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# House Rules

## Title HR1. Rules Governing Organization and Management of the Utah House of Representatives

### Chapter 1 Adoption of Rules and Practices

#### **HR1-1-101 Adoption, amendment, or suspension of House Rules.**

- (1) The House of Representatives shall adopt House rules, by a constitutional two-thirds vote, at the beginning of each new Legislature convening in odd-numbered years.
- (2) Except as provided in this rule:
  - (a)
    - (i) during an annual general session held in an even-numbered year, rules adopted by the House of Representatives during the immediately preceding general session, as amended during that general session and any intervening session, apply to the conduct of the House; and
    - (ii) during any special session, House rules apply as provided in JR2-1-101.
  - (b) for a session described in this Subsection (2), the chief clerk shall announce to the House that the previously adopted rules apply to the newly convened session.
- (3)
  - (a) Except as otherwise provided in this Subsection (3), additional rules may be adopted and existing rules may be suspended, amended, or repealed by a majority vote.
  - (b) The following rules require a two-thirds vote to suspend:
    - (i) rules governing limitation of debate;
    - (ii) rules governing a motion to end debate (call the previous question);
    - (iii) rules governing motions for lifting tabled legislation from committee;
    - (iv) rules governing consideration or reconsideration of legislation during the last three days of a session;
    - (v) rules governing voting in Title 4, Chapter 7, Voting; and
    - (vi) rules that include a two-thirds voting requirement.
  - (c) A rule that includes a constitutional majority voting requirement may only be suspended by a constitutional majority vote.
  - (d) A rule that includes a constitutional two-thirds voting requirement may only be suspended by a constitutional two-thirds vote.
  - (e) If the suspension of any House rule is governed by the Utah Constitution or Utah statutes, the House may suspend that rule only as provided by that constitutional or statutory provision.
- (4) If a motion to adopt the rules under Subsection (1) meets or exceeds a majority vote but fails to reach a constitutional two-thirds vote:
  - (a) rules adopted by the House of Representatives during the immediately preceding general session, as amended during that general session and any intervening session, apply to the conduct of the House; and
  - (b) the chief clerk shall announce to the House that the previously adopted rules apply to the newly convened Legislature.

#### **HR1-1-102 Constitutional motion.**

At the beginning of each session of the House, before the reading of any piece of legislation, the House Rules Committee chair shall make the following motion:

"Mr. (Madam) Speaker, as allowed by the Utah Constitution, I move that the House read only the short title of bills and resolutions as they are introduced or considered unless two-thirds of the House directs the reading of the long title, short title, or both."

Amended by H.R. 2, 2017 General Session

**HR1-1-103 Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure -- Reference.**

In addition to House Rules and other applicable legislative rules, the presiding officer may use Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure as a reference when a question arises about parliamentary practice, legislative process, or legislative procedure that is not resolved by reference to legislative rules.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

## **Chapter 2 Initial Organization**

**HR1-2-101 Calling the House to order.**

(1) On the first day of each annual general session of the Legislature during odd-numbered years, the speaker-elect shall designate a person to call the House to order and preside until the representatives have taken the oath of office and elected a speaker.

(2)

(a) Notwithstanding HR2-4-101.2, the speaker-elect may designate under Subsection

(1) a lobbyist who is a former speaker to call the House to order and preside until the representatives take the oath of office and elect a speaker.

(b) The lobbyist shall comply with HR2-4-101.2 immediately after the representatives elect a speaker.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

## **Chapter 3 Speaker of the House**

**HR1-3-101 Election of speaker.**

(1) The House of Representatives shall elect a speaker from among its members to perform the duties established by this chapter.

(2)

(a) Following a general election and before January 1 of odd-numbered years, the majority caucus shall elect a speaker-elect.

(b) Beginning January 1 of odd-numbered years, the representative elected by the majority caucus shall serve as speaker-elect and perform the duties of the speaker until the House elects a speaker as required by Subsection (1).

Amended by H.R. 2, 2011 General Session

**HR1-3-102 Duties of the speaker.**

- (1) The general duties of the speaker are to:
  - (a) call the House to order at the time scheduled for convening, and proceed with the daily order of business;
  - (b) announce the business before the House in the order that it is to be acted upon;
  - (c) receive and submit in the proper manner all motions and proposals presented by representatives;
  - (d) put to a vote all questions that arise in the course of proceedings, and announce the results of the vote;
  - (e) enforce the House Rules governing debates;
  - (f) enforce observance of order and decorum;
  - (g) inform the House on any point of order or practice;
  - (h) receive and announce to the House any official messages and communications;
  - (i) sign all acts, orders, and proceedings of the House;
  - (j) appoint the members of committees;
  - (k) assign responsibilities to, and supervise the officers and employees of, the House;
  - (l) assign places and determine access for news media representatives; and
  - (m) represent the House, declaring its will and obeying its commands.
- (2) The speaker shall:
  - (a) sign, or authorize a designee to sign, all requisitions on the Division of Finance to pay House expenses; and
  - (b) give final approval of all expenditure requests as authorized by the majority and minority leaders of the House, including compensation and reimbursement for expenses for in-state and out-of-state travel on legislative business.

Amended by H.R. 3, 2014 General Session

**HR1-3-103 Temporary presiding officer in speaker's absence.**

- (1)
  - (a) The speaker shall name a representative to act as speaker pro tempore during the absence of the speaker.
  - (b)
    - (i) If an interim vacancy in the office of speaker occurs because of the death, resignation, or disability of the speaker, the speaker pro tempore shall conduct the necessary business of the House only until an election is held by the House to fill the vacancy.
    - (ii) If a vacancy occurs as described in Subsection (1)(b)(i), the House shall hold an election to fill a vacancy in the office of speaker no later than:
      - (A) five legislative days after the vacancy occurs if the vacancy occurs during the general session; or
      - (B) 30 calendar days after the vacancy occurs if the vacancy occurs during the interim.
- (2) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), the speaker may name any other representative to perform the duties of presiding officer for a period not to exceed one legislative day.
- (3) If the speaker and the speaker pro tempore are absent at the time the session is scheduled to convene, and the speaker has not designated another representative to perform the duties of presiding officer, the representative of the majority party who is senior in House service shall call the House to order and preside until one of them returns.



- (4) The speaker pro tempore, and each representative authorized to preside by the speaker or this rule, has all the powers and responsibilities of the speaker while presiding.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2011 General Session

## **Chapter 4 Other House Officers**

### **Part 1 House Chief of Staff**

#### **HR1-4-101 Appointment of the House chief of staff.**

The speaker or speaker-elect of the House shall appoint an individual to serve as chief of staff of the House.

#### **HR1-4-102 Duties of the House chief of staff.**

The chief of staff shall perform duties as assigned by the speaker or speaker-elect.

### **Part 2 Sergeant-at-Arms**

#### **HR1-4-201 Appointment of sergeant-at-arms.**

The chief of staff or the chief of staff's designee shall appoint a person to serve as sergeant-at-arms of the Utah House of Representatives.

#### **HR1-4-201 Appointment of sergeant-at-arms.**

The speaker or the speaker's designee shall appoint a person to serve as sergeant-at-arms of the House of Representatives.

Amended by H.R. 5, 2025 General Session

#### **HR1-4-202 Duties of the sergeant-at-arms.**

Subject to the chief of staff's or the chief of staff's designee's direction, the sergeant-at-arms and the employees under the sergeant's direction shall:

- (1) maintain security in areas controlled by the House;
- (2) enforce the House Rules;
- (3) enforce the provisions of Utah Code Title 26, Chapter 38, Utah Indoor Clean Air Act, in areas controlled by the House;
- (4) when the House is convened in annual general session or special session, receive and, in coordination with House staff, transmit written messages to representatives on the House floor from or on behalf of individuals who are present at the capitol; and
- (5) provide other service as requested by the chief of staff or the speaker.

**HR1-4-202 Duties of the sergeant-at-arms.**

Subject to the speaker's or the speaker's designee's direction, the sergeant-at-arms and the employees under the sergeant's direction shall:

- (1) maintain security in areas controlled by the House;
- (2) enforce the House Rules;
- (3) enforce the provisions of Utah Code Section 26B-7-503 in areas controlled by the House;
- (4) when the House is convened in annual general session or special session, receive and, in coordination with House staff, transmit written messages to representatives on the House floor from or on behalf of individuals who are present at the capitol; and
- (5) provide other service as requested by the speaker.

Amended by H.R. 5, 2025 General Session

**Part 3  
Chief Clerk of the House**

**HR1-4-301 Appointment of the chief clerk.**

- (1) The speaker or speaker-elect of the House shall appoint an individual to serve as chief clerk of the House.
- (2) The chief clerk reports to the chief of staff.

**HR1-4-301 Appointment of the chief clerk.**

- (1) The speaker or speaker-elect of the House shall appoint an individual to serve as chief clerk of the House.
- (2) The chief clerk reports to the speaker or, at the speaker's discretion, the chief of staff.

Amended by H.R. 5, 2025 General Session

**HR1-4-302 Duties of the chief clerk.**

The chief clerk shall perform the following duties:

- (1) certify and transmit legislation to the Senate and inform the Senate of all House action;
- (2) assist in the preparation of the House Journal and certify it as an accurate reflection of House action;
- (3) make the following technical corrections to legislation either before or following final passage:
  - (a) correct the spelling of words;
  - (b) correct the erroneous division and hyphenation of words;
  - (c) correct mistakes in numbering sections and their references;
  - (d) capitalize words or change capitalized words to lower case;
  - (e) change numbers from words to figures or from figures to words; or
  - (f) underscore or remove underscoring in legislation without a motion to amend;
- (4) modify the long title of a piece of legislation to ensure that the long title accurately reflects any changes to the legislation made by amendment or substitute;
- (5) act as custodian of all official documents related to legislation;

- (6) receive all numbered legislation from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel;
- (7) record the number, title, sponsor, each action, and final disposition of each piece of legislation on the back of the legislation;
- (8) prepare and distribute the daily order of business each day;
- (9) advise the speaker on parliamentary procedure, Joint Rules, and House Rules;
- (10) assist with amendments to legislation;
- (11) record votes and, if requested, present the results to the speaker;
- (12) record the votes of any member who is present in the House chamber who requests assistance of the chief clerk;
- (13) transmit all enrolled House bills and House concurrent resolutions to the governor;
- (14) approve material for placement on the representatives' desks if a representative has authorized that distribution;
- (15) maintain all calendars for the House floor; and
- (16) other duties as assigned by the chief of staff.

#### **HR1-4-302 Duties of the chief clerk.**

The chief clerk shall perform the following duties:

- (1) certify and transmit legislation to the Senate and inform the Senate of all House action;
- (2) assist in the preparation of the House Journal and certify it as an accurate reflection of House action;
- (3) notify the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel of any necessary technical corrections to legislation either before or following final passage, including:
  - (a) correcting the spelling of words;
  - (b) correcting the erroneous division and hyphenation of words;
  - (c) correcting mistakes in numbering sections and their references;
  - (d) capitalizing words or changing capitalized words to lower case;
  - (e) changing numbers from words to figures or from figures to words;
  - (f) underscoring or removing underscoring in legislation; or
  - (g) modifying the long title of legislation to ensure that the long title accurately reflects any changes to the legislation made by amendment or substitute;
- (4) act as custodian of all official documents related to legislation;
- (5) receive all numbered legislation from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel;
- (6) record the number, title, sponsor, each action, and final disposition of each piece of legislation on the back of the legislation;
- (7) prepare and distribute the daily order of business each day;
- (8) advise the speaker on parliamentary procedure, Joint Rules, and House Rules;
- (9) assist with verbal amendments to legislation;
- (10) record votes and, if requested, present the results to the speaker;
- (11) record the votes of any member who is present in the House chamber who requests assistance of the chief clerk;
- (12) transmit all enrolled House bills and House concurrent resolutions to the governor;
- (13) approve material for placement on the representatives' desks if a representative has authorized that distribution;
- (14) maintain all calendars for the House floor;
- (15) supervise each House in-session employee and assign the employee's duties and responsibilities;

- (16) keep a record of the attendance of each House in-session employee and ensure that each House in-session employee is paid only for hours worked; and
- (17) other duties as assigned by the speaker.

Amended by H.R. 5, 2025 General Session

Amended by H.R. 3, 2025 General Session

## **Chapter 5**

### **Schedule for the House of Representatives**

#### **Part 1**

#### **Convening and Daily Schedule**

##### **HR1-5-101 Hour of meeting.**

During the regular general session, the House shall meet at 10:00 a.m. daily except Saturdays and Sundays, unless otherwise announced by the presiding officer.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

##### **HR1-5-102 Roll call -- Quorum.**

- (1) The presiding officer or the presiding officer's designee shall:
  - (a) take a roll call of representatives at the beginning of each day's session; and
  - (b) ensure that the names of those present and absent are recorded in the journal.
- (2)
  - (a) The House may not begin House business until a constitutional majority of representatives are present as a quorum.
  - (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a), less than a majority of representatives may:
    - (i) convene each day; and
    - (ii) compel the attendance of absent members.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

##### **HR1-5-103 Daily order of business.**

- (1) The daily order of business is:
  - (a) call to order by the presiding officer;
  - (b) prayer and Pledge of Allegiance;
  - (c) roll call;
  - (d) announcement of excused absences;
  - (e) communications from the governor;
  - (f) communications from the Senate;
  - (g) reports from committees;
  - (h) introduction of legislation given to the chief clerk at least one hour before the beginning of the session for inclusion in that day's agenda;
  - (i) unfinished business;
  - (j) consideration of legislation on consent calendar;

- (k) consideration of legislation on the concurrence calendar;
  - (l) consideration of legislation on the third reading calendars; and
  - (m) miscellaneous business.
- (2) With the approval of a constitutional majority of representatives, the House may, at any time, proceed out of order to any business.
- (3) The presiding officer shall decide all questions of priority of House business without debate.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

## **Part 2**

### **Guest Speakers and Executive Sessions**

#### **HR1-5-201 Scheduling guest speakers.**

- (1) As used in this rule:
- (a) "Guest speaker" means a person who is scheduled to address the House of Representatives who is not a representative.
  - (b) "Guest speaker" does not include:
    - (i) a person who is called to address the House on a particular piece of legislation or issue under consideration by the House; or
    - (ii) a representative's introduction or acknowledgment of a visitor or special guest who does not address the House.
- (2) Before a guest speaker may address the House, the speaker must schedule the guest speaker for a time certain on the House daily order of business.

