The following has special meaning:
green underline denotes added text
~~red struck-out text denotes deleted text~~

Powered by State Net

2021 NV SR 1	**Author:** Cannizzaro **Version:** Adopted **Version Date:** 02/01/2021

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1–SENATORS CANNIZZARO AND SETTELMEYER

FEBRUARY 1, 2021

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Adopts the Standing Rules of the Senate for the 81st Session of the Legislature. (BDR R-889)

SENATE RESOLUTION—Adopting the Standing Rules of the Senate for the 81st Session of the Legislature.

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, That the Senate Standing Rules are hereby adopted for the 81st Session of the Legislature as follows:

I. OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Rule No. 1. President.

The President shall take the chair and call the Senate to order precisely at the hour appointed for meeting, and if a quorum is present shall cause the Journal of the preceding day to be read. The President shall preserve order and decorum, and in case of any disturbance or disorderly conduct within the Senate Chamber, shall order the Sergeant at Arms to suppress it, and may order the arrest of any person creating any disturbance within the Senate Chamber. The President may speak to points of order in preference to members, rising from the President's seat for that purpose, and shall decide questions of order without debate, subject to an appeal to the Senate by two members, on which appeal no member may speak more than once without leave of the Senate. The President shall sign all acts, addresses and joint resolutions, and all writs, warrants and subpoenas issued by order of the Senate; all of which must be attested by the Secretary. The President has general direction of the Senate Chamber.

Rule No. 2. President pro Tempore and Other Presiding Officers.

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2:

(a) The President pro Tempore has all the power and shall discharge all the duties of the President during his or her absence or inability to discharge the duties of his or her office.

(b) If the President is unwilling to discharge the duties of his or her office, the Senate may, by majority vote of the Senate, call upon the President pro Tempore to serve as the President. Upon such call, the President pro Tempore has all the power and shall discharge all the duties of the President during his or her unwillingness to discharge the duties of his or her office.

(c) In the absence or inability of the President pro Tempore to discharge the duties of the President's office, the Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections shall serve as the presiding officer. In the absence or inability of the Chair, the Vice Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections shall serve as the presiding officer. In the absence or inability of the Vice Chair of the Standing Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections, the Senate shall elect one of its members to serve as the presiding officer. A member who is serving as the presiding officer has all the power and shall discharge all the duties of the President until the absence or inability which resulted in the member serving as the presiding officer has ended.

2. When the President pro Tempore or another member is serving as the presiding officer, the President pro Tempore or other member may vote on any question for which he or she is otherwise qualified to vote as a member. If the Senate is equally divided on the question, the President pro Tempore or other member may not give an additional deciding vote or casting vote pursuant to Senate Standing Rule No. 31 or Section 17 of Article 5 of the Nevada Constitution.

Rule No. 3. Secretary.

1. The Secretary of the Senate is elected by the Senate, and shall:

(a) Recruit, interview, select, train and supervise all staff employed to assist with the work of the Senate.

(b) See that these employees perform their respective duties.

(c) Administer the daily business of the Senate, including the provision of staff to its committees.

(d) Adopt such administrative policies as the Secretary deems necessary to carry out the business of the Senate.

(e) Unless otherwise ordered by the Senate, transmit at the end of each working day those bills and resolutions upon which the next action is to be taken by the Assembly.

2. The Secretary is responsible to the Majority Leader.

3. The President and the Secretary are authorized to make any necessary corrections and additions to the final Journal, Daily History and committee minutes of the Senate.

4. In the absence of the Secretary and subject to the discretion of the Majority Leader, the Assistant Secretary shall attest all writs, warrants and subpoenas issued by order of the Senate and certify as to the passage of bills and resolutions; and in the absence of both officers, the Majority Leader shall designate a signatory.

Rule No. 4. Sergeant at Arms.

The Sergeant at Arms shall:

1. Attend the Senate during its sittings, and execute its commands and all process issued by its authority.

2. Keep the secrets of the Senate.

3. Superintend the upkeep of the Senate's Chamber, private lounge and meeting rooms for committees.

Rule No. 5. Deputy Sergeant at Arms and Assistant Sergeants at Arms.

The Deputy Sergeant at Arms and Assistant Sergeants at Arms shall serve as doorkeepers and shall preserve order in the Senate Chamber and shall assist the Sergeant at Arms. The Deputy Sergeant at Arms and Assistant Sergeants at Arms shall keep the secrets of the Senate. In the event that the Sergeant at Arms is incapacitated or absent for any reason, the Deputy Sergeant at Arms shall serve as the Sergeant at Arms until the incapacity or absence has ended.

Rule No. 6. Continuation of Leadership of the Senate During the Interim Between Sessions.

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2, 3 and 4, the tenure of the President pro Tempore, Majority Leader and Minority Leader extends during the interim between regular sessions of the Legislature.

2. The President pro Tempore, Majority Leader and Minority Leader for the next succeeding regular session shall perform any duty that is required of that officer by the Standing Rules of the Senate and the Nevada Revised Statutes in the period between the time of their designation after the general election and the organization of the next succeeding regular session.

3. The Majority Leader and Minority Leader for the next succeeding regular session shall appoint the regular and alternate members to the Committee on Ethics as set forth in Senate Standing Rule No. 23.

4. The Majority Leader shall:

(a) Determine the start time of the Senate's organizational session.

(b) Refer prefiled bills and resolutions to committee, subject to ratification by a majority vote of the members of the Senate once the Senate is organized and ready for business.

(c) Appoint committees during the interim between regular sessions of the Legislature for any proper purpose, including, without limitation, taking testimony, compelling the attendance of witnesses, punishing persons or entities for contempt and reporting findings to the next session of the Legislature.

5. This Rule shall remain in full force and effect throughout the interim between regular sessions of the Legislature and until new Standing Rules of the Senate are adopted as part of the organization of a newly-constituted Senate at the commencement of a session.

The next rule is 10.

II. SESSIONS AND MEETINGS

Rule No. 10. Time of Meeting.

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the President shall call the Senate to order each day of sitting at 11:00 o'clock a.m., unless the Senate has adjourned to some other hour.

2. In the event an emergency occurs during a regular or special session of the Legislature which requires a meeting of the Senate, the Majority Leader shall call the members back to order before the hour to which the Senate has adjourned.

Rule No. 11. Call of Senate—Moved by Three Members.

A Call of the Senate may be moved by three Senators, and if carried by a majority of all present, the Secretary shall call the roll and note the absentees, after which the names of the absentees shall again be called over. The doors shall then be closed and the Sergeant at Arms directed to take into custody all who may be absent without leave, and all Senators so taken into custody shall be presented at the bar of the Senate for such action as to the Senate may seem proper.

Rule No. 12. Absence—Leave Required.

No Senator shall absent himself or herself from the service of the Senate without leave, except in case of accident or sickness, and if any Senator or officer shall so absent himself or herself, the per diem of the Senator shall not be allowed to him or her.

Rule No. 13. Open Meetings.

