members according to the length of service that each member has rendered in the Senate.

RULE 73. Administrative rules and regulations involving Senate employees. – All administrative rules, regulations, and orders involving all individuals employed to perform duties for the Senate, other than those appointed by the Principal Clerk and the Sergeant-at-Arms, shall be first approved by the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate.

RULE 74. Public hearings. – Any Senator may request in writing a public hearing by the committee considering the bill on a public bill. Requests may be granted at the discretion of the chair. Notice shall be given not less than five calendar days prior to public hearings. Such notices shall be issued as information for the press, and the information shall be posted in the places designated by the Principal Clerk.

RULE 75. Public hearings; filing of written statements. – Persons desiring to appear and be heard at a public hearing are encouraged to file with the chair of the committee a brief or a written statement of the remarks to be made at least 24 hours before the time of the hearing.

RULE 76. Voting in joint sessions. – When the Senate sits jointly with the House, either in committee or in joint session, the Senate reserves the right to vote separately.

RULE 77. Alteration, suspension, or rescission of rules. – (a) These rules may not be permanently rescinded or altered except by Senate simple resolution passed by a three-fifths vote of the membership of the Senate. The introducer of the resolution must, on the floor of the Senate, give notice of the intent to introduce the resolution on the legislative day preceding its introduction.

(b) Except as otherwise provided herein, the Senate, upon motion of the Chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, or the Deputy President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the three-fifths vote of the membership of the Senate present and voting, may temporarily suspend any of these rules.

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