#### **HR1-5-202 Executive session.**

- (1) The House of Representatives shall comply with the requirements of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act, when holding an executive session.
- (2) When the House of Representatives approves a motion to go into executive session, the sergeant-at-arms shall close the House chamber doors.
- (3) The presiding officer may require that all persons, except the representatives and specified staff leave the chamber, halls, gallery, and lounge.
- (4) During the executive session, everyone present must remain within the chamber.
- (5) Everyone present shall keep all matters discussed in executive session confidential.
- (6) During the executive session, those within the chamber may not communicate with anyone outside the chamber by verbal, written, electronic, or any other means.

## **Part 3**

### **Miscellaneous Requirements Relating to the House Schedule**

#### **HR1-5-301 Special order of business -- Time certain.**

- (1)

- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a representative may make a motion, or the House Rules committee may recommend, that a piece of legislation become a special order of business on the time certain calendar.
- (b) If the motion is approved by a majority of the members present, the presiding officer shall place the legislation on the time certain calendar.
- (2) A motion to place a piece of legislation as a special order of business on the time certain calendar may not be made if the legislation has not yet been placed on the third reading calendar or the consent calendar.
- (3) At the time set for consideration of the legislation, the presiding officer shall place the legislation before the House.

**HR1-5-302 Messages and reports received at any time.**

The presiding officer may present communications from the governor, the Senate, other state officers, and the House Rules Committee at any time, unless the presiding officer is presenting a question or a vote is being taken.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR1-5-303 Unfinished business.**

When the House has unfinished business at the time of recess or adjournment, that unfinished business has priority on the daily order of business on the next legislative day.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

## **Chapter 6 Impeachment**

**HR1-6-101 Impeachment.**

If any representative submits a resolution to the House to begin impeachment proceedings, the House shall adopt, by constitutional majority vote, policies establishing procedures for, and governing the conduct of, the impeachment process.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

## **Chapter 7 Citations**

**HR1-7-101 Citations -- Definitions -- Use of citations.**

(1) As used in this chapter:

(a) "Citation" means a certificate for the purposes of:

(i) honoring or commending an individual who is a resident of Utah, or a group of individuals who are residents of Utah or have a substantial presence in or connection to Utah;

- (ii) commemorating an event or the anniversary of an event that has significant relevance to Utah; or
  - (iii) expressing condolences to the family of a deceased individual who was a resident of Utah.
- (b) "House of Representatives citation" means a citation issued on behalf of the Utah House of Representatives under HR1-7-103, that is signed by the representative sponsoring the citation and the speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (c) "Legislator citation" means a citation issued on behalf of an individual representative under HR1-7-102.
- (d) "Utah Legislature citation" means a citation issued on behalf of both chambers of the Utah Legislature under HR1-7-104, that is signed by the representative sponsoring the citation, the speaker of the House of Representatives, and the president of the Senate.
- (2) A citation honoring or commending the same individual or group of individuals, or recognizing the same event or anniversary, should not be issued more than once every 10 years.
- (3) A representative may request only one House of Representatives citation or Utah Legislature citation during a calendar year.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**HR1-7-102 Obtaining a legislator citation.**

- (1) With the approval of the presiding officer, a representative may request that the chief clerk of the House prepare a citation for the representative's own signature.
- (2) A Legislator citation does not require any floor action by the House of Representatives.
- (3) When the Legislature is not in session, a representative may request a citation for the representative's and the speaker of the House of Representative's signature, which the speaker may elect to sign at the speaker's discretion.

**HR1-7-103 Obtaining a House of Representatives citation.**

- (1) During a legislative session, a representative may issue a House of Representatives citation by:
  - (a) requesting, in writing, that the chief clerk of the House prepare a citation for the representative's signature; and
  - (b) after receiving a copy of the citation prepared by the chief clerk of the House of Representatives, obtaining the approval of the House of Representatives, on the floor of the House of Representatives, by:
    - (i) requesting and receiving permission for a personal privilege; and
    - (ii) making a motion that the House of Representatives approve the citation and authorize the speaker of the House of Representatives to sign the citation on behalf of the House of Representatives, which must be approved by a majority vote.
- (2) Sponsor presentation for a House of Representatives citation is limited to a maximum of three minutes.

**HR1-7-104 Obtaining a Utah Legislature citation.**

- (1) During a legislative session, a representative may issue a Utah Legislature citation by:
  - (a) requesting, in writing, that the chief clerk of the House prepare a citation for the representative's signature; and
  - (b) after receiving a copy of the citation prepared by the chief clerk of the House, obtaining the approval of the House of Representatives by, on the floor of the House:

- (i) requesting and receiving permission for a personal privilege; and
  - (ii) making a motion that the House of Representatives approve the citation and authorize the speaker of the House to sign the citation on behalf of the Utah Legislature after the citation is approved by the Senate; and
  - (c) presenting the proposed citation to the Senate for the Senate's approval of the citation and authorization for the president of the Senate to sign the citation on behalf of the Utah Legislature.
- (2) Sponsor presentation for a Utah Legislature citation is limited to a maximum of three minutes.

## **Chapter 8 Postage Allowance**

### **HR1-8-101 House postage allowance.**

- (1) Each representative may deposit:
- (a) up to 500 letters into the House mail system during the period that begins the first day of the annual general session and ends 30 days after the day on which the Legislature adjourns the annual general session sine die; and
  - (b) up to 10 letters per month into the House mail system during the remainder of the year.
- (2) Upon request from an individual representative, the speaker may grant an additional postage allowance.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

## **Chapter 9 News Media**

### **HR1-9-101 News media -- House chamber and designated House areas.**

- (1)
- (a) News media may access non-public areas of the House, including the chamber, halls, and conference rooms, if the news media:
    - (i) have permission from the speaker or the speaker's designee; and
    - (ii) hold a Utah Capitol media credential.
  - (b) While the House is convened in the House chamber, news media shall remain in the area designated for the news media and may not enter the floor of the House, the circle, lounge, or the speaker's dais.
- (2)
- (a) With permission of the speaker or the speaker's designee, the news media may conduct and record interviews in the House lounge, halls, available committee rooms, or in the House chamber or gallery.
  - (b) When conducting an interview in the House chamber, the news media may enter the chamber for the purpose of conducting a specific interview and shall exit the chamber promptly after completing the interview.
- (3) A representative may not hold a press conference in the House chamber without the permission of the speaker of the House.



- (4) News media shall also comply with the other provisions in HR2-4-102 and HR2-4-103.
- (5) The sergeant-at-arms, under the direction of the speaker, shall enforce the requirements of this rule.

**HR1-9-102 News media access -- House committees.**

When present for a meeting of a House standing committee or any other special committee of the House, news media may not enter the area behind the dais without the permission of the committee chair.

**Chapter 10  
Miscellaneous**

**HR1-10-101 Requests for legislation -- Sharing with caucus staff.**

- (1)As used in this rule, "caucus staff" means House staff assigned to the chief sponsor's caucus.
- (2)After a representative files a request for legislation in accordance with JR4-2-101, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide caucus staff the drafting instructions, as defined in JR4-1-101, provided in the request for legislation and the request's assigned short title, unless the representative:
  - (a)elects not to share the drafting instructions and short title with caucus staff; or
  - (b)fails to sign an acknowledgment, for purposes of Rule 1.6 of the Rules of Professional Conduct, that the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel will share the representative's information in accordance with this rule.
- (3)Caucus staff or staff from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel may share information provided under Subsection (2) with other representatives who are members of the chief sponsor's caucus.

Enacted by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**HR1-10-101 Requests for legislation -- Sharing with caucus staff.**

- (1)As used in this rule, "caucus staff" means House staff assigned to the chief sponsor's caucus.
- (2)After a representative files a request for legislation in accordance with JR4-2-101, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide caucus staff the drafting instructions, as defined in JR4-1-101, provided in the request for legislation and the request's assigned short title, unless the representative elects not to share the drafting instructions and short title with caucus staff.
- (3)Caucus staff or staff from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel may share information provided under Subsection (2) with other representatives who are members of the chief sponsor's caucus.

Amended by H.R. 3, 2025 General Session

**Title HR2. Rules Governing Attendance, Behavior,  
and Decorum in the Utah House of Representatives**

**Chapter 1  
Attendance**

**HR2-1-101 Representatives shall be present.**

A member of the Utah House of Representatives shall be present on the floor of the House chamber during a session of the House, unless excused or unavoidably absent.

Amended by H.R. 4, 2013 General Session

**HR2-1-102 Absent representatives.**

If a quorum of the Utah House of Representatives is not present at the time the House is scheduled to convene, the presiding officer or the presiding officer's designee shall direct the sergeant-at-arms to:

- (1) find sufficient absent representatives to make a quorum for the transaction of business; and
- (2) escort them to the chamber.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**Chapter 2  
Decorum**

**HR2-2-101 Speaker to maintain order.**

The speaker or presiding officer shall maintain order and decorum during sessions of the House.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR2-2-102 Breaches of the order of the House.**

- (1) The speaker or presiding officer may call a representative to order if the representative is speaking impertinently, superfluously, tediously, or irrelevantly.
- (2) If called to order, the representative shall sit down, unless granted permission to explain the speech.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR2-2-103 Disorderly conduct in House -- Items prohibited in House gallery.**

- (1)
  - (a) The speaker or presiding officer may order the House areas or gallery cleared if a disturbance occurs.
  - (b) The sergeant-at-arms shall enforce this subsection in the areas controlled by the House.
- (2) Signs, banners, placards, and other similar materials are prohibited in the House gallery.

**HR2-2-104 Impugning motives of a representative.**

- (1) A representative may not impugn the motives of any other representative either on the floor of the House or in committee.
- (2) A representative who believes that the motives of any representative has been impugned by another representative may raise a point of order.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR2-2-105 Movement within the House chamber.**

When a representative is speaking, no person may walk between the representative and the speaker or presiding officer.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2017 General Session

**HR2-2-106 Smoking and electronic cigarettes prohibited.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "electronic cigarette" means any device, other than a combustible cigarette or cigar, intended to deliver vapor containing nicotine into a person's respiratory system.
- (2) A person may not smoke or use an electronic cigarette in the House chamber or other House controlled areas.
- (3) The sergeant-at-arms shall enforce this rule.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**Chapter 3  
Conflicts of Interest**

**HR2-3-101 Conflicts of interest.**

A House member shall comply with the conflict of interest requirements provided in:

- (1) Utah Code Title 20A, Chapter 11, Part 16, Conflict of Interest Disclosures; and
- (2) JR6-1-201.

**Chapter 4  
General Rules Governing the House Floor**

**HR2-4-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Department head" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 63A-17-807 or a department head's designee.
- (2) "Former legislator" means a person who is not a current member of the Legislature, but who served in the Utah House or Utah Senate at one time.
- (3)
  - (a) "Guest" means an individual who is afforded access to the House space under a provision of this chapter, who is not an individual described in Subsection (3)(c) or a special guest as described under HR2-4-101.2(5).

- (b) "Guest" includes:
  - (i) the governor, the lieutenant governor, the state attorney general, the state treasurer, the state auditor, and governor's staff; and
  - (ii) a former legislator who is an individual described in Subsection (3)(b)(i).
- (c) "Guest" does not mean a legislator, a member of House or Senate staff, a member of professional legislative staff, a House intern, or a lobbyist.
- (4) "House conference rooms" means one of the conference rooms adjacent to the House lounge, speaker's office, or the majority caucus room.
- (5) "House halls" means the passageways that allow access to:
  - (a) the House chamber;
  - (b) the House lounge;
  - (c) the House offices; or
  - (d) any other nonpublic areas adjoining the House chamber.
- (6) "House intern" means an individual who is:
  - (a) an official participant in the student intern program sponsored by the Utah Legislature and administered by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel; and
  - (b) is assigned to a representative.
- (7) "House offices" means:
  - (a) Representatives' offices adjacent to the House chamber;
  - (b) Representatives' offices on the third and fourth floors of the capitol building;
  - (c) Representatives' offices in the House building; and
  - (d) kitchens, restrooms, elevators, and any auxiliary rooms in the nonpublic areas connected with the offices listed above.
- (8) "House or Senate staff" means an individual who is employed directly by the House or Senate.
- (9)
  - (a) "House space" means the House chamber, House lounge, House offices, House halls, and House conference rooms.
  - (b) "House space" does not mean the common public space outside the House chamber.
- (10) "Immediate family" means any parent, spouse, child, grandparent, grandchild, great-grandparent, great-grandchild, sibling, aunt, uncle, niece, or nephew of a member of the House, provided that the individual is not a lobbyist.
- (11) "Lobbying" means communicating with a legislator for the purpose of influencing the passage, defeat, amendment, or postponement of legislative action.
- (12) "Lobbyist" means an individual who is required to register as a lobbyist by Utah Code Section 36-11-103.
- (13) "Professional legislative staff" means an individual employed by one of the Legislature's profession-based staff offices, namely the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, the Office of the Legislative Auditor General, or the Office of Legislative Printing.

#### **HR2-4-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Department head" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 63A-17-807 or a department head's designee.
- (2) "Former legislator" means a person who is not a current member of the Legislature, but who served in the Utah House or Utah Senate at one time.
- (3)

- (a)"Guest" means an individual who is afforded access to the House space under a provision of this chapter, who is not an individual described in Subsection (3)(c) or a special guest as described under HR2-4-101.2(5).
- (b)"Guest" includes:
  - (i)the governor, the lieutenant governor, the state attorney general, the state treasurer, the state auditor, and governor's staff; and
  - (ii)a former legislator who is an individual described in Subsection (3)(b)(i).
- (c)"Guest" does not mean a legislator, a member of House or Senate staff, a member of professional legislative staff, a House intern, or a lobbyist.
- (4)"House conference rooms" means one of the conference rooms adjacent to the House lounge, speaker's office, or the majority caucus room.
- (5)"House halls" means the passageways that allow access to:
  - (a)the House chamber;
  - (b)the House lounge;
  - (c)the House offices; or
  - (d)any other nonpublic areas adjoining the House chamber.
- (6)"House intern" means an individual who is:
  - (a)an official participant in the student intern program sponsored by the Utah Legislature and administered by the Office of Legislative Services; and
  - (b)is assigned to a representative.
- (7)"House offices" means:
  - (a)Representatives' offices adjacent to the House chamber;
  - (b)Representatives' offices on the third and fourth floors of the capitol building;
  - (c)Representatives' offices in the House building; and
  - (d)kitchens, restrooms, elevators, and any auxiliary rooms in the nonpublic areas connected with the offices listed above.
- (8)"House or Senate staff" means an individual who is employed directly by the House or Senate.
- (9)
  - (a)"House space" means the House chamber, House lounge, House offices, House halls, and House conference rooms.
  - (b)"House space" does not mean the common public space outside the House chamber.
- (10)"Immediate family" means any parent, spouse, child, grandparent, grandchild, great-grandparent, great-grandchild, sibling, aunt, uncle, niece, or nephew of a member of the House, provided that the individual is not a lobbyist.
- (11)"Lobbying" means communicating with a legislator for the purpose of influencing the passage, defeat, amendment, or postponement of legislative action.
- (12)"Lobbyist" means an individual who is required to register as a lobbyist by Utah Code Section 36-11-103.
- (13)"Professional legislative staff" means an individual employed by one of the Legislature's profession-based staff offices, namely the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, the Office of the Legislative Auditor General, or the Office of Legislative Services.