1. Except as provided in the Constitution of the State of Nevada and in subsection 2, all meetings of the Senate and its committees must be open to the public.

2. A Senate committee meeting may be closed to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person.

The next rule is 20.

III. DECORUM AND DEBATE

Rule No. 20. Points of Order.

1. If any Senator, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the rules of the Senate, the President shall, or any Senator may, call him or her to order. If a Senator is so called to order, he or she shall not proceed without leave of the Senate. If such leave is granted, it must be upon the motion, “That he or she be allowed to proceed in order,” and the Senator shall confine himself or herself to the proposal under consideration and avoid personality.

2. Every ruling on points of order made by the President is subject to appeal, and a discussion of a question of order may be allowed only upon the appeal of two Senators. In all cases of appeal, the question must be, “Shall the ruling of the Chair stand as the judgment of the Senate?”

Rule No. 21. Breaches of Decorum.

1. In cases of breaches of decorum or propriety, any Senator, officer or other person is liable to such censure or punishment as the Senate may deem proper.

2. If any Senator is called to order for offensive or indecorous language or conduct, the person calling the Senator to order shall report the offensive or indecorous language or conduct to the presiding officer. No member may be held to answer for any language used on the floor of the Senate if business has intervened before exception to the language was taken.

3. Indecorous conduct or boisterous or unbecoming language is not permitted in the Senate Chamber.

Rule No. 22. Reserved.

Rule No. 23. Committee on Ethics; Legislative Ethics.

1. The Committee on Ethics consists of:

(a) Two members of the Senate appointed by the Majority Leader from the majority political party;

(b) One member of the Senate appointed by the Minority Leader from the minority political party; and

(c) Four qualified electors of the State, two of whom are appointed by the Majority Leader, one who is appointed by the Minority Leader, and one who is appointed by the other members appointed to the Committee, and none of whom is a present member of the Legislature or employed by the State of Nevada.

Not more than four members of the Committee may be members of the same political party.

2. The Majority Leader shall appoint the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee. The Vice Chair shall serve as the acting Chair if the Chair is unable to serve for any reason during the consideration of a specific proposal.

3. The Majority Leader shall appoint an alternate member with the qualifications set forth in paragraph (a) of subsection 1 and an alternate member with the qualifications set forth in paragraph (c) of subsection 1. The Minority Leader shall appoint an alternate member with the qualifications set forth in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 and an alternate member with the qualifications set forth in paragraph (c) of subsection 1. The members of the Committee shall appoint an alternate member with the qualifications set forth in paragraph (c) of subsection 1. If a member of the Committee is unable to serve for any reason during the consideration of a specific proposal, the alternate appointed with the qualifications from the same paragraph in subsection 1 by the same appointing authority shall serve as a member of the Committee during the consideration of the specific proposal.

4. A member of the Committee is disqualified to serve during the consideration of a specific proposal if:

(a) The member is the requester of advice concerning the question of ethics or conflict of interest, or the member is the subject of the complaint concerning the specific question; or

(b) A reasonable person in the member's situation could not exercise independent judgment on the matter in question.

5. The members of the Committee shall perform any duty required in the period between the time of their appointment after the general election and the organization of the next succeeding regular session, or until the Majority Leader or the Minority Leader appoint new members to the Committee, whichever occurs first.

6. The tenure of the members of the Committee shall extend during the interim between regular sessions of the Legislature.

7. The Committee:

(a) May hear requests brought by Senators for advice on specific questions of potential breaches of ethics and conflicts of interest; and

(b) Shall hear complaints brought by Senators and others on specific questions of alleged breaches of ethics and conflicts of interest, including, without limitation, alleged breaches of the Legislative Code of Ethical Standards in the Joint Standing Rules.

8. All proceedings held by the Committee to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of any person on matters of ethics or conflicts of interest and all materials related to those proceedings are confidential, unless the person who is the subject of the proceedings requests a public hearing or discloses the content of the proceedings or materials.

9. An individual may file a complaint which alleges a breach of ethics or a conflict of interest, including, without limitation, an alleged breach of the Legislative Code of Ethical Standards in the Joint Standing Rules. If the alleged breach of ethics or conflict of interest involves the conduct of more than one person, separate complaints must be filed regarding each person. A complaint must be:

(a) Made in writing on a form provided by the Legislative Counsel;

(b) Signed and verified under penalty of perjury by the individual making the allegation; and

(c) Filed with the Legislative Counsel who shall review the complaint and any other relevant information and consult with the Chair of the Committee or, if the Chair is the subject of the complaint, with the Vice Chair, to evaluate whether the Committee has jurisdiction and whether an investigation is warranted in the matter. If it is determined that the Committee:

(1) Does not have jurisdiction or that an investigation is not warranted in the matter, the Legislative Counsel shall send written notice of the determination to the individual who filed the complaint.

(2) Has jurisdiction and an investigation is warranted in the matter, the Legislative Counsel shall send written notice of the determination and a copy of the complaint to the person who is the subject of the complaint.

10. Each Legislator is subject, at all times, to the Legislative Code of Ethical Standards in the Joint Standing Rules and, in addition, must determine whether he or she has a conflict of interest upon any matter in question before the Legislator. In determining whether the Legislator has such a conflict of interest, the Legislator should consider whether the independence of judgment of a reasonable person in his or her situation upon the matter in question would be materially affected by the Legislator's:

(a) Acceptance of a gift or loan;

(b) Private economic interest; or

(c) Commitment to a member of his or her household or immediate family.

In interpreting and applying the provisions of this subsection, it must be presumed that the independence of judgment of a reasonable person in the Legislator's situation would not be materially affected by the Legislator's private economic interest or the Legislator's commitment to a member of his or her household or immediate family where the resulting benefit or detriment accruing to the Legislator, or if the Legislator has a commitment to a member of his or her household or immediate family, accruing to those other persons, is not greater than that accruing to any other member of the general business, profession, occupation or group that is affected by the matter.

11. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 12, if a Legislator knows he or she has a conflict of interest pursuant to subsection 10, the Legislator shall make a disclosure of the conflict of interest on the record in a meeting of a committee or on the floor of the Senate, as applicable. Such a disclosure must be entered:

(a) If the Legislator makes the disclosure in a meeting of a committee, in the minutes for that meeting.

(b) If the Legislator makes the disclosure on the floor of the Senate, in the Journal.

12. If, on one or more prior occasions during the current session of the Legislature, a Legislator has made a general disclosure of a conflict of interest on the record in a meeting of a committee or on the floor of the Senate, the Legislator is not required to make that general disclosure at length again regarding the same conflict of interest if, when the matter in question arises on subsequent occasions, the Legislator makes a reference on the record to the previous disclosure.

13. In determining whether to abstain from voting upon, advocating or opposing a matter concerning which a Legislator has a conflict of interest pursuant to subsection 10, the Legislator should consider whether:

(a) The conflict impedes his or her independence of judgment; and

(b) His or her interest is greater than the interests of an entire class of persons similarly situated.