Amended by 1st Sub. H.R. 1, 2025 General Session

**HR2-4-101.1 Sergeant-at-arms to provide enforcement.**

The sergeant-at-arms, under the direction of the speaker, shall enforce the requirements of this chapter.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2013 General Session

**HR2-4-101.2 Admittance to House floor -- Prohibition against lobbying.**

(1) Subject to the requirements of this rule, while the House is convened in annual general session or special session, only the following individuals are permitted on the House floor:

- (a) a legislator;
- (b) a member of House or Senate staff;
- (c) a member of professional legislative staff;
- (d) a House intern;
- (e) a former legislator who is not:
  - (i) a lobbyist; or
  - (ii) the governor, lieutenant governor, state attorney general, state treasurer, or state auditor;
- (f) a guest; and
- (g) a department head.

(2)

- (a) While the House is convened in annual general session or special session, a representative may invite one guest who is not a lobbyist to accompany the representative on the House floor, provided that:
  - (i) the guest sits next to the representative;
  - (ii) the representative ensures that the guest does not impede staff work, distract from the work of the House, or encroach on a neighboring representative's desk;
  - (iii) the guest complies with the requirements of this rule, HR2-4-102, and HR2-4-103; and
  - (iv) no representative objects.
- (b) A representative may have no more than one guest on the House floor at any one time.
- (c) An individual described in Subsections (1)(e) through (g) is prohibited from lobbying on the House floor.

(3) While the House is convened in annual general session or special session, a lobbyist is not permitted on the House floor.

(4) The speaker or the speaker's designee may authorize special guests to be present in the House chamber or on the House floor.

(5)

- (a) A representative sponsoring a piece of legislation being debated by the House may, with the permission of the speaker, invite one department head with expertise on the legislation to assist the sponsor during the course of debate.
- (b) A representative who invites a department head to assist the representative under Subsection (5)(a) shall ensure that the department head:
  - (i) does not engage in lobbying while on the House floor; and
  - (ii) promptly exits the House floor when the House moves to another item of business.

**HR2-4-101.3 Admittance to the House lounge.**

(1) While the House is convened in annual general session or special session only the following individuals are permitted in the House lounge:

- (a) a legislator;
- (b) a member of House or Senate staff;
- (c) a member of professional legislative staff;
- (d) a member of the representative's immediate family;

- (e) a House intern;
- (f) a former legislator who is not:
  - (i) a lobbyist; or
  - (ii) the governor, lieutenant governor, state attorney general, state treasurer, or state auditor; and
- (g) a lobbyist or guest as provided in Subsection (2).

- (2)
- (a) A representative may invite a small number of lobbyists or guests to meet with the representative in the House lounge for the purpose of educating the lobbyists or guests about the legislative process or to discuss specific legislative issues.
  - (b) The representative shall ensure that the lobbyists and guests leave the House space when the meeting is over.

**HR2-4-101.4 Admittance to the House offices, conference rooms, and halls.**

- (1) While the House is convened in annual general session or special session only the following individuals are permitted in the House offices:
- (a) a legislator;
  - (b) a member of House or Senate staff;
  - (c) a member of professional legislative staff;
  - (d) a House intern;
  - (e) a member of the representative's immediate family;
  - (f) a former legislator who is not:
    - (i) a lobbyist; or
    - (ii) the governor, lieutenant governor, state attorney general, state treasurer, or state auditor; and
  - (g) a lobbyist or guest, as provided in Subsection (3).
- (2) An administrative assistant who is not a House intern is permitted in:
- (a) the office of the representative who is employing the administrative assistant;
  - (b) the common areas of the House offices;
  - (c) a conference room in the House space, when meeting to discuss legislative business with a representative; and
  - (d) the office of another representative with the consent of that representative.
- (3)
- (a) A representative may invite a small number of lobbyists or guests to meet with the representative in the representative's House office or a House conference room to discuss specific legislative issues.
  - (b) The representative shall ensure that the lobbyists and guests leave the House space when the meeting is over.
- (4)
- (a) While the House is convened as a body on the House floor, and except as provided in Subsection (4)(b), only the following individuals are allowed in the House halls:
    - (i) a legislator;
    - (ii) a member of House or Senate staff;
    - (iii) a member of professional legislative staff;
    - (iv) a House intern;
    - (v) an administrative assistant who is not a House intern; and
    - (vi) a former legislator who is not:

- (A) a lobbyist; or
- (B) the governor, lieutenant governor, state attorney general, state treasurer, or state auditor.
- (b) Immediate family of a representative, a lobbyist, a guest, an administrative assistant who is not a House intern, or any other authorized individual who is in transit to the House chamber, House lounge, or House offices may pass through the House halls when traveling to and from an authorized destination.
- (5) An administrative assistant to a representative who is not a House intern is not permitted to use or be issued an access badge that grants access to the House floor, House lounge, House offices, House conference rooms, or House hallways.

**HR2-4-102 Representatives' chairs and seating on the House floor.**

- (1) No one other than the speaker may occupy the chair or use the desk of the speaker, without the speaker's authorization.
- (2) When the House is convened in session, only the representative assigned to a desk and chair may occupy the chair or use the desk, except that a legislator may sit in the chair of another legislator.
- (3) In accordance with HR2-4-101.2, when the House is convened in session, a representative may invite one individual to sit next to the representative on the House floor.

**HR2-4-103 Prohibitions on lobbying and fundraising.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "fundraising" means:
  - (a) the solicitation of a monetary contribution for any purpose; or
  - (b) the announcement or promotion of an event that has as one of its purposes the collection of funds by means of a monetary contribution.
- (2) Lobbying is prohibited on the House floor as provided under HR2-4-101.2.
- (3)
  - (a) Distribution of literature or any other information that announces or promotes fundraising is prohibited on the House floor.
  - (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (3)(a), a verbal announcement that involves or relates to fundraising is permitted on the House floor if the announcement is:
    - (i) publicly made to all members on the House floor; and
    - (ii) an official announcement from the third house or authorized by the speaker of the House.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2021 General Session

**HR2-4-104 Recognition of visiting groups and individuals.**

- (1) The presiding officer may recognize visiting groups and individuals.
- (2) A representative who requests and receives personal privilege from the speaker or the speaker's designee may introduce visiting groups or individuals.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**Chapter 5**  
**Rules Governing Sponsoring Legislation**



**HR2-5-101 Representatives may request and sponsor legislation -- Substituting a sponsor --  
Withdrawing as a cosponsor.**

- (1) A representative may request and sponsor legislation as provided in Joint Rules Title 4, Bills and Resolutions.
- (2)
  - (a) After a piece of legislation has been introduced, the chief representative sponsor of the legislation may withdraw from sponsoring the legislation by:
    - (i) finding another representative to act as chief sponsor of the legislation; and
    - (ii) filing a substitution of sponsorship form with the chief clerk before final passage of the legislation in the House.
  - (b) A representative seeking to withdraw as the chief sponsor need not obtain permission from the House to withdraw.
- (3)
  - (a) During a general session, before final passage of a piece of legislation in the House, a representative cosponsor of the legislation may withdraw as a cosponsor .
  - (b) A representative seeking to withdraw as a cosponsor need not:
    - (i) obtain permission from the House to withdraw; or
    - (ii) provide a substitute cosponsor for the legislation.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2021 General Session

**Title HR3. Rules Governing the Rules Committee and the  
Standing Committees of the Utah House of Representatives**

**Chapter 1  
House Rules Committee and Other Special Committees**

**Part 1  
House Rules Committee**

**HR3-1-101 House Rules Committee -- Appointment -- General responsibilities.**

- (1) The speaker shall appoint members of the House of Representatives to serve on the House Rules Committee.
- (2) The House Rules Committee shall perform the following functions as further elaborated in this part:
  - (a) receive introduced legislation from the House and recommend that the legislation be assigned to a House standing committee or to the House third reading calendar;
  - (b) receive legislation from the House that has been sent back to the House Rules Committee from the third reading calendar, and recommend to the House which legislation should be assigned to the third reading calendar and the order in which it should be heard; and
  - (c) function as a standing committee or interim committee when reviewing Joint Rules, House Rules, or other legislation.

**HR3-1-102 House Rules Committee -- Assignment duties.**

- (1) The presiding officer shall submit all legislation introduced in the House of Representatives to the House Rules Committee.
- (2) For all legislation not specified in HR3-1-103 that is referred to the House Rules Committee, the committee shall examine the legislation for proper form, including fiscal note and committee note, if any, and either:
  - (a) refer the legislation to the House with a recommendation that the legislation be:
    - (i) referred to a standing committee for consideration; or
    - (ii) read the second time and placed on the third reading calendar if the legislation:
      - (A) has received a favorable recommendation from a House standing committee;
      - (B) is exempted from the House standing committee review requirements under HR3-2-401; or
      - (C) has received a favorable recommendation from the House Rules Committee meeting as a standing committee as permitted under HR3-1-101; or
  - (b) hold the legislation.
- (3) In carrying out the House Rules Committee's functions and responsibilities under this rule, the committee may not:
  - (a) table legislation without the written consent of the sponsor;
  - (b) report out any legislation that has been tabled by a standing committee;
  - (c) amend legislation without the written consent of the sponsor; or
  - (d) substitute legislation without the written consent of the sponsor.
- (4) The House Rules Committee may recommend a time certain for floor consideration of any legislation when the legislation is reported out of the House Rules Committee, or at any other time.
- (5) When the House Rules Committee is carrying out the committee's functions and responsibilities under this rule, the committee shall:
  - (a) when the Legislature is in session, give notice of the committee's meetings according to the requirements of HR3-1-106;
  - (b) when the Legislature is not in session, post a notice of meeting at least 24 hours before the meeting convenes;
  - (c) have as the committee's agenda all legislation in the committee's possession for assignment to committee or to the House calendars; and
  - (d) prepare minutes that include a record, by individual representative, of votes taken.
- (6) House Rules Committee meetings are open to the public, but comments and discussion are limited to members of the committee and the committee's staff.

**HR3-1-103 House Rules Committee -- Standing and interim committee duties.**

- (1) The House Rules Committee has all the powers, functions, and duties of a standing committee or interim committee when it reviews proposed House Rules, Joint Rules resolutions, or other legislation.
- (2) Any rules resolutions or legislation reviewed and approved by the House Rules Committee may be reported directly to the House for consideration.
- (3) When meeting as a standing committee or interim committee under this rule, individuals other than committee members may address the committee at the discretion of the chair.
- (4) When meeting as a standing committee or interim committee under this rule, the House Rules Committee shall comply with the provisions of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

**HR3-1-104 Rules committee duties during sifting.**

- (1) Upon motion from the floor, the House Rules Committee shall prioritize legislation for floor action and review and update this priority as necessary for the calendars.
- (2) The House Rules Committee may recommend a time certain for floor consideration of any legislation when it is reported out of the House Rules Committee, or at any other time.
- (3) When the House Rules Committee is carrying out its functions and responsibilities under this rule, the committee shall:
  - (a) during a legislative session, give notice of its meetings by either:
    - (i) providing oral notice from the floor of the time and place of its next meeting; or
    - (ii) when oral notice is impractical, post written notice of its next meeting;
  - (b) when the Legislature is not in session, post a notice of meeting at least 24 hours before the meeting convenes;
  - (c) have as its agenda all legislation in its possession; and
  - (d) prepare minutes that include a record, by individual representative, of votes taken.
- (4) Anyone may attend a meeting of the rules committee, but comments and discussion are limited to members of the committee and committee staff.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR3-1-105 Motion to require committee review.**

- (1) If the House Rules Committee recommends that interim committee legislation be placed on the third reading calendar without standing committee review, the sponsor or any other representative may move that the legislation be reviewed by a standing committee before the legislation's consideration on the floor.
- (2) If this motion is approved by a majority of the representatives present, the legislation shall be referred to a standing committee for consideration.

**HR3-1-106 Notice of rules committee meetings.**

When the House Rules Committee holds a meeting during a legislative session, the speaker shall ensure that:

- (1) an oral, public announcement is made from the floor of the House identifying the time and place that the rules committee will meet; and
- (2) an electronic notice is made that identifies the time and place of the rules committee meeting.

Enacted by H.R. 2, 2016 General Session

**Part 2**  
**Special Committees and Task Forces**

**HR3-1-201 Special committees.**

- (1) The House may form special committees, including task forces, by motion or resolution.
- (2) The speaker shall appoint the members of those special committees.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

## Chapter 2 House Standing Committees

### Part 1 General Provisions

#### **HR3-2-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Chair" means:
  - (a) the chair of a standing committee; or
  - (b) a standing committee member who is authorized to act as chair under HR3-2-202.
- (2) "Committee" means a standing committee created under HR3-2-201.
- (3) "Dispose of legislation" refers to a committee action that transfers ownership of legislation to the House Rules Committee, to another standing committee, or to the House floor.
- (4) "Favorable recommendation" refers to a committee action that transfers ownership of legislation to the House second reading calendar.
- (5) "Legislation" means a Senate bill, House bill, Senate resolution, House resolution, joint resolution, or concurrent resolution.
- (6) "Legislative sponsor" means:
  - (a) the chief sponsor; or
  - (b) the legislator designated by the chief sponsor to be the opposite chamber floor sponsor.
- (7) "Majority vote" means a majority of a quorum as provided in HR3-2-203.
- (8) "Original motion" means a non-privileged motion that is accepted by the chair when no other motion is pending.
- (9) "Pending motion" refers to a motion starting when a chair accepts a motion and ending when the motion is withdrawn or when the chair calls for a vote on the motion.
- (10)
  - (a) "Privileged motion" means a procedural motion to adjourn, set a time to adjourn, recess, end debate, extend debate, or limit debate.
  - (b) Privileged motions are not substitute motions.
- (11) "Substitute motion" means a non-privileged motion that is made when an original motion is pending.
- (12) "Under consideration" means the time starting when a chair opens a discussion on a subject or piece of legislation that is listed on a committee agenda and ending when the committee disposes of the legislation, moves on to another item on the agenda, or adjourns.

### Part 2 Creation and Organization of House Standing Committees

#### **HR3-2-201 Standing committees -- Creation.**

There are created the following standing committees to consider legislation during an annual general or special session:

- (1)Business and Labor;
- (2)Economic Development and Workforce Services;
- (3)Education;
- (4)Government Operations;
- (5)Health and Human Services;
- (6)House Rules;
- (7)Judiciary;
- (8)Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice;
- (9)Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment;
- (10)Political Subdivisions;
- (11)Public Utilities and Energy;
- (12)Revenue and Taxation; and
- (13)Transportation.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**HR3-2-201 Standing committees -- Creation.**

There are created the following standing committees to consider legislation during an annual general or special session:

- (1)Business, Labor, and Commerce;
- (2)Economic Development and Workforce Services;
- (3)Education;
- (4)Government Operations;
- (5)Health and Human Services;
- (6)House Rules;
- (7)Judiciary;
- (8)Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice;
- (9)Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment;
- (10)Political Subdivisions;
- (11)Public Utilities and Energy;
- (12)Revenue and Taxation; and
- (13)Transportation.

Amended by 1st Sub. H.R. 1, 2025 General Session

**HR3-2-202 Speaker to appoint committee members, chairs, and vice chairs.**

- (1) The speaker of the House shall appoint members of the House to each standing committee.
- (2) The speaker of the House shall appoint a chair to each standing committee.
- (3) The speaker of the House may appoint a vice chair to each standing committee.
- (4) A vice chair may perform the duties of a chair:
  - (a) as requested by the chair; or
  - (b) in the absence of the chair.
- (5) The chair, or the vice chair as authorized under Subsection (4), may designate a member of the committee to conduct a standing committee meeting.
- (6) A committee member designated under Subsection (5) may conduct a committee meeting but may not perform the duties of a chair described in HR3-2-302 and HR3-2-303.

**HR3-2-203 Quorum requirements.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a majority of a standing committee is a quorum.
- (2) In determining whether a quorum is present, the speaker, majority leader, majority whip, assistant majority whip, House Rules Committee chair, House Rules Committee vice chair, Executive Appropriations Committee chair, Executive Appropriations Committee vice chair, minority leader, minority whip, assistant minority whip, and the fourth member of leadership from the minority party are not counted in determining a quorum for a standing committee, except during the time that the representative is present at the meeting.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**HR3-2-204 Committee order of business.**

Unless a standing committee chair, or a committee by majority vote, determines otherwise, the order of business for a standing committee is:

- (1) call to order by the chair;
- (2) approval of the minutes of previous meetings;
- (3) announcement of the agenda;
- (4) announcement of time restrictions, if any, subject to the requirements of HR3-2-304; and
- (5) consideration of standing committee business.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**Part 3**  
**Duties of the House Standing Committee Chair**

**HR3-2-301 Chair to enforce legislative rules and procedures.**

The chair shall ensure the integrity of the standing committee process by enforcing legislative rules and parliamentary procedure without delay.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-302 Chair to set agenda -- Requirements.**

The chair shall:

- (1) set the agenda for a standing committee meeting; and
- (2) ensure that legislation tabled by a standing committee is listed on a standing committee agenda as required by HR3-2-408.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-303 Chair to post notice and agenda -- Notification to sponsors.**

- (1) The chair shall cause a public notice and agenda to be posted at least 24 hours before each standing committee meeting as required under Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

- (2) The chair shall notify the chief House sponsor or chief Senate sponsor of legislation listed on an agenda of the time and place of the committee meeting in which the legislation will be considered not less than 24 hours before the committee meeting.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-304 Chair may direct order of agenda -- Time restrictions.**

The chair, or a committee by majority vote, may adopt committee procedures and time restrictions, including:

- (1) directing the order of the agenda;
- (2) directing the order in which a witness or presenter will be heard;
- (3) directing the number of witnesses or presenters that will be heard; and
- (4) limiting the time the committee will spend on:
  - (a) an item on the agenda; or
  - (b) an individual witness or presenter.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-305 Four phases when considering legislation.**

- (1) Legislation under consideration by a standing committee is subject to four distinct phases during a committee meeting:
  - (a) the sponsor's presentation as provided in HR3-2-306;
  - (b) clarifying questions as provided in HR3-2-307;
  - (c) public comment as provided in HR3-2-308; and
  - (d) committee action as provided in HR3-2-309.
- (2) A standing committee may not consider legislation unless the legislative sponsor is present.

**HR3-2-306 Sponsor presentation.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2), during the presentation phase, a committee member may not amend legislation, substitute legislation, or dispose of legislation.
  - (b) All other motions are in order during the presentation phase.
- (2) During the presentation phase of a committee meeting, the chair may accept a motion to amend legislation if the chair permits:
  - (a) committee questions and debate;
  - (b) public comment as provided in HR3-2-308;
  - (c) the sponsor of the legislation affected by the amendment to respond to the motion to amend; and
  - (d) the committee member who made the motion to amend to have the final word on the motion as required under HR3-2-313.
- (3) During the presentation phase of a standing committee meeting, the chair shall:
  - (a) permit the legislative sponsor to present the sponsor's legislation; and
  - (b) except as provided in Subsection (4), and at the election of the legislative sponsor, permit individuals who have expertise on the legislation to assist with the presentation as provided in HR3-2-304.
- (4) The chair may not permit a legislative intern or a legislative aide to present legislation.

**HR3-2-307 Clarifying questions.**

- (1) During the clarifying question phase, a committee member may not amend legislation, substitute legislation, or dispose of legislation. All other motions are in order during the clarifying questions phase.
- (2) A chair shall allow members of the committee to ask the legislative sponsor questions, provided that the questions help to clarify the intent or purpose of the legislation or the meaning of the language of the legislation.
- (3) The chair shall allow the legislative sponsor to respond to clarifying questions.
- (4) The chair may allow, with the legislative sponsor's approval, a person authorized under HR3-2-306 to respond to clarifying questions from members of the committee.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-308 Public comment.**

- (1) During the public comment phase of a committee meeting:
  - (a) except for a motion to amend legislation, substitute legislation, or dispose of legislation, all other motions are in order;
  - (b) the chair, or a committee by majority vote, may limit the time an individual witness or presenter speaks to a committee as authorized under HR3-2-304;
  - (c) the chair, or the committee by majority vote, may terminate the public comment phase at any time; and
  - (d) the chair may not take comment from an individual witness unless:
    - (i) the individual provides the individual's legal name and the entity that the individual represents, if any; and
    - (ii) if the individual is participating via video conference:
      - (A) the individual provides the individual's place of residence; and
      - (B) the individual's video is enabled.
- (2) Unless the chair, or a committee by majority vote, permits additional public comment, once the public comment phase has ended only committee members, legislative sponsors, staff, and those authorized under HR3-2-307 may address the committee.

**HR3-2-309 Committee action.**

During the committee action phase, a committee member may make motions to amend the legislation, to substitute the legislation, and to dispose of the legislation. All other motions authorized by this chapter are in order during the committee action phase of a committee meeting.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-310 Chair to preserve order -- Powers to preserve order.**

In accordance with HR3-3-101, the chair shall preserve order and decorum during a standing committee meeting.

**HR3-2-311 Chair to recognize committee members -- Remarks to be germane -- Committee members may make motions when recognized -- Permission to address committee.**



- (1) The chair shall recognize a committee member who desires to speak to a subject that is under consideration by a standing committee.
- (2) Upon recognition by the chair, a committee member:
  - (a) shall ensure that the member's remarks are germane to the subject under consideration; and
  - (b) may make a motion that is authorized by this chapter.
- (3) Presenters, witnesses, visitors, staff, and committee members may not speak to a standing committee unless recognized by the chair.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-312 Chair to accept all motions that are in order -- Once accepted, the motion is pending.**

- (1) The chair shall accept a motion requested by a member of a standing committee who has been properly recognized unless the motion is prohibited by this chapter or by parliamentary procedure.
- (2) To properly accept a motion, the chair shall:
  - (a) restate each verbal motion;
  - (b) identify the number of each written motion to amend or substitute legislation; and
  - (c) ensure a copy of each written amendment or substitute is available online.
- (3) When a chair properly accepts a motion under Subsection (2), the motion is pending.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2021 General Session

**HR3-2-313 Chair to allow response to motions before placing motions for a vote.**

- (1) After the chair accepts an original motion, and before the chair places the original motion for a vote, the chair shall permit, in the following order:
  - (a) the chief sponsor of the legislation that is affected by the original motion to respond to the original motion;
  - (b) committee members to debate the original motion; and
  - (c) the committee member who placed the original motion to have the final word on the motion.
- (2) After a chair accepts a substitute motion, and before the chair places the substitute motion for a vote, the chair shall permit, in the following order:
  - (a) the committee member who placed the original motion to respond to the substitute motion;
  - (b) the chief sponsor of the legislation that is affected by the substitute motion to respond to the substitute motion;
  - (c) committee members to debate the substitute motion; and
  - (d) the committee member who placed the substitute motion to have the final word on the motion.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**HR3-2-314 Chair to place motion for vote.**

After the chair has permitted a committee member to sum on a motion as required under HR3-2-313(4), the chair shall place the motion for a vote unless the motion is withdrawn subject to the requirements of HR3-2-511.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-315 Chair to verbally announce vote on motions -- Motions pass with majority vote of a quorum -- Exceptions.**

- (1) After a standing committee votes on a motion, the chair shall:
  - (a) determine whether the motion passed or failed;
  - (b) verbally announce that the motion passed or that the motion failed; and
  - (c) if the vote on the motion is not unanimous, verbally identify by name either the committee members who voted "yes" or the committee members who voted "no."
- (2) Unless otherwise specifically indicated in this chapter, motions pass with a majority vote of a quorum as defined in HR3-2-203.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-316 Chair may direct a roll call vote.**

Although most motions will be determined by a voice vote, the chair, or a committee by majority vote, may direct a roll call vote.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-317 Chair to decide points of order -- Committee may appeal chair's decision.**

- (1) A chair shall rule on a point of order without committee discussion or debate.
- (2) As provided in HR3-2-507, a committee member may:
  - (a) make a point of order; or
  - (b) appeal the decision of the chair.

**HR3-2-318 Chair to send standing committee reports to the House.**

- (1) When a standing committee approves a motion to dispose of legislation under the requirements of HR3-2-408 or HR3-2-403, the chair shall, no later than the next legislative day, submit to the chief clerk of the House:
  - (a) the official version of the legislation; and
  - (b) a committee report, signed by the chair, describing the committee's action.
- (2)
  - (a) A committee member who dissents from a motion to dispose of legislation may request to be listed by name on the committee report.
  - (b) If a committee member requests to be listed by name on a committee report, the committee report shall include the name of the committee member.
- (3) If, for any reason, the chair does not submit a committee report to the chief clerk of the House as required in Subsection (1), the chief clerk of the House shall ensure that the official version of the legislation and the committee report are submitted before the end of the second legislative day after the committee disposed of the legislation.

**HR3-2-319 Chair to ensure integrity of minutes -- Retention of minutes.**

- (1) The chair shall:
  - (a) ensure that a secretary takes minutes of standing committee meetings;
  - (b) present the minutes to the committee for approval; and
  - (c) send the approved minutes to the House.

- (2) The chair shall ensure that committee minutes comply with the requirements of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

## **Part 4**

### **Duties of the House Standing Committee**

#### **HR3-2-401 Standing committee review required -- Exceptions.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), the House of Representatives may not pass a bill, joint resolution, or concurrent resolution during the annual general session unless a House standing committee has given a favorable recommendation to the legislation.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to:
  - (a) a resolution regarding legislative rules or legislative personnel;
  - (b) legislation that is a committee bill as defined in JR7-1-101 that:
    - (i) received its favorable recommendation by a unanimous vote of the members present at the authorized legislative committee; and
    - (ii) satisfied the posting requirements described in JR7-1-602.5;
  - (c) the revisor's statute; or
  - (d) if the legislation was reviewed and approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee, legislation that:
    - (i) exclusively appropriates money;
    - (ii) amends Utah Code Title 53F, Chapter 2, State Funding -- Minimum School Program;
    - (iii) amends Utah Code Title 67, Chapter 22, State Officer Compensation; or
    - (iv) authorizes the issuance of general obligation or revenue bonds.

#### **HR3-2-401 Standing committee review required -- Exceptions.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), the House of Representatives may not pass a bill, joint resolution, or concurrent resolution during the annual general session unless a House standing committee has given a favorable recommendation to the legislation.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to:
  - (a) a resolution regarding legislative rules or legislative personnel;
  - (b) House legislation that is a committee bill as defined in JR7-1-101 that:
    - (i) received its favorable recommendation by a unanimous vote of the members present at the authorized legislative committee; and
    - (ii) satisfied the posting requirements described in JR7-1-602.5;
  - (c) the revisor's statute; or
  - (d) if the legislation was reviewed and approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee, legislation that:
    - (i) exclusively appropriates money;
    - (ii) amends Utah Code Title 53F, Chapter 2, State Funding -- Minimum School Program;
    - (iii) amends Utah Code Title 67, Chapter 22, State Officer Compensation; or
    - (iv) authorizes the issuance of general obligation or revenue bonds.

Amended by H.R. 3, 2025 General Session

**HR3-2-402 Standing committee review of legislation with a fiscal impact.**

- (1)
  - (a) A standing committee may not review legislation unless the legislation has an approved fiscal note.
  - (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(a), a standing committee may consider a substitute not previously adopted, regardless of whether the substitute has an approved fiscal note.
- (2) Except as provided in HR3-2-401, a standing committee in one or both chambers shall review legislation before the legislation is held in the opposite chamber because of the legislation's fiscal impact.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**HR3-2-403 Standing committee duties -- Consider legislation in a reasonable time -- Dispose of legislation.**

When a committee has completed its review of legislation, a standing committee shall dispose of the legislation by:

- (1) returning the legislation to the House Rules Committee;
- (2) tabling the legislation, subject to the requirements of HR3-2-408;
- (3) recommending that the legislation be read a second time and placed on the third reading calendar; or
- (4) referring the legislation to a different standing committee.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-404 Motions to lift from the table, hold, amend, or substitute legislation.**

In addition to the actions listed in HR3-2-403(2), a standing committee may approve one or more of the following motions on a single piece of legislation:

- (1) hold the legislation;
- (2) move to the next item on an agenda;
- (3) amend the legislation, subject to the requirements of HR3-2-406;
- (4) substitute the legislation, subject to the requirements of HR3-2-407; or
- (5) lift legislation from the table, subject to the requirements of HR3-2-408.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-405 Consent calendar -- Nonbinding resolutions -- Committee recommendations.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "nonbinding resolution":
  - (a) means a resolution that:
    - (i) is primarily for the purpose of recognizing, honoring, or memorializing an individual, group, or event;
    - (ii) requests, rather than compels, action or awareness by an individual or group; or
    - (iii) is informational or promotional in nature; and
  - (b) does not mean:
    - (i) a rules resolution;
    - (ii) a resolution for a constitutional amendment; or
    - (iii) any resolution that approves or authorizes any action, requires any substantive action to be taken, or results in a change in law, policy, or funding.
- (2)

- (a) A nonbinding resolution shall be placed on the consent calendar.
- (b) A nonbinding resolution may be moved to the time certain calendar or other calendar by a majority vote of those present.
- (3) A standing committee may recommend that legislation in the standing committee's possession be placed on the consent calendar if:
  - (a) the committee approves a motion, by a unanimous vote of those present, to give the legislation a favorable recommendation; and
  - (b) immediately subsequent to that action, the committee approves a separate motion, by a unanimous vote of those present, to recommend that the legislation be placed on the consent calendar.