14. The provisions of this Rule do not under any circumstances and regardless of any conflict of interest:

(a) Prohibit a Legislator from requesting or introducing a legislative measure; or

(b) Require a Legislator to take any particular action before or while requesting or introducing a legislative measure.

15. If a Legislator who is a member of a committee declares on the record when a vote is to be taken by the committee that he or she will abstain from voting because of the requirements of this Rule, the necessary quorum to act upon and the number of votes necessary to act upon the matter is reduced as though the Legislator abstaining were not a member of the committee.

16. The standards and procedures set forth in this Rule which govern whether and to what extent a Senator has a conflict of interest, should disclose a conflict of interest or should abstain from voting upon, advocating or opposing a matter concerning which the Senator has a conflict of interest pursuant to subsection 10:

(a) Are exclusive and are the only standards and procedures that apply to Senators with regard to such matters; and

(b) Supersede and preempt all other standards and procedures with regard to such matters,

except that this subsection does not exempt any Senators from the Legislative Code of Ethical Standards in the Joint Standing Rules.

17. For purposes of this Rule, "immediate family" means a person who is related to the Legislator by blood, adoption or marriage within the first degree of consanguinity or affinity.

18. This Rule shall remain in full force and effect throughout the interim between regular sessions of the Legislature and until new Standing Rules of the Senate are adopted as part of a newly- constituted Senate at the commencement of a session.

The next rule is 30.

IV. QUORUM, VOTING, ELECTIONS

Rule No. 30. Recorded Vote—Three Required to Call For.

1. A recorded vote must be taken upon final passage of a bill or joint resolution, and in any other case when called for by three members. Every Senator within the bar of the Senate shall vote "yea" or "nay" or record himself or herself as "not voting," unless excused by unanimous vote of the Senate. A Senator who records himself or herself as "not voting" must make a full and complete disclosure of a conflict of interest pursuant to Senate Standing Rule No. 23.

2. The votes and names of those absent or recorded as "not voting" and the names of Senators demanding the recorded vote must be entered in the Journal.

Rule No. 31. President to Decide—Tie Vote.

A question is lost by a tie vote, but when the Senate is equally divided on any question except the passage of a bill or joint resolution, the President may give the deciding vote.

Rule No. 32. Manner of Election—Voting.

1. In all cases of election by the Senate, the vote must be taken viva voce. In other cases, if a vote is to be recorded, it may be taken by oral roll-call or by electronic recording.

2. When a recorded vote is taken, no Senator may:

(a) Vote except when at his or her seat;

(b) Explain his or her vote or discuss the question while the voting is in progress; or

(c) Change his or her vote after the result is announced.

3. The announcement of the result of any vote must not be postponed.

The next rule is 40.

V. LEGISLATIVE BODIES

Rule No. 40. Standing and Select Committees.

1. Except as otherwise provided in Senate Standing Rule No. 23, the Majority Leader shall appoint all standing and select committees and shall determine the majority-minority party composition of all standing and select committees. Appointments to committees shall be made by the Majority Leader for the majority party members and by the Minority Leader for the minority party members. The Majority Leader shall designate the Chair and Vice Chair of all standing and select committees.

2. The Majority Leader shall refer prefiled bills and resolutions to committee, subject to ratification by a majority vote of the Senate once the Senate is organized and ready for business.

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the standing and select committees of the Senate and their respective jurisdiction for the reference of bills and resolutions are as follows:

(a) Commerce and Labor, seven members, with jurisdiction over measures affecting primarily titles 52-55 of NRS, and chapters 97-100, 118-119, 119B, 461, 461A, 489, 679A-693A, 694A-697, 711 and 712 of NRS, except measures affecting primarily state and local revenue.

(b) Education, seven members, with jurisdiction over measures affecting primarily chapters 353B, 378-380A, 385-386 and 388- 399 of NRS, except measures affecting primarily state and local revenue.

(c) Finance, nine members, with jurisdiction over measures affecting primarily chapters 1A, 387 and 400 of NRS, appropriations, operating and capital budgets, state and federal budget issues and bonding, except measures affecting primarily state and local revenue, and over any measures carrying or requiring appropriations and favorably reported by any other committee.

(d) Government Affairs, five members, with jurisdiction over measures affecting primarily titles 20, 21, 25, 27, 28, 30, 36 and 37 of NRS, and chapters 223-228, 232-233I, 234-237, 238-242, 271, 277-280, 286-289, 353, 353A, 353C-358, 381, 384, 472, 474, 477, 693B, 709, 710 and 720 of NRS, except measures affecting primarily the provisions of the Nevada Administrative Procedure Act that govern the adjudication of contested cases, the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, state and local revenue and state and federal budget issues.

(e) Growth and Infrastructure, five members, with jurisdiction over measures affecting primarily title 44 of NRS, and chapters 403-405, 408, 410, 459A, 476, 480-487, 490 and 701-708 of NRS, except measures affecting primarily state and local revenue.

(f) Health and Human Services, five members, with jurisdiction over measures affecting primarily titles 38, 39 and 56 of NRS, chapters 439-442 of NRS, NRS 444.002-444.430 and chapters 446-458A, 460 and 583-585 of NRS, except measures affecting primarily state and local revenue.

(g) Judiciary, eight members, with jurisdiction over measures affecting primarily the provisions of the Nevada Administrative Procedure Act that govern the adjudication of contested cases, titles 2-7, 9, 11-16 and 41 of NRS, and chapters 1, 2-7, 101-104A, 111-117, 119A, 120, 120A, 475, 719, 721 and 722 of NRS, except measures affecting primarily state and local revenue.

(h) Legislative Operations and Elections, five members, with jurisdiction over measures affecting primarily titles 17, 24 and 29 of NRS, chapters 281-285 of NRS, and the operation of the legislative session, except measures affecting primarily state and local revenue.

(i) Natural Resources, five members, with jurisdiction over measures affecting primarily titles 26 and 45-50 of NRS, chapters 383, 407 and 407A of NRS, NRS 444.435-444.650, chapters 444A- 445D, 459, 488, 581, 582 and 586-590 of NRS, and the Tahoe Regional Planning Compact and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, except measures affecting primarily state and local revenue.

(j) Revenue and Economic Development, five members, with jurisdiction over measures affecting primarily title 32 of NRS, chapters 231, 231A, 237A and 271A-274 of NRS, and state and local revenue.

4. The Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance may assign any portion of a proposed executive budget to any of the other standing or select committees of the Senate for review. Upon receiving such an assignment the standing or select committee shall complete its review expeditiously and report its findings and any recommendations to the Standing Committee on Finance for its independent evaluation.

Rule No. 41. Appointment of Alternates.

If the Chair or any member of a committee is temporarily unable to perform his or her duties, the Majority Leader shall appoint an alternate of the same political party to serve in the Chair’s or the member’s place for such time as is determined by the Majority Leader.

Rule No. 42. Committee Expenses.

No committee shall employ assistance or incur any expense, except by permission of the Majority Leader previously obtained.