**HR3-2-405 Consent calendar -- Nonbinding resolutions -- Committee recommendations.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "nonbinding resolution":
  - (a) means a resolution that:
    - (i) is primarily for the purpose of recognizing, honoring, or memorializing an individual, group, or event;
    - (ii) requests, rather than compels, action or awareness by an individual or group; or
    - (iii) is informational or promotional in nature; and
  - (b) does not mean:
    - (i) a rules resolution;
    - (ii) a resolution for a constitutional amendment; or
    - (iii) any resolution that approves or authorizes any action, requires any substantive action to be taken, or results in a change in law, policy, or funding.
- (2)
  - (a) A nonbinding resolution shall be placed on the consent calendar.
  - (b) A nonbinding resolution may be moved to the time certain calendar or other calendar by a majority vote of those present.
- (3) On or before the 41st day of an annual general session, a standing committee may recommend that legislation in the standing committee's possession be placed on the consent calendar if:
  - (a) the committee approves a motion, by a unanimous vote of those present, to give the legislation a favorable recommendation;
  - (b) immediately subsequent to that action, the committee approves a separate motion, by a unanimous vote of those present, to recommend that the legislation be placed on the consent calendar; and
  - (c) for Senate legislation, the Senate legislation is not a fiscal note bill, as that term is defined in JR4-4-101.

Amended by H.R. 3, 2025 General Session

**HR3-2-406 Amending legislation -- Verbal amendments -- Amendments must be germane.**

- (1)
  - (a) Subject to Subsection (2) and HR3-2-306, and if recognized by the chair during the presentation phase or the committee action phase, a committee member may make a motion to amend the legislation that is under consideration.
  - (b)
    - (i) A committee member may propose a verbal amendment to the legislation under consideration if the amendment contains 15 or fewer words.

- (ii) Unless the amendment contains 15 or fewer words, before proposing a motion to amend, a committee member shall ensure that a copy of the proposed amendment is available online.
  - (iii) Each word inserted shall count as one of the 15 words permitted under a verbal amendment, except that:
    - (A) numbering shall not be counted as a word;
    - (B) instructions to delete a word or words shall not count as a word; and
    - (C) a word or an exact phrase that is inserted in multiple locations shall only be counted for the first insertion.
- (2)
- (a) A committee member may only make a motion to amend that is germane to the subject of the legislation under consideration.
  - (b) A committee member who believes that an amendment is not germane to the subject of the legislation may make a point of order or appeal as described in HR3-2-506.

**HR3-2-406 Amending legislation -- Verbal amendments -- Amendments must be germane.**

- (1)
- (a) Subject to the provisions of this rule and HR3-2-306, and if recognized by the chair during the presentation phase or the committee action phase, a committee member may make a motion to amend the legislation that is under consideration.
  - (b)
    - (i) A committee member may propose a verbal amendment to the legislation under consideration if the amendment contains 15 or fewer words.
    - (ii) Unless the amendment contains 15 or fewer words, before proposing a motion to amend, a committee member shall ensure that a copy of the proposed amendment is available online.
    - (iii) Each word inserted shall count as one of the 15 words permitted under a verbal amendment, except that:
      - (A) numbering shall not be counted as a word;
      - (B) instructions to delete a word or words shall not count as a word; and
      - (C) a word or an exact phrase that is inserted in multiple locations shall only be counted for the first insertion.
- (2)
- (a) A committee member may only make a motion to amend that is germane to the subject of the legislation under consideration.
  - (b) A committee member who believes that an amendment is not germane to the subject of the legislation may make a point of order or appeal as described in HR3-2-506.
- (3)
- (a) A committee member may not propose an amendment to legislation that:
    - (i) adds or removes an entire section from the legislation; or
    - (ii) modifies the legislation's effective date.
  - (b) To change legislation as described in Subsection (3)(a), a committee member may, subject to HR3-2-407, make a motion to substitute the legislation.

Amended by 1st Sub. H.R. 1, 2025 General Session

**HR3-2-407 Substitute legislation -- Substitutes must be germane.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), and if recognized by the chair during the committee action phase, a committee member may make a motion to substitute legislation that is under consideration.
- (2)
  - (a) A committee member may only make a motion to substitute that is germane to the subject of the legislation under consideration.
  - (b) A committee member who believes that a substitute is not germane to the subject of the legislation may make a point of order or appeal as described in HR3-2-507.

**HR3-2-408 Legislation tabled in a standing committee -- Requirements.**

- (1) If legislation is tabled, the chair shall list the tabled legislation on the committee agenda for the next committee meeting.
- (2) At the next committee meeting, the committee may, by a two-thirds vote, lift the tabled legislation from the table.
- (3) If a motion to lift tabled legislation is successful, the standing committee may make any motion on the legislation that is authorized under this chapter.
- (4)
  - (a) If legislation is tabled by a committee and the legislation is not lifted from the table at the committee's next meeting, the committee chair shall submit a committee report to the chief clerk of the House informing the House that the legislation was tabled.
  - (b) After reading the committee report on the tabled legislation, the presiding officer shall send the tabled legislation to the House Rules Committee for filing.
- (5) After tabled legislation is sent to the House Rules Committee for filing, a representative may not make a motion to:
  - (a) lift the tabled legislation from the House Rules Committee and place it on the third reading calendar; or
  - (b) lift the tabled legislation from the House Rules Committee and refer it to a standing committee for consideration.

**HR3-2-409 Reconsideration of action.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), and if recognized by the chair, a committee member may make a motion to reconsider the committee's action on legislation if the legislation is:
  - (a) in the possession of the standing committee; and
  - (b) listed on the committee agenda as required by Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.
- (2) A standing committee may not reconsider its action on a piece of legislation:
  - (a) more than once; and
  - (b) until the committee has considered other committee business.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-410 Testimony may be taken under oath.**

- (1) At the direction of the chair, or upon a majority vote of the committee, the testimony of a witness, presenter, or visitor who speaks to a committee may be taken under oath.
- (2) The chair or committee staff shall administer the oath.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-411 Additional standing committee meetings.**

With permission from the speaker of the House, a chair may hold a committee meeting independent of regularly scheduled committee meetings on:

- (1) a single piece of legislation; or
- (2) the subject of two or more pieces of legislation.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-412 Closed standing committee meetings.**

A standing committee may close a committee meeting in accordance with the procedures and requirements of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-413 Prohibited from meeting while House is in session -- Exceptions.**

- (1) A standing committee may not meet while the House is in session unless:
  - (a) the chair receives permission from the speaker to meet; or
  - (b) a majority of the House approves a motion for the committee to meet while the House is in session.
- (2) Unless a committee is authorized to meet as provided in Subsection (1), any action taken by a committee while the House is in session is invalid.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**Part 5**  
**Standing Committee Parliamentary Procedures**

**HR3-2-501 Obtaining the floor in committee -- Remarks to be germane.**

- (1) As required in HR3-2-311, a chair shall recognize a committee member who desires to speak to the committee.
- (2) A committee member who is recognized by the chair may make a motion consistent with the requirements of this chapter.
- (3) A second to a motion is not required.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-502 Committee members shall vote.**

A committee member shall vote on every motion placed for a vote while the committee member is present at a meeting.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-503 Privileged motions in committee -- General requirements, procedure, and priority.**



- (1) Privileged motions:
  - (a) are non-debatable; and
  - (b) take precedence over non-privileged motions.
- (2) If a privileged motion is requested while another privileged motion is pending, the chair shall grant priority to the privileged motions in the following order:
  - (a) adjourn;
  - (b) set time to adjourn;
  - (c) recess;
  - (d) end debate or call the question;
  - (e) extend debate; and
  - (f) limit debate.
- (3) Except for a motion to adjourn, a privileged motion, if adopted, does not dispose of other pending motions.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-504 Original motions in committee -- General requirements, procedure, and priority.**

- (1) Original motions:
  - (a) are debatable; and
  - (b) may be replaced with a substitute motion.
- (2) A committee member may not make an original motion if:
  - (a) a privileged motion is pending; or
  - (b) a substitute motion is pending.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-505 Substitute motions in committee -- General requirements, procedure, and priority.**

- (1) Substitute motions:
  - (a) are debatable; and
  - (b) take precedence over original motions.
- (2)
  - (a) A committee member may make a substitute motion if an original motion is pending.
  - (b) A committee member may not make a substitute motion if:
    - (i) a privileged motion is pending; or
    - (ii) another substitute motion is pending.
  - (c) If a substitute motion is adopted, a substitute motion disposes of the original motion.
  - (d) If a substitute motion is not adopted, the original motion is pending.
- (3) After a chair accepts a substitute motion, and before the chair places the substitute motion for a vote, the chair shall allow response to the substitute motion in accordance with HR3-2-313.

Amended by H.R. 6, 2021 General Session

**HR3-2-506 Reserve the right to make a motion.**

- (1) Once recognized by the chair, a committee member may not make a motion after speaking to the committee unless the chair has first specifically granted the committee member permission to reserve the right to make a motion.

- (2) If the chair has granted a committee member the right to make a motion as required in Subsection (1), the committee member's remarks shall be confined to the subject of the motion to be made.
- (3) A committee member may only reserve the right to make a motion to:
  - (a) amend the legislation being debated; or
  - (b) substitute the legislation being debated.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-507 Point of order -- Appeal of chair's decision.**

- (1) A point of order is not a motion and, except during a vote, may be made by a member of a standing committee at any time during a committee meeting.
- (2) If a member of a standing committee is concerned that legislative rules or procedures are not being followed, the committee member may make a point of order.
- (3) When a point of order is made, the chair shall immediately allow the committee member to state the member's point.
- (4) A chair shall rule on the point of order without committee discussion or debate as provided in HR3-2-315.
- (5) An appeal of the decision of the chair is not a motion and may be made by a committee member after the chair has ruled on a point of order.
- (6) A standing committee may, by majority vote, override the decision of the chair on a point of order.
  - (a) If the committee overrides the decision of the chair, the ruling of a committee is final.
  - (b) If a committee does not override the decision of the chair, the ruling of a chair is final.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-508 Point of information.**

- (1) A point of information is not a motion and, except during summation or a vote, may be made by a member of a standing committee at any time during a committee meeting.
- (2) If a member of a standing committee desires clarification on any aspect of a committee meeting, the committee member may make a point of information.
- (3) When a point of information is made, the chair shall immediately allow the committee member to state the point.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-509 Division of a motion.**

- (1) A division is not a motion and, except during a vote, may be made by a member of a standing committee at any time during a committee meeting without being recognized by the chair.
- (2) The committee member who divides a motion shall clearly state how the motion is to be divided.
- (3) A committee member may not divide a motion to amend legislation in such a manner that could create an unintelligible or ambiguous result.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

**HR3-2-510 Prohibited motions.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except for a motion to adjourn or a motion to recess, a committee member may not make a motion unless a quorum of the standing committee is present.
  - (b) When a quorum is not present, a motion to adjourn or a motion to recess is passed with a majority vote of those present.
- (2) No motion is in order during a vote.
- (3) A point of order is not in order during a vote.
- (4) A committee member may not make a motion to:
  - (a) strike the enacting clause of legislation;
  - (b) strike the resolving clause of a resolution;
  - (c) circle legislation;
  - (d) place legislation on a time certain calendar;
  - (e) postpone legislation to a day certain; or
  - (f) postpone legislation indefinitely.

**HR3-2-510 Prohibited motions.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except for a motion to adjourn or a motion to recess, a committee member may not make a motion unless a quorum of the standing committee is present.
  - (b) When a quorum is not present, a motion to adjourn or a motion to recess is passed with a majority vote of those present.
- (2) No motion is in order during a vote.
- (3) A point of order is not in order during a vote.
- (4) A committee member may not make a motion to:
  - (a) strike the enacting clause of legislation;
  - (b) strike the resolving clause of a resolution;
  - (c) circle legislation;
  - (d) place legislation on a time certain calendar;
  - (e) postpone legislation to a day certain; or
  - (f) postpone legislation indefinitely.
- (5)
  - (a) A personal privilege is not a motion.
  - (b) A committee member may not request a personal privilege during a committee meeting.

Amended by 1st Sub. H.R. 1, 2025 General Session

**HR3-2-511 Repeating defeated motion.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a motion that is defeated may not be made by a committee member until the committee has considered other committee business.
- (2) A motion to return legislation to the House Rules Committee, if defeated, may not be made again by any committee member during the same committee meeting.

**HR3-2-512 A motion may be withdrawn.**

A committee member who makes a motion may withdraw that motion at any time before the motion is placed for a vote.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2015 General Session

### **Chapter 3**

#### **Provisions Applicable to all House Committees**

##### **HR3-3-101 Chair to preserve order and decorum.**

- (1) The chair shall preserve order and decorum during a House committee meeting by:
  - (a) ensuring nothing obstructs a walkway or the view of a meeting attendee;
  - (b) ensuring the meeting is free from any audible or visual disturbance;
  - (c) protecting state property from damage or disarray;
  - (d) prohibiting speech likely to incite or produce imminent lawless action, fighting words, or obscenity; and
  - (e) prohibiting any activity or item that poses a danger to the safety of a meeting attendee.
- (2) To preserve order and decorum in accordance with Subsection (1), the chair may:
  - (a) prohibit the following:
    - (i) standing, waving, yelling, or clapping;
    - (ii) loud noises;
    - (iii) food or drink, other than water in a closed container;
    - (iv) musical instruments;
    - (v) any item that may require excessive cleanup; or
    - (vi) to the extent necessary to preserve order and decorum, any other item or activity the chair determines necessary;
  - (b) clear the meeting room of one or more individuals;
  - (c) recess the meeting without a motion; or
  - (d) request assistance from:
    - (i) the sergeant-at-arms; or
    - (ii) the Utah Highway Patrol.
- (3) To the extent reasonably applicable, any action by a chair under this rule applies to a member of the public participating in the meeting via video conference.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

##### **HR3-3-102 Prohibited items and activities in House committee meetings.**

- (1) A member of the public attending a meeting of a House committee may not:
  - (a) bring into the meeting room, or possess while in the meeting room, any of the following:
    - (i) a sign, poster, banner, or placard;
    - (ii) glitter or confetti;
    - (iii) a laser pointer;
    - (iv) paint;
    - (v) an open flame;
    - (vi) an incendiary device;
    - (vii) a noise maker;
    - (viii) flammable liquid; or
    - (ix) any harmful or hazardous substance; or
  - (b) engage in any of the following while in the meeting room:

- (i) commercial solicitation;
  - (ii) leafletting;
  - (iii) throwing an item; or
  - (iv) adhering any item to a furnishing, a wall, or other state property.
- (2) A member of the public participating in a House committee meeting via video conference may not:
- (a) use a virtual background other than one that is simple and free from distracting visuals; or
  - (b) engage in any behavior that if performed in the meeting room would violate Subsection (1).

Amended by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**HR3-3-103 Right of legislators to attend House committee meetings.**

- (1) Any member of the Legislature may:
- (a) attend any meeting of a House committee or subcommittee, unless the meeting is closed in accordance with Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act; and
  - (b) if recognized by the chair during the public comment phase, present the legislator's views on the subject under consideration.
- (2) A legislator who attends a meeting of a House committee or subcommittee of which the legislator is not a member may not:
- (a) make a motion; or
  - (b) vote.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2025 General Session

**Title HR4. House Floor Procedures**

**Chapter 1  
General Provisions**

**HR4-1-101 Definitions.**

As used in this title:

- (1) "Appropriations bill" means a bill that appropriates money and makes no change to statute.
- (2) "Constitutional majority vote" means an affirmative vote of at least 38 members.
- (3) "Constitutional two-thirds vote" means an affirmative vote of at least 50 members.
- (4) "Majority vote" means, while a quorum is present, an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present.
- (5) "Two-thirds vote" means, while a quorum is present, an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members present.
- (6) "Point of order" means a question raised by a representative about whether or not there has been a breach of order, a breach of rules, or a breach of established parliamentary practice.
- (7) "Presiding officer" means the person presiding over the Utah House of Representatives and includes:
  - (a) the speaker;
  - (b) the speaker pro tempore; and
  - (c) any representative presiding under HR1-3-103.

- (8) "Quorum" means that at least 38 members of the House of Representatives are present.

## **Chapter 2**

### **General Floor Procedures for the Utah House of Representatives**

#### **Part 1**

#### **General Guidelines**

#### **HR4-2-101 Duties of presiding officer.**

The presiding officer may:

- (1) call the House to order at the time scheduled for convening, and proceed with the daily order of business;
- (2) announce the business before the House in the order that it is to be acted upon;
- (3) receive and submit all motions and proposals presented by representatives;
- (4) put to a vote all questions that arise in the course of proceedings, and announce the results of the vote;
- (5) enforce the House Rules governing debates;
- (6) enforce observance of order and decorum;
- (7) inform the House on any point of order or practice;
- (8) receive and announce to the House any official messages and communications; and
- (9) sign all bills, resolutions, orders, and proceedings of the House.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

#### **HR4-2-102 Obtaining the floor.**

- (1) When a representative wishes to be recognized to speak, the representative shall:
  - (a) notify the presiding officer by electronic means; or
  - (b) if the electronic notification system is not operational, rise and address the presiding officer as:
    - (i) "Mr. (Madam) Speaker"; or
    - (ii) "Mr. (Madam) Speaker pro temp."
- (2) If two or more representatives rise at the same time to speak, the presiding officer shall decide which representative is to speak first.
- (3) After being recognized, the representative shall confine the representative's remarks to the issue under consideration.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

#### **HR4-2-103 Calling a representative to order for violation of a rule.**

- (1)
  - (a) The presiding officer may call a representative to order for violating any House or Joint Rule.
  - (b) Any representative may call another representative to order for violating any House or Joint Rule by raising a point of order under HR4-2-201.
- (2) If the representative called to order appeals the ruling of the presiding officer, the House shall decide the issue without debate.

- (3)
  - (a) If the decision is favorable to the representative who has been called to order, the representative may proceed.
  - (b) If the decision is unfavorable, the representative is subject to censure by the House.
- (4) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), a representative may not be called to order or censured for words spoken in debate if there has been intervening business.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR4-2-103 Calling a representative to order for violation of a rule.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "censure" means an official reprimand or condemnation, which, if approved by the majority of the House, is printed in the journal.
- (2)
  - (a) The presiding officer may call a representative to order for violating any House or Joint Rule.
  - (b) Any representative may call another representative to order for violating any House or Joint Rule by raising a point of order under HR4-2-201.
- (3) If the representative called to order appeals the ruling of the presiding officer, the House shall decide the issue without debate.
- (4)
  - (a) If the decision is favorable to the representative who has been called to order, the representative may proceed.
  - (b) If the decision is unfavorable, the representative is subject to censure by the House.
- (5) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), a representative may not be called to order or censured for words spoken in debate if there has been intervening business.

Amended by H.R. 3, 2025 General Session

**HR4-2-104 Motions in writing.**

- (1) A representative shall submit certain motions to amend in writing as required by HR4-3-301.
- (2) Except as provided in Subsection (3), if a representative requests that a motion be presented in writing, the presiding officer may require that the maker of the motion prepare and submit a written motion to the chief clerk.
- (3) The presiding officer may not require that the following motions be presented in writing:
  - (a) a motion to adjourn;
  - (b) a motion to circle;
  - (c) a motion to table; or
  - (d) a motion to refer to committee.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**Part 2**  
**Point of Order and Appeals of the Decision of the Chair**

**HR4-2-201 Point of order.**

- (1)

- (a) If a representative believes that there has been a breach of order, a breach of rules, or a breach of established parliamentary practice, the representative may rise and, without being recognized, state: "point of order."
  - (b) When a representative raises a point of order:
    - (i) the presiding officer shall interrupt the proceedings;
    - (ii) the representative who has the floor shall yield the floor; and
    - (iii) the presiding officer shall ask the representative raising the point of order to "state your point."
  - (c) When the presiding officer responds "state your point," the representative shall briefly explain the alleged breach to the body, citing to appropriate authority if possible.
- (2)
- (a) The presiding officer may:
    - (i) speak to points of order in preference to other representatives rising for that purpose;
    - (ii) rule on the point of order immediately;
    - (iii) consult with staff, the parliamentarian, or both before ruling on the point of order; or
    - (iv) suggest that the House recess until the presiding officer can research and rule on the point of order.
  - (b)
    - (i) Although points of order are generally decided without debate, the presiding officer may submit the point of order to the House for decision in doubtful cases.
    - (ii) If submitted to the House for decision, a presiding officer shall allow debate or discussion on the point of order by recognizing members of the House who wish to speak to the point of order.
    - (iii) A decision by the House deciding a point of order is not subject to appeal.
- (3) When the presiding officer rules on the point of order, any representative who disagrees with the presiding officer's decision may appeal that decision to the House by following the procedures and requirements of HR4-2-202.

#### **HR4-2-202 Appeals from the decision of the chair.**

- (1) Although the tradition in the Utah House is to give great weight to the rulings of the presiding officer and not make appeals lightly, a representative who disagrees with a ruling of the presiding officer may appeal that decision to the House by rising and, without waiting to be recognized, saying "I appeal the decision of the chair."
- (2) When a representative appeals the decision of the chair, the presiding officer shall clearly state the decision appealed from and may state the reasons for the decision.
- (3)
  - (a) An appeal is debatable.
  - (b) A representative may not speak more than once on the appeal without leave of the House.
- (4) The question on appeal is: "Shall the decision of the chair stand as the judgment of the House?"
- (5) When a decision of the presiding officer is appealed, a majority vote of the representatives present is required to override that decision.
- (6) The chief clerk shall ensure that the appeal and the action of the House on the appeal are entered in the journal.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session



## Chapter 3 Special House Floor Procedures

### Part 1 Bills and Resolutions

#### **HR4-3-101 Consideration of bills.**

- (1) Except for the 1st, 43rd, 44th, and 45th day of the annual general session, legislation may not be read for the third time until at least the day after it is placed on the third reading calendar.
- (2) Legislation on third reading calendar shall be considered in the order that it appears on the calendar unless a constitutional majority vote of the members of the House directs other action.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

#### **HR4-3-102 Reassigning legislation assigned to a standing committee.**

- (1) Legislation that has been assigned to a standing committee may be reassigned to the Rules committee or a different standing committee by:
  - (a) the presiding officer, subject to Subsection (2);
  - (b) the House of Representatives by majority vote upon motion from the floor; or
  - (c) the House of Representatives by majority vote if the committee to which the legislation was assigned recommends in the committee's report that the legislation be reassigned to a different committee.
- (2) Before the presiding officer reassigns legislation under Subsection (1)(a), the presiding officer shall announce on the floor the committee to which the presiding officer intends to reassign the legislation.

#### **HR4-3-103 Action on Senate legislation.**

- (1) When a piece of Senate legislation is received by the House with a transmittal letter informing the House that it has passed the Senate, the presiding officer shall:
  - (a) have the legislation read for the first time; and
  - (b) refer it to the House Rules Committee.
- (2) Action on Senate legislation is the same as for House legislation.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

#### **HR4-3-104 Time limit for House legislation.**

- (1) Except for an appropriations bill, the House may not consider a piece of legislation introduced by a House member after the 42nd day of the annual general session of the Legislature.
- (2) The House may suspend this rule only by a constitutional two-thirds vote.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

### Part 2

## Substitute Legislation

### **HR4-3-201 Substitute legislation.**

- (1) A motion to adopt a substitute piece of legislation is in order on third reading.
- (2) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall number each substitute for record keeping and tracking purposes.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

### **HR4-3-202 Substitute must be germane.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a representative may, if recognized by the presiding officer while the House is debating a piece of legislation, make a motion to substitute the legislation.
- (2)
  - (a) The representative making the motion to substitute shall ensure that the substitute is germane to the subject of the original legislation under consideration.
  - (b) If a representative believes that a substitute is not germane to the subject of the original legislation, the representative may raise a point of order alleging that the substitute is not germane.
  - (c) The presiding officer shall rule on the point of order by determining whether or not the substitute is germane to the subject of the original legislation.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

## Part 3 Floor Amendments

### **HR4-3-301 Amendments in order on third reading -- 15 word rule -- Passage of amendments by a majority vote.**

- (1) A motion to amend a piece of legislation is in order on third reading.
- (2)
  - (a) A representative may verbally propose an amendment to legislation if the amendment contains 15 or fewer words .
  - (b) Unless the amendment contains 15 or fewer words, before a representative makes a motion to amend, the representative shall ensure that a copy of the proposed amendment is available online.
  - (c) Each word inserted shall count as one of the 15 words permitted under a verbal amendment, except that:
    - (i) numbering shall not be counted as a word;
    - (ii) instructions to delete a word or words shall not count as a word; and
    - (iii) a word or an exact phrase that is inserted in multiple locations shall only be counted for the first insertion.
- (3) A constitutional amendment, resolution, or bill requiring a constitutional two-thirds vote for final passage, may be amended by a majority vote.
- (4) When legislation is amended by the House, the chief clerk shall:

- (a)for each page of the legislation modified by a House amendment, cause a new page to be printed that clearly identifies each House amendment to that page; and
- (b)print that new page on lilac-colored paper.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2021 General Session

**HR4-3-301 Amendments in order on third reading -- 15 word rule -- Passage of amendments by a majority vote.**

- (1)Subject to Subsections (2) and (3), a motion to amend a piece of legislation is in order on third reading.
- (2)
  - (a)A representative may verbally propose an amendment to legislation if the amendment contains 15 or fewer words.
  - (b)Unless the amendment contains 15 or fewer words, before a representative makes a motion to amend, the representative shall ensure that a copy of the proposed amendment is available online.
  - (c)Each word inserted shall count as one of the 15 words permitted under a verbal amendment, except that:
    - (i)numbering shall not be counted as a word;
    - (ii)instructions to delete a word or words shall not count as a word; and
    - (iii)a word or an exact phrase that is inserted in multiple locations shall only be counted for the first insertion.
- (3)
  - (a)A representative may not propose an amendment to legislation that:
    - (i)adds or removes an entire section from the legislation; or
    - (ii)modifies the legislation's effective date.
  - (b)To change legislation as described in Subsection (3)(a), a representative may, subject to Part 2, Substitute Legislation, make a motion to substitute the legislation.
- (4)A constitutional amendment, resolution, or bill requiring a constitutional two-thirds vote for final passage, may be amended by a majority vote.
- (5)When legislation is amended by the House, the chief clerk shall:
  - (a)for each page of the legislation modified by a House amendment, cause a new page to be printed that clearly identifies each House amendment to that page; and
  - (b)print that new page on lilac-colored paper.

Amended by 1st Sub. H.R. 1, 2025 General Session

**HR4-3-302 Amendment must be germane.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a representative may, if recognized by the presiding officer while the House is debating a piece of legislation, make a motion to amend the legislation.
- (2)
  - (a) The representative making the motion to amend shall ensure that the amendment is germane to the subject of the original legislation under consideration.
  - (b) If a representative believes that an amendment is not germane to the subject of the original legislation, the representative may raise a point of order alleging that the amendment is not germane.

- (c) The presiding officer shall rule on the point of order by determining whether or not the amendment is germane to the subject of the original legislation.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

## **Chapter 4 House Calendars**

### **Part 1 Second Reading Calendar**

#### **HR4-4-101 Committee reports -- Second reading calendar.**

- (1) House staff shall:
  - (a) read to the House each standing committee report submitted to the House; and
  - (b) read the legislation by title unless the House suspends this requirement by a two-thirds vote.
- (2)
  - (a) If the House passes a motion to adopt the committee report, the amendments and substitutes adopted by the committee and identified on the committee report become legally part of the legislation.
  - (b) If a motion to adopt the committee report fails, the presiding officer shall return the legislation to the House Rules Committee.
- (3) A majority vote of the House is required to:
  - (a) approve a motion to adopt the committee report; and
  - (b) pass the legislation on second reading to the third reading or consent calendar.
- (4) The placement of a piece of legislation on a House reading calendar is the second reading of that legislation.

### **Part 2 Third Reading Calendar**

#### **HR4-4-201 Third reading calendar -- Procedures.**

- (1)
  - (a) For the third reading on a piece of legislation, House staff shall read the legislation by title unless the House suspends this requirement by a two-thirds vote.
  - (b)
    - (i) After reading the title of the legislation, House staff shall identify the House standing committee that reviewed the legislation and the vote in that committee.
    - (ii) If the legislation has not been reviewed by a House standing committee, House staff shall announce that the legislation was not reviewed by a House standing committee.
- (2) When House staff has completed the third reading of the legislation, the legislation is before the House for debate.
- (3) When debate on the legislation is complete, the presiding officer shall take the final vote on the legislation.