Rule No. 43. Duties of Committees.

The several committees shall acquaint themselves with the interests of the State specially represented by the committee and shall present such bills and reports as in their judgment will advance the interests and promote the welfare of the people of the State.

Rule No. 44. Reserved.

Rule No. 45. Reserved.

Rule No. 46. Forming Committee of the Whole.

In forming the Committee of the Whole, the Senator who has so moved shall name a Chair to preside. All amendments proposed by the Committee shall be reported by the Chair to the Senate.

Rule No. 47. Rules Applicable to Committee of the Whole.

The Rules of the Senate shall apply to proceedings in Committee of the Whole, except that the previous question shall not be ordered, nor the yeas and nays demanded, but the Committee may limit the number of times that any member may speak, at any stage of proceedings, during its sitting. Messages may be received by the President while the Committee is sitting; in which case the President shall

resume the chair and receive the message. After receiving the message, the President shall vacate the chair in favor of the Chair of the Committee.

Rule No. 48. Motion to Rise Committee of the Whole.

A motion that the Committee rise shall always be in order, and shall be decided without debate.

Rule No. 49. Reference to Committee.

When a motion is made to refer any subject, and different committees are proposed, the subject may be referred to the committee with jurisdiction over the subject as set forth in Senate Standing Rule No. 40, or to a different committee, upon a majority vote of the members present.

Rule No. 50. Return From Committee.

1. Any bill or other matter referred to a committee of the Senate must not be withdrawn or ordered taken from the committee for consideration by the Senate, for re-referral, or for any other reason without a majority vote of the Senate, and at least one day's notice of the motion therefor.

2. No such motion is in order:

(a) If the bill to be withdrawn or ordered taken from the committee may no longer be considered by the Senate; or

(b) On the last day of the session, or on the day preceding the last day of the session.

3. This Rule does not take from any committee the rights and duties of committees provided for in Senate Standing Rule No. 43.

Rule No. 51. Reserved.

Rule No. 52. Reserved.

Rule No. 53. Committee Rules.

1. The rules of the Senate, as far as applicable, are the rules of committees of the Senate. Procedure in committees, where not otherwise provided in this Rule, must follow the procedure of the Senate. For matters not included in the rules of the Senate or these rules, Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure must be followed.

2. A majority of any committee constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.

3. A meeting of a committee may not be opened without a quorum present.

4. In addition to regularly scheduled meetings of a committee or those called by the Chair of the committee, meetings may be set by a written petition of a majority of the committee and filed with the Chair of the committee.

5. A bill may be passed from a committee only by a majority of the committee membership. A simple majority of those present and voting is sufficient to adopt committee amendments.

6. Subcommittees may be appointed by the Chair of a committee to consider subjects specified by the Chair and shall report back to the committee. If a member of a subcommittee is not a member of the standing or select committee for which the subcommittee is created, the approval of the Majority Leader is required for that member's appointment. If a subcommittee is so appointed, the Chair of the committee shall determine whether the subcommittee shall keep minutes of its meetings. Any minutes required to be kept pursuant to this subsection must comply with the provisions of subsection 12.

7. A committee shall act only when together, and all votes must be taken in the presence of the committee. A member shall not be recorded as voting unless the member was actually present in the committee at the time of the vote. The Chair of the committee must be present when the committee votes to take any final actions on bills or resolutions, but the Chair is not required to vote. In addition to the use of remote-technology systems pursuant to the Remote-Technology Rules set forth in Senate Standing Rules Nos. 131 to 135, inclusive, upon approval of the Majority Leader, a committee may meet together by video conference or other appropriate remote-technology systems. A member who is actually present in the committee at a posted video conference or other remote location is present and in attendance at the meeting for all purposes. A member who is participating in a committee meeting with all committee members participating through the use of a remote-technology system pursuant to the direction of the Majority Leader shall participate in the committee meeting from a location other than a committee meeting room. The provisions of this subsection do not prohibit the prefiling of legislative bills and resolutions on behalf of a committee in the manner prescribed by the Legislative Commission.

8. All committee and subcommittee meetings are open to the public, except as otherwise provided in Senate Standing Rule No. 13.

9. Before a Chair of a committee reports a bill or resolution to the Senate, the committee may reconsider its action. A motion to reconsider must be made by any member who voted on the action.

10. The Chair of a committee shall determine the agenda of each meeting of the committee except that a member of the committee may request an item for the agenda by communicating with the Chair at least 4 days before the meeting. A majority of a committee may, by vote, add an item to the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting.

11. Secretaries to committees shall give notices of hearings on bills to anyone requesting notices of particular bills.

12. All committees shall keep minutes of meetings. The minutes must cover members present and absent, subjects under discussion, witnesses who appear, committee members' statements concerning legislative intent, action taken by the committee, as well as the vote of individual members on all matters on which a vote is taken. Upon approval of the Chair, any member may submit to the secretary additional remarks to be included in the minutes and records of committee meetings. Upon completion of the minutes, the Chair will review for approval. At the conclusion of the legislative session, the Secretary of the Senate shall deliver all minutes and records of committee meetings in his or her possession to the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

13. In addition to the minutes, the committee secretary shall maintain a record of all bills, including:

(a) Date bill referred;

(b) Date bill received;

(c) Date set for hearing the bill;

(d) Date or dates bill heard and voted upon; and

(e) Date report prepared.

14. Each committee secretary shall file the minutes of each meeting with the Secretary of the Senate as soon as practicable after the meeting.

15. All committee minutes and any subcommittee minutes required to be kept pursuant to subsection 6 are open to public inspection upon request and during normal business hours. The official record of the committee meeting is the minutes approved by the Chair.

Rule No. 54. Review of State Agency Programs.

In addition to or concurrent with committee action taken on specific bills and resolutions during a regular session of the Legislature, each standing committee of the Senate is encouraged to plan and conduct a general review of selected programs of state agencies or other areas of public interest within the committee's jurisdiction.

The next rule is 60.

VI. RULES GOVERNING MOTIONS

A. MOTIONS GENERALLY

Rule No. 60. Entertaining.

1. No motion may be debated until it is announced by the President.

2. By consent of the Senate, a motion may be withdrawn before amendment or decision.

Rule No. 61. Precedence of Motions.

When a proposal is under debate no motion shall be received but the following, which shall have precedence in the order named:

1. To adjourn.

2. For a call of the Senate.

3. To recess.

4. To lay on the table.

5. For the previous question.

6. To postpone to a day certain.

7. To refer to committee.

8. To amend.

9. To postpone indefinitely.

The first three motions shall be decided without debate, and a motion to lay on the table without question or debate.

Rule No. 62. When Not Entertained.

1. When a motion to postpone indefinitely has been decided, it must not be again entertained on the same day.

2. When a proposal has been postponed indefinitely, it must not again be introduced during the session unless this Rule is suspended by a majority vote of the Senate.