**HR4-4-202 Disposition of legislation voted on third reading.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), the chief clerk or the chief clerk's designee shall:
  - (a) for a piece of House legislation passed by the House on third reading but not yet acted upon by the Senate, transmit the House legislation to the Senate for its further action;
  - (b) for a piece of House legislation that fails to pass the House on third reading, file the legislation;
  - (c) for a piece of House legislation that has passed both houses, follow the procedures and requirements of JR4-5-101;
  - (d) for a piece of Senate legislation passed by the House on third reading and not amended or substituted in the House, transmit the Senate legislation to the presiding officer of the House for the presiding officer's signature and return the legislation to the Senate for the signature of the president of the Senate;
  - (e) for a piece of Senate legislation passed by the House on third reading that was amended or substituted in the House, transmit the legislation to the Senate with the amendments or substitute for further action by the Senate; and
  - (f) for a piece of Senate legislation that fails to pass the House on third reading, transmit the legislation to the Senate with notice of the House's action.
- (2)
  - (a) The chief clerk shall ensure that the House retains possession of a piece of legislation for no more than one legislative day when:
    - (i) a representative gives notice of intention to move for reconsideration to the chief clerk or the presiding officer;
    - (ii) a representative requests that the chief clerk hold the legislation; or
    - (iii) the House passes a motion to retain possession of the legislation.
  - (b) When a representative moves for reconsideration or requests a hold under Subsection (2)(a)(i) or (2)(a)(ii), the chief clerk shall give notice of the action to the speaker and to the sponsor of the legislation.
  - (c) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (2)(a), a piece of legislation may be released earlier than 24 hours if the hold is released.

**HR4-4-203 Motion to lift legislation from committee.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a representative may make a motion to lift legislation from a standing committee or the House Rules Committee and place it on the third reading calendar.
  - (b) A representative may not make a motion under Subsection (1)(a) if the legislation was tabled by a standing committee.
- (2) Except as provided in Subsections (3) and (4), a motion to lift legislation from a standing committee or the House Rules Committee may be approved with a majority vote of the members present.
- (3) A motion to lift legislation that failed to pass a standing committee motion to send the legislation to the second reading calendar requires a vote of two-thirds of the members present.
- (4) A motion to lift legislation during the 43rd, 44th, and 45th day of the annual general session, and during any special session, requires a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

- (5) If a motion to lift legislation is approved, the presiding officer shall direct that the legislation be placed on the third reading calendar.

### **Part 3 Consent Calendar**

#### **HR4-4-301 Consent calendar.**

- (1) The presiding officer shall place legislation on the consent calendar if:
  - (a) a standing committee report recommends that the legislation be placed on the consent calendar and the standing committee report is adopted by the House; or
  - (b) the legislation is a nonbinding resolution as provided in HR3-2-405.
- (2) If the chief clerk receives written objections to a piece of legislation from six or more representatives, the chief clerk shall:
  - (a) remove the legislation from the consent calendar;
  - (b) inform the sponsor that the legislation has been removed from the consent calendar; and
  - (c) place the legislation at the bottom of the third reading calendar.
- (3) When legislation is removed from the consent calendar, the presiding officer shall inform the House of its removal.
- (4)
  - (a) If, after two calendar days, no more than five members have registered written objections to the legislation with the chief clerk:
    - (i) the legislation shall be read the third time;
    - (ii) the presiding officer shall grant the sponsor of the legislation two minutes to introduce and explain the legislation; and
    - (iii) the presiding officer shall pose the question and take the final vote on the legislation.
  - (b) The presiding officer may not allow debate on legislation on the consent calendar.
- (5)
  - (a) If the representative sponsoring the legislation on the consent calendar is absent from the floor when the legislation is ready to be read for the third time and considered for passage, a representative may make a motion to circle the legislation.
  - (b) If the motion to circle is successful and the representative sponsoring the legislation has not moved to uncircle the legislation before floor time is recessed or adjourned, the bill shall be placed on the bottom of the third reading calendar.

### **Part 4 Concurrence Calendar**

#### **HR4-4-401 Concurrence calendar.**

- (1) After the chief clerk or the chief clerk's designee reads the transmittal letter from the Senate informing the House that the Senate has amended a piece of House legislation, the presiding officer shall place the legislation on the concurrence calendar.
- (2)

- (a) During the first 43 days of the annual general session, the legislation shall remain on the concurrence calendar for at least one legislative day before the House may consider the question of concurrence.
  - (b) During the last two days of the annual general session, and during any special session, the House may consider legislation for concurrence after the House has been given a reasonable time to review the Senate amendments.
- (3)
- (a) When presenting legislation to the House for concurrence, the presiding officer shall ask the sponsor of the legislation for a motion.
  - (b) The sponsor of the legislation may move to either:
    - (i) concur with the Senate amendments; or
    - (ii) refuse to concur with the Senate amendments and ask the Senate to recede from its amendments.
- (4)
- (a) If a motion to concur with the Senate amendments passes by majority vote, the presiding officer shall open the vote on final passage of the legislation.
  - (b)
    - (i) If a motion to concur with the Senate amendments passes by a majority vote but the legislation fails to pass the final vote:
      - (A) except as provided in Subsection (4)(b)(ii), a motion to reconsider the final vote on the legislation is in order; and
      - (B) if a motion to reconsider the final vote on the legislation is successful, the legislation shall be placed on the concurrence calendar and a motion to reconsider the vote to concur with the Senate amendments is in order.
    - (ii) As provided in HR4-9-103(4)(c), the House may not reconsider legislation under this Subsection (4) if the House previously voted to reconsider a final vote on the legislation.
  - (c) If a motion to concur with the Senate amendments fails, a motion to refuse to concur with the Senate amendments and ask the Senate to recede from its amendments is in order.
- (5) If a motion to refuse to concur with the Senate amendments and ask the Senate to recede from its amendments passes by a majority vote:
- (a) the chief clerk shall return the legislation to the Senate for its further action; and
  - (b) if the Senate refuses to recede, the Senate and House shall follow the procedures and requirements of JR3-2-901 relating to the appointment of a conference committee.

## **Part 5**

### **Time Certain Calendar**

#### **HR4-4-501 Time certain calendar.**

The presiding officer shall place on the time certain calendar legislation or other matters approved by the House for a time certain under:

- (1) HR1-5-301; or
- (2) other rules allowing matters to be set for a time certain.

## **Chapter 5 Committee of the Whole**

### **HR4-5-101 Committee of the whole -- Purpose -- Process.**

- (1) Because only members of the Utah House of Representatives may speak to the House while the House is conducting business on the floor, the House must resolve itself into a committee of the whole in order to allow non-members to address the House.
- (2) The House may resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole if:
  - (a) a representative makes a motion for the House to resolve itself into a Committee of the whole; and
  - (b) the motion is approved by a majority vote of those present.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

### **HR4-5-102 Procedure in committee of the whole.**

- (1) The presiding officer shall chair and preside over the committee of the whole.
- (2) House Rules apply in the committee of the whole, except that:
  - (a) a representative may not speak more than twice on the same subject;
  - (b) roll call votes are out of order during a committee of the whole; and
  - (c) a representative may not appeal the decision of the chair.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

### **HR4-5-103 Motion to dissolve committee of the whole.**

A motion to dissolve a committee of the whole is always in order and is nondebatable.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

## **Chapter 6 House Floor Parliamentary Procedures**

### **Part 1 General Requirements**

### **HR4-6-101 Obtaining the floor in the House -- Remarks to be germane.**

- (1) A representative may speak to the subject under consideration if the representative is recognized by the presiding officer.
- (2) Upon recognition by the presiding officer, the representative shall ensure that the representative's remarks are germane to the subject under consideration.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

### **HR4-6-102 Motions on the floor -- General requirements and procedures.**

- (1)



- (a) Except as provided in Subsections (2) and (3), a representative who is recognized by the presiding officer may make a motion.
- (b) A second to the motion is not required.
- (2)
  - (a) A representative may not speak to a matter and then make a motion unless the representative has:
    - (i) asked the presiding officer to allow the representative to reserve the right to make a motion; and
    - (ii) received permission to do so from the presiding officer.
  - (b) In speaking to the matter, the representative shall confine the representative's remarks to the subject of the motion to be made.
  - (c) A representative may only reserve the right to make:
    - (i) a motion to amend the legislation being debated; or
    - (ii) a motion to substitute the legislation being debated.
- (3) The presiding officer shall:
  - (a) restate each oral motion made by a representative; and
  - (b) ensure that each written motion made by a representative is available to any representative who requests a written copy.
- (4) The representative who made a motion may withdraw it any time before the vote on the motion.

Amended by H.R. 4, 2013 General Session

**HR4-6-103 Sponsor may open and close debate.**

When a piece of legislation is on a calendar and ready for debate, or after accepting a motion, the presiding officer shall:

- (1) recognize the chief sponsor of the piece of legislation or of the motion and allow the chief sponsor to open and close debate on the legislation or motion; and
- (2) allow the chief sponsor to close debate even if a motion to end debate has passed the House.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR4-6-104 Interruptions and questions.**

- (1) A representative may not interrupt or question another representative in debate without that representative's consent.
- (2)
  - (a) To obtain consent, the querying representative shall address the presiding officer and, upon recognition by the presiding officer, ask if the representative speaking will yield the floor to a question.
  - (b) If the representative speaking consents to yield the floor to a question, the presiding officer shall allow the querying representative to ask the question.
  - (c) If the representative speaking declines to yield the floor to a question, the presiding officer:
    - (i) shall inform the querying representative that the representative speaking has declined; and
    - (ii) may not allow the querying representative to ask a question.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR4-6-104.5 Yielding time -- Prohibition on motions.**

- (1) With the approval of the presiding officer, a representative who has the floor may yield all or part of the representative's remaining time to another representative.
- (2) A representative who has the floor as a result of time yielded from another representative may not make a motion.

Enacted by H.R. 4, 2013 General Session

**HR4-6-105 Representatives not to speak more than twice -- Maximum speaking time -- Maximum time for debate on a piece of legislation.**

- (1)
  - (a) Without permission from the House, a representative may not speak more than twice on the same piece of legislation, substitute legislation, or amendment in any one debate on the same day and on the same reading of the legislation.
  - (b)
    - (i) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b)(ii), the presiding officer may not grant a representative who has spoken once permission to speak again on the same piece of legislation or substitute if any representative who has not spoken wishes to speak.
    - (ii) The presiding officer may grant a representative who has spoken once permission to respond to a question if the representative consents to a request that the representative yield to a question under HR4-6-104.
- (2) Sponsor presentation for a nonbinding resolution, as defined in HR3-2-405, is limited to a maximum of three minutes, or a shorter time as provided by rule.
- (3) A representative may not speak longer than 10 minutes at any time, unless another representative yields that representative's time to the representative who has the floor.
- (4) Unless extended by a majority vote, the presiding officer may not allow the House to debate a piece of legislation for more than:
  - (a) eight hours, during the first 38 calendar days of an annual general session; and
  - (b) two hours during the last seven calendar days of an annual general session.

**HR4-6-105.5 Prohibited references during debate.**

- (1) During debate on the House floor, a representative may not:
  - (a) allude to or discuss what was done or said in committee in relation to the legislation under debate, except that a representative may allude to or discuss information contained on a House or Senate committee report;
  - (b) use a display, exhibit, demonstration, or prop, including an individual who is present on the House floor, to illustrate the representative's remarks or to emphasize the representative's position; or
  - (c) read from a written, prepared speech.
- (2) During debate on the House floor, a representative may use notes when delivering a speech.
- (3) Nothing in this rule affects a representative's ability to seek approval in accordance with HR1-4-302(14) to have material placed on the representatives' desks.

**HR4-6-106 Order of action.**

If a representative makes a motion to amend or substitute legislation during debate on third reading, the presiding officer shall ensure that the House debates and passes or defeats the motion to amend or substitute before allowing debate and action on the legislation itself.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR4-6-107 Substitute motions.**

- (1) A representative may, upon recognition by the presiding officer, make a substitute motion, which, if adopted by vote of a majority of the House, disposes of the original motion.
- (2) If the substitute motion is not adopted, the original motion is revived.
- (3) A representative may not:
  - (a) make a substitute motion if another substitute motion has been made and is pending; or
  - (b) make a motion to end debate (call the previous question) as a substitute motion.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR4-6-107 Substitute motions.**

- (1) A representative may, upon recognition by the presiding officer, make a substitute motion, which, if adopted by vote of a majority of the House, disposes of the original motion.
- (2) If the substitute motion is not adopted, the original motion is revived.
- (3) A representative may not make a substitute motion if:
  - (a) another substitute motion is pending; or
  - (b) a privileged motion is pending.

Amended by 1st Sub. H.R. 1, 2025 General Session

**HR4-6-108 Dividing a motion or question.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b)(i), if a motion or a question in debate contains several points, a representative may ask to have the question divided for purposes of the vote.
  - (b)
    - (i) A motion to strike out and insert is not subject to division.
    - (ii) Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(b)(i), the rejection of a motion to strike out and insert one proposition does not preclude a motion to strike out and insert a different proposition.
- (2) The request to divide must clearly state how the motion or question is to be divided.
- (3)
  - (a) The presiding officer shall determine how many divisions may be made to any motion or question.
  - (b) The House may seek to overrule the chair's decision only once.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR4-6-109 Motions in order during debate.**

- (1)
  - (a) When a motion or question is being debated, the presiding officer may not accept any other motion except a motion:
    - (i) to adjourn, which is nondebatable;
    - (ii) to determine the time to which to adjourn, which is debatable;
    - (iii) to recess, which is nondebatable;
    - (iv) to end debate (call the previous question), which is nondebatable and requires a two-thirds vote to pass;

- (v) to refer to a committee, which is debatable;
  - (vi) to limit debate, which is debatable;
  - (vii) to postpone to a time certain, which is debatable;
  - (viii) to circle, which is debatable;
  - (ix) to strike the enacting clause, which is debatable;
  - (x) to substitute, which is debatable; or
  - (xi) to amend, which is debatable.
- (b) Points of order and appeals of the decision of the presiding officer are not motions and are always in order.
  - (c) The presiding officer shall grant priority to the motions listed in Subsection (1)(a) according to the order in which they are listed in that rule.
- (2)
- (a) If an amendment or substitute to a piece of legislation has been proposed and is under consideration by the House, the presiding officer shall treat a motion to end debate (call the previous question) as directed only toward the amendment or substitute.
  - (b) If no motion to amend or substitute a piece of legislation has been made, the chair shall treat a motion to end debate (call the previous question) as directed toward action on the legislation itself.
- (3) If a motion to postpone a piece of legislation to a day certain or a motion to return a piece of legislation to the House Rules committee is defeated, a representative may not make the same motion on the same piece of legislation during the same reading of the legislation.
- (4) When a motion to refer to committee, to postpone to a time certain, or to circle is made, the presiding officer may not allow consideration of amendments or debate on the main question.
- (5) During a roll call, no motion or other business is in order except for a call of the House, until after the announcement of the result of the vote.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR4-6-109 Motions in order during debate.**

- (1)
- (a) When a motion or question is being debated, the presiding officer may not accept any other motion except a motion:
    - (i) to adjourn, which is nondebateable;
    - (ii) to determine the time at which to adjourn, which is debatable;
    - (iii) to recess or saunter, which is nondebateable;
    - (iv) to end debate (call the previous question), which is nondebateable and requires a two-thirds vote to pass;
    - (v) to refer to a committee, which is debatable;
    - (vi) to limit debate, which is debatable;
    - (vii) to postpone to a time certain, which is debatable;
    - (viii) to circle, which is debatable;
    - (ix) to strike the enacting clause, which is debatable;
    - (x) to substitute, which is debatable; or
    - (xi) to amend, which is debatable.
  - (b) Points of order and appeals of the decision of the presiding officer are not motions and are always in order.
  - (c) The presiding officer shall grant priority to the motions listed in Subsection (1)(a) according to the order in which they are listed in that rule.