3. There must be no reconsideration or recission of a vote on a motion to postpone indefinitely.

B. PARTICULAR MOTIONS

Rule No. 63. To Adjourn.

A motion to adjourn shall always be in order unless a motion to reconsider a final vote on a bill or resolution or any other action is pending. The name of the Senator moving to adjourn, and the time when the motion was made, shall be entered in the Journal.

Rule No. 64. Lay on the Table.

A motion to lay on or take from the table shall be carried by a majority vote.

Rule No. 65. Reserved.

Rule No. 66. To Strike Enacting Clause.

A motion to strike out the enacting clause of a bill has precedence over a motion to refer to committee or to amend. If a motion to strike out the enacting clause of a bill is carried, the bill is rejected.

Rule No. 67. Division of Proposal.

1. Any Senator may call for a division of a proposal.

2. A proposal must be divided if the Senate determines it embraces subjects so distinct that if one subject is taken away, a substantive proposal remains for the decision of the Senate.

3. A motion to strike out and insert must not be divided.

Rule No. 68. To Reconsider—Precedence of.

A motion to reconsider has precedence over every other motion, including a motion to adjourn. A motion to reconsider a final vote on a bill or resolution or any other action shall be in order only on the day on which the final vote or action is taken and the vote on such a motion to reconsider must be taken on the same day.

Rule No. 69. Explanation of Motion.

Whenever a Senator moves to change the usual disposition of a bill or resolution, he or she shall describe the subject of the bill or resolution and state the reasons for requesting the change in the processing of the bill or resolution.

The next rule is 80.

VII. DEBATE

Rule No. 80. Speaking on Proposal.

1. Every Senator who speaks shall, in his or her place, address “Mr. or Madam President,” in a courteous manner, and shall confine himself or herself to the proposal before the Senate.

2. No Senator may speak:

(a) More than twice during the consideration of any one question on the same day, except for explanation.

(b) A second time without leave when others who have not spoken desire the floor.

3. Incidental and subsidiary proposals arising during debate shall not be considered the same proposal.

Rule No. 81. Previous Question.

The previous question shall not be put unless demanded by three Senators, and it shall be in this form: “Shall the main question be put?” When sustained by a majority of Senators present it shall put an end to all debate and bring the Senate to a vote on the proposal or proposals before it, and all incidental proposals arising after the motion was made shall be decided without debate. A person who is speaking on a proposal shall not while he or she has the floor move to put that question.

The next rule is 90.

VIII. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

A. GENERALLY

Rule No. 90. Mason’s Manual.

The rules of parliamentary practice contained in Mason’s

Manual of Legislative Procedure shall govern the Senate in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the standing rules and orders of the Senate, and the Joint Standing Rules of the Senate and Assembly.

Rule No. 91. Suspension of Rule.

No standing rule or order of the Senate shall be rescinded or changed without a majority vote of the Senate and one day's notice of the motion therefor; but a rule or order may be temporarily suspended for a special purpose by a majority vote of the members present. When the suspension of a rule is called for, and after due notice from the President no objection is offered, the President can announce the rule suspended and the Senate may proceed accordingly; but this shall not apply to that portion of Senate Standing Rule No. 109 relating to the third reading of bills, which cannot be suspended.

Rule No. 92. Notices of Bills, Topics and Public Hearings.

Adequate notice shall be provided to the Legislators and the public by posting information relative to the bills, topics and public hearings which are to come before committees. Notices shall include the date, time, place and agenda, and shall be posted conspicuously in the Legislative Building and shall be made available to the news media. This requirement of notice may be suspended for an emergency by the affirmative vote of a majority of the committee members appointed.

Rule No. 93. Protest.

Any Senator, or Senators, may protest against the action of the Senate upon any question, and have such protest entered in the Journal.

Rule No. 94. Privilege of the Floor.

1. To preserve decorum and facilitate the business of the Senate, only the following persons may be present on the floor of the Senate during formal sessions:

(a) State officers;

(b) Officers and members of the Senate;

(c) Employees of the Legislative Counsel Bureau;

(d) Staff of the Senate; and

(e) Members of the Assembly whose presence is required for the transaction of business.

2. A majority of Senators may authorize the President to have the Senate Chamber cleared of all persons except Senators and officers of the Senate.

3. The Senate Chamber may not be used for any business other than legislative business during a legislative session.

Rule No. 95. Material Placed on Legislators' Desks.

1. Only the Sergeant at Arms and officers and employees of the Senate may place papers, letters, notes, pamphlets and other written material upon a Senator's desk. Such material must contain the name of the Legislator requesting the placement of the material on the desk or a designation of the origin of the material.

2. This Rule does not apply to books containing the legislative bills and resolutions, the daily histories and daily journals of the Senate or Assembly, or Legislative Counsel Bureau material.

Rule No. 96. Reserved.

Rule No. 97. Petitions.

The contents of any petition shall be briefly stated by the President or any Senator presenting it. It shall then lie on the table or be referred, as the President or Senate may direct.

Rule No. 98. Reserved.

Rule No. 99. Reserved.

Rule No. 100. Reserved.

Rule No. 101. Reserved.

Rule No. 102. Objection to Reading of Paper.

Where the reading of any paper is called for, and is objected to by any Senator, it shall be determined by a vote of the Senate, and without debate.

Rule No. 103. Questions Relating to Priority of Business.

All questions relating to the priority of business shall be decided without debate.

B. BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Rule No. 104. Reserved.

Rule No. 105. Reserved.

Rule No. 106. Skeleton Bills.

Skeleton bills may be introduced after the beginning of a session when, in the opinion of the sponsor and the Legislative Counsel, the full drafting of the bill would entail extensive research or be of considerable length. A skeleton bill will be a presentation of ideas or statements of purpose, sufficient in style and expression to enable the Legislature and the committee to which the bill may be referred to consider the substantive merits of the legislation proposed.

Rule No. 107. Information Concerning Bills.

1. Bills introduced may be accompanied by information relative to witnesses and selected persons of departments and agencies who should be considered for committee hearings on the proposed legislation. At the time of or after introduction of a bill, a list of witnesses who are proponents of the bill together with their addresses and telephone numbers may be given to the secretary of the committee to which the bill is referred. This information may be provided by:

(a) The Senator introducing the bill;

(b) The person requesting a committee introduction of the bill; or

(c) The Chair of the committee introducing the bill.

2. The secretary of the committee shall deliver this information to the Chair of the committee to which the bill is referred. Members of the committee may suggest additional names for witnesses.

3. The Legislator may provide an analysis which may describe the intent, purpose, justification and effects of the bill, or any of them.

Rule No. 108. Reserved.

Rule No. 109. Reading of Bills.

1. Every bill must receive three readings before its passage, unless, in case of emergency, this rule is suspended by a two-thirds vote of the Senate. The reading of a bill is by number, sponsor and summary.

2. The first reading of a bill is for information, and if there is opposition to the bill, the question must be, “Shall this bill be rejected?” If there is no opposition to the bill, or if the question to reject is defeated, the bill must then take the usual course.

3. No bill may be referred to committee until once read, nor amended until twice read.

4. The third reading of every bill must be by sections.

Rule No. 110. Second Reading File—Consent Calendar.

1. All bills reported by committee must be placed on a Second Reading File unless recommended for placement on the Consent Calendar.

2. A committee shall not recommend a bill for placement on the Consent Calendar if:

(a) An amendment of the bill is recommended;

(b) It contains an appropriation;

(c) It requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate; or

(d) It is controversial in nature.

3. A bill recommended for placement on the Consent Calendar must be included in the Daily File listed in the Daily History of the Senate at least 1 calendar day before it may be considered.

4. A bill must be removed from the Consent Calendar at the request of any Senator, without question or debate. A bill so removed must be immediately placed on the Second Reading File for consideration in the usual order of business.

5. When the Consent Calendar is called:

(a) The bills remaining on the Consent Calendar must be read by number, sponsor and summary, and the vote must be taken on their final passage as a group.

(b) No remarks or questions are in order and the bills remaining on the Consent Calendar must be voted upon without debate.

Rule No. 111. Publications.

1. An appropriate number of copies of all bills and resolutions of general interest must be printed for the use of the Senate and Assembly. Such other matter must be printed as may be ordered by the Senate.

2. Bill books will not be prepared for legislators unless they qualify for and request the service. The service, if approved, will be limited to the provision of one full set of bills, journals, histories and indexes for the Senator’s desk in the Senate chamber. Bill books will not be prepared for a Senator for individual committees.

3. A Senator may request the provision of bill book service pursuant to subsection 1 if either:

(a) The Senator has served in the Senate for 10 or more years; or

(b) A physical or medical condition requires the Senator to use the bill books rather than viewing bills on a laptop computer.

4. A request for bill book service must be made to the Majority Leader of the Senate. If the Majority Leader determines that the Senator qualifies for the service, the Majority Leader shall direct the Legislative Counsel Bureau to provide the service.

Rule No. 112. Sponsorship.

1. A Senator may request that his or her name be added as a sponsor of a bill or resolution that is introduced in the Senate if the Senator has submitted to the Secretary of the Senate a statement approving the request signed by the Senator who introduced the bill or resolution, including, without limitation, submission by electronic means. A Senator may make a request to have his or her name added as a sponsor of:

(a) A resolution of the Senate, at any time after the resolution is introduced in the Senate and before the resolution is passed by the Senate.

(b) A bill or a joint or concurrent resolution:

(1) At any time after the bill or resolution is introduced in the Senate and before the bill or resolution is passed out of the Senate to the Assembly; and

(2) At any time after the bill or resolution is returned to the Senate following passage by the Assembly and before the bill or resolution is enrolled.

2. A Senator who is a sponsor of a bill or resolution that is introduced in the Senate may request that his or her name be removed as a sponsor of the bill or resolution. A Senator may make a request to have his or her name removed as a sponsor of:

(a) A resolution of the Senate, at any time after the resolution is introduced in the Senate and before the resolution is passed by the Senate.

(b) A bill or a joint or concurrent resolution:

(1) At any time after the bill or resolution is introduced in the Senate and before the bill or resolution is passed out of the Senate to the Assembly; and

(2) At any time after the bill or resolution is returned to the Senate following passage by the Assembly and before the bill or resolution is enrolled.

In such case, if the Senator is the only sponsor of the bill or resolution, another Senator may request that his or her name be added to the bill or resolution as a sponsor without receiving the approval from the original sponsor.

3. If a Senator makes a request to have his or her name added or removed as a sponsor of a bill or resolution that was introduced in the Senate, the request must be entered in the Journal.

4. If a Senator who is the only sponsor of a bill or resolution that was introduced in the Senate removes his or her name from the bill or resolution while the bill is in the Senate and no other Senator adds his or her name as the sponsor of the bill or resolution at the time of the request for removal, no further action on the bill or resolution is allowed for that legislative session.

Rule No. 113. Reading of Bills—General File.

1. Upon reading of bills on the Second Reading File, Senate and Assembly bills reported without amendments must be ordered to the General File. Committee amendments reported with bills must be considered upon their second reading and such amendments may be adopted by a majority vote of the members present. Bills so amended must be reprinted, engrossed or reengrossed, and ordered to the General File. The File must be made available to members of the public each day by the Secretary.

2. Any member may move to amend a bill during its reading on the Second Reading File or during its third reading and the motion to amend may be adopted by a majority vote of the members present. Bills so amended on second reading must be treated the same as bills with committee amendments. Any bill so amended upon the General File must be reprinted and engrossed or reengrossed.

3. Committee amendments and all other amendments must be made available to members of the public after the amendments are submitted to the Secretary for processing in order to be considered on the Second Reading File or the General File.

4. An appropriate number of copies of all amended bills must be printed.

Rule No. 114. Referral of Bill With Special Instructions.

A bill may be referred to committee with special instructions to amend at any time before taking the final vote.

Rule No. 115. Reconsideration of Vote on Bill.

1. A vote may be reconsidered on motion of any member.

2. Motions to reconsider a vote upon amendments to any pending proposal and upon a final vote on a bill or resolution may be made and decided at once.

Rule No. 116. Vetoed Bills.

Bills which have passed the Legislature, and forwarded by letter, to the Senate by the Secretary of State or the Governor and which are accompanied by a message of the Governor's disapproval, or veto of the same, shall become a special order and, at which time, the said message shall be read, together with the bill or bills so disposed or vetoed; and the message and bill shall be read without interruption, consecutively, one following the other, and not upon separate occasions; and no such bill or message shall be referred to any committee, or otherwise acted upon, save as provided by rule, custom and law; that is to say, that immediately following such reading the only questions (except as hereinafter stated) which shall be put by the Chair is, "Shall the bill pass, notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?" It shall not be in order, at any time, to vote upon such vetoed bill without the same having first been read; the merits of the bill itself may be debated and the only motions entertained after the Chair has stated the question are a motion for "The previous question," or a motion for "No further consideration" of the vetoed bill.

Rule No. 117. Different Subject Not Admitted as Amendment.

No subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted as an amendment; and no bill or resolution shall be amended by incorporating any irrelevant subject matter or by association or annexing any other bill or resolution pending in the Senate, but a substitute may be offered at any time so long as the original is open to amendment.

Rule No. 118. Joint Resolutions.

1. Joint resolutions must be used to address Congress, or either House thereof, or the President of the United States, or the heads of any of the national departments, or to propose amendments to the State Constitution. A roll call vote must be taken upon final passage of a joint resolution and entered in the Journal.

2. Upon introduction, the reading of a joint resolution is for informational purposes and referral to committee, unless the joint resolution is rejected or a member moves to immediately consider the joint resolution for final passage. The motion to immediately consider the joint resolution for final passage may be adopted by a majority vote of the Senate.

3. Committee amendments reported with joint resolutions may be adopted by a majority vote of the members present. Joint resolutions so amended must be reprinted, engrossed or reengrossed, and ordered to the Resolution File.

4. Any member may move to amend a joint resolution and the motion to amend may be adopted by a majority vote of the members present. Joint resolutions so amended must be treated the same as joint resolutions with committee amendments. Any joint resolution so amended must be reprinted and engrossed or reengrossed, and ordered to the Resolution File.

5. Committee amendments and all other amendments must be available to members of the public after the amendments are submitted to the Secretary for processing in order to be considered for the Resolution File.

6. The Secretary shall make the Resolution File available to members of the public each day.

7. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the State Constitution must be entered in the Journal in its entirety.

8. An appropriate number of copies of all amended joint resolutions must be printed.

Rule No. 118.2. Memorial Resolutions.

Once the sponsor has moved for the adoption of a memorial resolution, not more than one member from each caucus, and, upon request of a member of the body and the approval of the Majority Leader, one additional member may speak on the resolution.

Rule No. 119. Certain Resolutions Treated as Motions.

Except as otherwise provided in Senate Standing Rules Nos. 118 and 118.2, resolutions must be treated as motions in all proceedings of the Senate.

Rule No. 119.2. Return From the Secretary of State.

A Senate resolution may be used to request the return from the Secretary of State of an enrolled Senate resolution for further consideration.

C. ORDER OF BUSINESS, SPECIAL ORDERS AND OTHER MATTERS

Rule No. 120. Order of Business.

1. Roll Call.

2. Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Reading and Approval of the Journal.

4. Reports of Committees.

5. Messages from the Governor.

6. Messages from the Assembly.

7. Communications.

8. Waivers and Exemptions.

9. Motions, Resolutions and Notices.

10. Introduction, First Reading and Reference.

11. Consent Calendar.

12. Second Reading and Amendment.

13. General File and Third Reading.

14. Unfinished Business.

15. Special Orders of the Day.

16. Remarks from the Floor; Introduction of Guests. A Senator may speak under this order of business for a period of not more than 10 minutes.

Rule No. 121. Privilege.

Any Senator may explain a matter personal to himself or herself by leave of the President, but the Senator shall not discuss any pending proposal in such explanation.

Rule No. 122. Reserved.

Rule No. 123. Reserved.

Rule No. 124. Preference to Speak.

When two or more Senators request to speak at the same time the President shall name the one who may first speak—giving preference, when practicable, to the mover or introducer of the subject under consideration.

Rule No. 125. Special Order of Business.

The President shall call the Senate to order on the arrival of the time fixed for the consideration of a special order, and announce that the special order is before the Senate, which shall be considered, unless it be postponed by a majority vote of the Senate, and any business before the Senate at the time of the announcement of the special order shall go to Unfinished Business.

Rule No. 126. Reserved.

Rule No. 127. Reserved.

Rule No. 128. Seniority Among Senators.

1. The Senate shall determine seniority among the Senators as follows:

(a) Credit total continuous service in the Senate first;

(b) Credit total noncontinuous service in the Senate second;

(c) Credit total continuous service in the Assembly third; and

(d) Credit total noncontinuous service in the Assembly fourth.

2. In every case where there are ties, those ties are broken by alphabetical order.

Rule No. 129. Reserved.

D. CONTESTS OF ELECTIONS

Rule No. 130. Procedure.

1. The Senate shall not dismiss a statement of contest for want of form if any ground of contest is alleged with sufficient certainty to inform the defendant of the charges he or she is required to meet. The following grounds are sufficient, but are not exclusive:

(a) That the election board or any member thereof was guilty of malfeasance.

(b) That a person who has been declared elected to an office was not at the time of election eligible to that office.

(c) That illegal votes were cast and counted for the defendant, which, if taken from the defendant, will reduce the number of legal votes below the number necessary to elect him or her.

(d) That the election board, in conducting the election or in canvassing the returns, made errors sufficient to change the result of the election as to any person who has been declared elected.

(e) That the defendant has given, or offered to give, to any person a bribe for the purpose of procuring his or her election.

(f) That there was a possible malfunction of any voting or counting device.

2. The contest must be submitted so far as may be possible upon depositions or by written or oral arguments as the Senate may order. Any party to a contest may take the deposition of any witness at any time after the statement of contest is filed with the Secretary of State and before the contest is finally decided. At least 5 days' notice must be given to the prospective deponent and to the other party. If oral statements are made at any hearing before the Senate or a committee thereof which purport to establish matters of fact, they must be made under oath. Strict rules of evidence do not apply.

3. The contestant has the burden of proving that any irregularities shown were of such nature as to establish the probability that the result of the election was changed thereby. After consideration of all the evidence, the Senate shall declare the defendant elected unless the Senate finds from the evidence that a person other than the defendant received the greatest number of legal votes, in which case the Senate shall declare that person elected.

E. REMOTE-TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

Rule No. 131. Short Title; Precedence of Rules; Applicability of Rules During the Interim Between Sessions.

1. Rules Nos. 131 to 135, inclusive, may be cited as the Remote-Technology Rules.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7 of Senate Standing Rule No. 53, the Remote-Technology Rules supersede, take precedence and control over any other rule, provision or principle of law to the extent of any conflict with the Remote- Technology Rules.

3. The Remote-Technology Rules remain in full force and effect throughout the interim between regular sessions of the Legislature and until new Standing Rules are adopted as part of the organization of a newly constituted Senate at the commencement of a session.

Rule No. 132. Public Purposes and Construction of Rules.

1. The Remote-Technology Rules are intended to serve the following public purposes:

(a) To protect the health, safety and welfare of Legislators, members of legislative staff and others who participate in the legislative process amid the ongoing and widespread public-health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Remote-Technology Rules are intended to authorize necessary protective and safety measures intended to keep the legislative process as safe and free as reasonably possible from the extraordinary danger, risk, harm, injury and peril posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

(b) To enable the members of the Senate to represent their constituents and carry out their official powers, functions, duties and responsibilities in the legislative process amid the ongoing and widespread public-health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Remote-Technology Rules are intended to authorize members of the Senate, under certain circumstances, to use remote-technology systems to attend, participate, vote and take any other action in legislative proceedings when determined to be necessary as a protective or safety measure to keep the legislative process as safe and free as reasonably possible from the extraordinary danger, risk, harm, injury and peril posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

(c) To safeguard the workings of the Legislative Department of Nevada's State Government and preserve and protect the continuity and efficacy of its legislative operations amid the ongoing and widespread public-health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Remote-Technology Rules are intended to ensure that the Senate may efficiently and effectively carry out its official powers, functions, duties and responsibilities which are expressly and exclusively assigned to the Senate by the Nevada Constitution and which cannot be exercised or performed by any other body or branch of Nevada's State Government.

2. Because of the extraordinary danger, risk, harm, injury and peril posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Remote- Technology Rules must be liberally construed to achieve their intended public purposes, and if there is any uncertainty or doubt regarding the interpretation or application of the Remote- Technology Rules, that uncertainty or doubt must be resolved in favor of carrying out the intended public purposes of the Remote- Technology Rules.

Rule No. 133. Definitions.

As used in the Remote-Technology Rules, unless the context otherwise requires, "remote-technology system" means any system or other means of communication that is:

1. Approved by the Majority Leader and uses any electronic, digital or other similar technology to enable a member of the Senate from a remote location to attend, participate, vote and take any other action in any proceedings of the Senate or the Committee of the Whole even though the member is not physically present within the Senate Chambers or at a meeting of the Committee of the Whole.

2. Approved by the chair of a committee, other than the Committee of the Whole, and uses any electronic, digital or other similar technology to enable a member of the Senate from a remote location to attend, participate, vote and take any other action in any proceedings of the committee even though the member is not physically present at a meeting of the committee.

Rule No. 134. Authorized Use of Remote-Technology Systems to Carry Out Public Purposes.

1. Upon request by a member of the Senate:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the Majority Leader may authorize the member to use a remote- technology system to attend, participate, vote and take any other action in any proceedings of the Senate or the Committee of the Whole if the Majority Leader determines that such use by the member is necessary as a protective or safety measure to carry out the public purposes of the Remote-Technology Rules. If the Majority Leader grants such authorization:

(1) It must be entered in the Journal of the Senate.

(2) A member who uses a remote-technology system to attend or participate in a proceeding of the Senate may not vote on any matter on which a vote is taken in that proceeding unless the member is using the remote-technology system to attend or participate in the proceeding from a location in this State.

(b) The chair of a committee, other than the Committee of the Whole, may authorize the member to use a remote-technology system to attend, participate, vote and take any other action in any proceedings of the committee if the chair determines that such use by the member is necessary as a protective or safety measure to carry out the public purposes of the Remote-Technology Rules. If the chair grants such authorization, it must be entered in the records of the committee.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (2) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1, if a member of the Senate uses a remote-technology system to attend, participate, vote and take any other action in any proceedings pursuant to the Remote- Technology Rules, the member shall be deemed to be present and in attendance at the proceedings for all purposes.

3. For the purposes of voting in proceedings of:

(a) The Committee of the Whole, the Secretary of the Senate, or an authorized assistant, shall call the roll of each member who is authorized to use a remote-technology system for the proceedings and, in accordance with the procedures of the Senate, cause the member's vote to be entered into the record for the purposes of the records of the Committee of the Whole, as applicable.

(b) A committee, other than the Committee of the Whole, the committee secretary shall call the roll of each member who is authorized to use a remote-technology system for the proceedings and, in accordance with the procedures of the committee, cause the member's vote to be entered into the record for the purposes of the records of the committee.

Rule No. 135. Authority to Adopt Rules.

1. The Senate hereby finds and declares that:

(a) The Nevada Constitution invests each House of the Legislature with certain plenary and exclusive constitutional powers which may be exercised only by that House and which cannot be usurped, infringed or impaired by the other House or by any other branch of Nevada's State Government. (Heller v. Legislature, 120 Nev. 456 (2004); Commission on Ethics v. Hardy, 125 Nev. 285 (2009); Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure §§ 2-3 & 560-564 (2010) (Mason's Manual))

(b) Section 6 of Article 4 of the Nevada Constitution invests each House with plenary and exclusive constitutional powers to determine the rules of its proceedings and to govern, control and regulate its membership and its internal organization, affairs and management, expressly providing that: "Each House shall judge of the qualifications, elections and returns of its own members, choose its own officers (except the President of the Senate), determine the rules of its proceedings and may punish its members for disorderly conduct, and with the concurrence of two thirds of all the members elected, expel a member."

(c) In addition to its plenary and exclusive constitutional powers, each House possesses certain inherent powers of institutional self-protection and self-preservation to govern, control and regulate its membership and its internal organization, affairs and management. (In re Chapman, 166 U.S. 661, 668 (1897); Mason's Manual § 2; Luther S. Cushing, Elements of the Law & Practice of Legislative Assemblies § 533 (1856) (Cushing's Legislative Assemblies))

(d) The inherent powers of each House are considered "so essential to the authority of a legislative assembly, that it cannot well exist without them; and they are consequently entitled to be regarded as belonging to every such assembly as a necessary incident." (Cushing's Legislative Assemblies § 533)

(e) The inherent powers of each House authorize it to take all necessary and proper institutional actions that are "recognized by the common parliamentary law." (Cushing's Legislative Assemblies § 684)

(f) Thus, it is well established that each House is "vested with all the powers and privileges which are necessary and incidental to a free and unobstructed exercise of its appropriate functions. These powers and privileges are derived not from the Constitution; on the contrary, they arise from the very creation of a legislative body, and are founded upon the principle of self-preservation." (Ex parte McCarthy, 29 Cal. 395, 403 (1866))

(g) Under the Nevada Constitution, there are no constitutional provisions establishing a particular method for determining whether a member of either House is present at legislative proceedings.

(h) The United States Supreme Court has held that when there are no constitutional provisions establishing a particular method for determining whether a member of a legislative house is present at legislative proceedings, "it is therefore within the competency of the house to prescribe any method which shall be reasonably certain to ascertain the fact." (United States v. Ballin, 144 U.S. 1, 6 (1892))

(i) The United States Supreme Court has also held that when a legislative house adopts a rule establishing a reasonable method for determining whether a member is present at legislative proceedings, that rule must be given great deference by the courts because:

Neither do the advantages or disadvantages, the wisdom or folly, of such a rule present any matters for judicial consideration. With the courts the question is only one of power. The constitution empowers each house to determine its rules of proceedings. It may not by its rules

ignore constitutional restraints or violate fundamental rights, and there should be a reasonable relation between the mode or method of proceeding established by the rule and the result which is sought to be attained. But within these limitations all matters of method are open to the determination of the house, and it is no impeachment of the rule to say that some other way would be better, more accurate, or even more just. It is no objection to the validity of a rule that a different one has been prescribed and in force for a length of time. The power to make rules is not one which once exercised is exhausted. It is a continuous power, always subject to be exercised by the house, and, within the limitations suggested, absolute and beyond the challenge of any other body or tribunal.

(United States v. Ballin, 144 U.S. 1, 5 (1892))

2. The Senate hereby exercises its constitutional and inherent powers and privileges and adopts the Remote-Technology Rules to:

(a) Govern, control and regulate its membership and its internal organization, affairs and management;

(b) Ensure its institutional self-protection and self- preservation; and

(c) Establish a reasonable method for determining whether a member of the Senate is present at legislative proceedings amid the ongoing and widespread public-health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in order to keep the legislative process as safe and free as reasonably possible from the extraordinary danger, risk, harm, injury and peril posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The next rule is 140.

IX. LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Rule No. 140. Compensation of Witnesses.

Witnesses summoned to appear before the Senate, or any of its committees, shall be compensated as provided by law for witnesses required to attend in the courts of the State of Nevada.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon adoption.

Copyright © 2021 State Net