- (2)
  - (a) If an amendment or substitute to a piece of legislation has been proposed and is under consideration by the House, the presiding officer shall treat a motion to end debate (call the previous question) as directed only toward the amendment or substitute.
  - (b) If no motion to amend or substitute a piece of legislation has been made, the chair shall treat a motion to end debate (call the previous question) as directed toward action on the legislation itself.
- (3) If a motion to postpone a piece of legislation to a day certain or a motion to return a piece of legislation to the House Rules committee is defeated, a representative may not make the same motion on the same piece of legislation during the same reading of the legislation.
- (4) When a motion to refer to committee, to postpone to a time certain, or to circle is made, the presiding officer may not allow consideration of amendments or debate on the main question.
- (5) During a roll call, no motion or other business is in order except for a call of the House, until after the announcement of the result of the vote.

Amended by H.R. 5, 2025 General Session

**HR4-6-110 Nondebatable motions.**

- (1) The presiding officer may not allow debate on a motion:
  - (a) to adjourn;
  - (b) to recess;
  - (c) to end debate (call the previous question); or
  - (d) to extend the time for debate.
- (2) The presiding officer shall decide all points of order arising from one of the above motions without debate.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR4-6-110 Privileged motions.**

- (1) A privileged motion:
  - (a) is non-debatable;
  - (b) is not a substitute motion; and
  - (c) subject to HR4-6-109, takes precedence over a non-privileged motion.
- (2) If a privileged motion is requested while another privileged motion is pending, the presiding officer shall grant priority to privileged motions in the following order:
  - (a) to adjourn;
  - (b) to recess;
  - (c) to end debate (call the previous question); or
  - (d) to extend the time for debate.
- (3) The presiding officer shall decide all points of order arising from one of the above privileged motions without debate.

Amended by 1st Sub. H.R. 1, 2025 General Session

**Part 2  
Specific Motions**

**HR4-6-201 Motion to adjourn.**

A motion to adjourn is always in order except:

- (1) when a vote is being taken;
- (2) when a previous motion to adjourn has been defeated and no intervening business has been transacted; or
- (3) when another representative has the floor.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR4-6-202 Motion to circle.**

- (1) A motion to circle legislation holds the legislation in place on the calendar.
- (2)
  - (a) A motion to circle preserves all amendments to the legislation already adopted by the House.
  - (b) A motion to circle extinguishes all amendments pending at the time that the motion is made.
- (3) Legislation that has been circled may only be uncircled by:
  - (a) the chief House sponsor of the legislation; or
  - (b) the representative designated by the chief Senate sponsor to be the House floor sponsor of the legislation.
- (4) When a motion to uncircle is made:
  - (a) amendments already adopted by the House are part of the legislation; and
  - (b) any pending motions to amend at the time the legislation was circled are extinguished and a new motion to amend must be made in order to revive them.
- (5) A motion to circle and a motion to uncircle require a majority vote to pass.

**HR4-6-203 Motion to strike the enacting clause.**

- (1) When a motion to strike the enacting clause passes by a constitutional majority, the bill from which the enacting clause was stricken is dead and may not be revived.
- (2) Nothing in this rule precludes a representative from introducing a new bill identical to the bill whose enacting clause was struck.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**Chapter 7  
Voting**

**Part 1  
General Requirements**

**HR4-7-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- (1)"Electronic vote" means that those representatives present vote using an electronic system that records and tallies their votes.
- (2)"Roll call vote" means a verbal voting process where:

- (a) the chief clerk or the chief clerk's designee verbally calls the name of each representative alphabetically, except the speaker, who is called last;
  - (b) each representative present votes "aye" or "no" when the representative's name is called;
  - (c) the chief clerk or the chief clerk's designee:
    - (i) tallies the vote;
    - (ii) records those representatives who are absent or not voting; and
    - (iii) gives a copy of the tally to the presiding officer; and
  - (d) the presiding officer announces the result of the vote.
- (3) "Voice vote" means a verbal voting process where the presiding officer:
- (a) poses the question to be voted upon in this form: "Those in favor (of the question) say aye." and "Those opposed, say no."; and
  - (b) based upon the representative's responses, announces that the question either passed or failed.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2021 General Session

#### **HR4-7-102 Number of votes required for passage.**

Unless otherwise specified in these rules:

- (1) each piece of legislation requires a constitutional majority vote -- 38 votes -- to pass;
- (2) amendments to the Utah Constitution, legislation described in Utah Constitution, Article VI, Section 25 that is intended to take effect earlier than 60 days after adjournment of the session in which it passes, amendments to court rules, and certain motions specified in these rules require a constitutional two-thirds vote -- 50 votes -- to pass; and
- (3) a motion requires a majority vote to pass.

#### **HR4-7-103 Voting -- Representatives required to vote -- Representatives must be present to vote.**

- (1)
  - (a) A representative present within the House chamber when a vote is being taken shall vote.
  - (b)
    - (i) The chief clerk may record the vote of any representative who is present in the House Chamber who requests assistance of the chief clerk.
    - (ii) The representative shall ensure that the electronic vote is recorded accurately.
  - (c) Each representative shall vote within the time limit fixed by the presiding officer.
  - (d) Immediately before an electronic vote or a roll call vote, a representative may, upon recognition by the presiding officer, make a brief statement explaining any conflict of interest.
- (2)
  - (a) A representative may not vote on a piece of legislation or motion unless the representative is present in the House chamber.
  - (b) No representative, or any other person, may vote on behalf of another representative. A representative is the only person authorized to use that representative's assigned voting device.
- (3) If the vote is by electronic vote or roll call vote, a representative entering the chamber after the question is posed, and before the presiding officer closes the vote or announces the result, may have the question stated and vote.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2017 General Session

**HR4-7-104 Disturbing House staff during voting prohibited.**

While an electronic vote or roll call vote is being taken, a person may not disturb or remain by the desks of House staff conducting or helping to conduct the roll call vote.

**HR4-7-105 Changing vote before vote is closed.**

A representative may change the representative's vote before the presiding officer closes the vote or announces the result.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR4-7-106 Voting or changing vote after the vote is closed.**

- (1) After the vote is announced or an electronic vote is closed, a representative may not vote or change the representative's vote unless:
  - (a) there is unanimous consent of the representatives present; and
  - (b) the result of the vote is not changed.
- (2) A representative wishing to vote or change the representative's vote after the vote has been taken on legislation or on a question shall, before the House begins the next order of business:
  - (a) seek and obtain recognition from the presiding officer; and
  - (b) make a motion for leave of the body to vote or to change the representative's vote.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**Part 2  
Voting Process**

**HR4-7-201 Means of voting -- Requirements.**

- (1) The presiding officer shall ensure that the vote on final passage of a piece of legislation is taken by electronic vote or roll call vote.
- (2) The presiding officer may place other questions to the House using a voice vote, an electronic vote, or a roll call vote.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR4-7-202 Placing the question -- Voice vote -- Division of the House.**

- (1) After taking a voice vote, if the presiding officer is in doubt about which side prevailed, the presiding officer may require the House to vote by electronic vote or roll call vote.
- (2)
  - (a) After taking a voice vote and announcing the results of the voice vote, a representative may call for division of the House without being recognized.
  - (b) If five or more members request a division of the House, the presiding officer shall require the House to vote by electronic vote or roll call vote.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session



**HR4-7-203 Placing the question -- Electronic vote -- Process.**

- (1) When conducting an electronic vote, the presiding officer shall announce that voting is open on the measure or question that is to be voted upon.
- (2)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), the chief clerk or the chief clerk's designee shall ensure that the electronic board identifies:
    - (i) the number of the piece of legislation being voted upon, if the vote is on a bill or resolution; or
    - (ii) by brief description, the nature of the matter being voted upon, if the vote is on a motion or question.
  - (b) If the legislation or matter cannot be electronically displayed, the presiding officer shall announce the measure at the time the presiding officer announces that voting is open.
- (3) The presiding officer may establish a specific time limit for voting.
- (4) The presiding officer shall announce that voting is closed and close the vote.
- (5) When an electronic vote is taken, the printed tally sheets are the official record of the vote.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**Chapter 8  
Call of the House**

**HR4-8-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, "call of the House" means the process by which the House may compel absent representatives to be present in the House chamber.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2021 General Session

**HR4-8-102 Initiating a call of the House.**

- (1) Subject to the requirements of this rule, a representative may, without being recognized by the presiding officer, demand a call of the House by verbally stating "call of the House."
- (2) After a representative demands a call of the House, the presiding officer shall say: "If 10 or more will stand, we will be in a call of the House."
- (3) If the presiding officer determines that 10 or more representatives demand a call of the House, the presiding officer shall order the call.

Amended by H.R. 4, 2013 General Session

**HR4-8-103 Effect of call of the House.**

- (1) Except for receiving and acting on the report of the sergeant-at-arms under HR4-8-104, the House may not transact any business during a call of the House.
- (2)
  - (a) During a call of the House, the presiding officer shall declare out of order each motion except:
    - (i) a motion to adjourn; or
    - (ii) a motion to lift the call of the House.
  - (b) The motions identified in Subsection (2)(a) must receive a majority vote from the representatives present to pass.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR4-8-104 Process for conducting a call of the House.**

- (1) During a call of the House:
  - (a) a representative present in the chamber may not leave the chamber; and
  - (b) the sergeant-at-arms or the sergeant's designees shall close the doors to the House chamber.
- (2) After ordering the call of the House, the presiding officer shall:
  - (a) identify any absent representatives; and
  - (b) provide the sergeant-at-arms with the names of those representatives who are absent but who have not asked to be excused.
- (3) The sergeant-at-arms or the sergeant's designees shall:
  - (a) search for the absent representatives;
  - (b) if they are found, escort them to the House chamber; and
  - (c) make a report to the House about the sergeant's efforts.

**HR4-8-105 Lifting the call of the House.**

- (1) The sergeant-at-arms may make a report on the call at any time.
- (2)
  - (a) If the presiding officer determines that all representatives are present or accounted for, the presiding officer may:
    - (i) order the call to be lifted without motion; or
    - (ii) recognize a representative for a motion to lift the call of the House.
  - (b) If the motion is approved by a majority of those present, the call of the House is lifted.
  - (c) If the motion is not approved, the sergeant-at-arms and the sergeant's designees shall continue searching for the absent representatives.
- (3) After the call is lifted:
  - (a) the sergeant-at-arms and the sergeant's designees shall open the doors of the House chamber; and
  - (b) the House shall proceed with the order of business that was pending when the call was ordered.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**Chapter 9**  
**Reconsideration of House Action**

**HR4-9-101 Motion to reconsider.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "legislative day" means a day when the House of Representatives convenes in the House chamber and conducts House business.
- (2)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3), when a question has been decided on the floor of the House, a representative voting with the prevailing side may move for reconsideration after intervening business.

- (b) If the motion to reconsider is to reconsider passage of a piece of legislation, the representative making the motion shall include the number and short title of the legislation as part of the motion.
- (c) If a motion for reconsideration is made on the floor of the House after a piece of legislation has left the possession of the House, the chief clerk shall request that the legislation be returned to the House.
- (d) The presiding officer shall rule a motion for reconsideration out of order unless the motion is made:
  - (i) before the 43rd legislative day;
  - (ii) before the House adjourns on the legislative day after the legislative day on which the action sought to be reconsidered occurred; and
  - (iii) by a representative who previously served notice to the chief clerk or the presiding officer.
- (3) A representative may not make a motion to reconsider after the 42nd day of the annual general session of the Legislature.

**HR4-9-102 Motion to reconsider -- Procedures.**

When a representative makes a motion to reconsider, the chief clerk or the chief clerk's designee shall:

- (1) ensure that the motion is recorded in the House Journal; and
- (2) retain the legislation in the possession of the House until the time for reconsideration has expired or until the legislation has been reconsidered.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2011 General Session

**HR4-9-103 Rules governing motions to reconsider.**

- (1) A motion to reconsider takes precedence over all other motions and questions, except a motion to adjourn.
- (2)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), a motion to reconsider is debatable.
  - (b) A motion to reconsider is nondebatable only if the action it seeks to reconsider is nondebatable.
- (3) When a motion to reconsider is made, the presiding officer shall:
  - (a) allow the proponents a total of five minutes to address the issue;
  - (b) allow the opponents a total of five minutes to address the issue; and
  - (c) allow the proponents one minute to sum up.
- (4)
  - (a) A motion to reconsider a vote on the final passage of a piece of legislation requires approval by a constitutional majority of representatives.
  - (b) Except as provided in HR4-4-401, upon adoption of a motion to reconsider and if the legislation is in possession of the House, the presiding officer shall ensure that the legislation is placed at the top of the third reading calendar.
  - (c) The House may not reconsider a piece of legislation more than once.

Amended by H.R. 2, 2024 General Session

## **Title HR5. Lobbyist Ethics and Enforcement**

### **Chapter 1 General Provisions**

#### **HR5-1-101 Definitions.**

As used in this House Rule:

- (1)
  - (a) "Government official" means:
    - (i) an individual elected to a position in state or local government when acting within the individual's official capacity; and
    - (ii) an individual appointed to or employed in a full-time or part-time position by state or local government when acting within the scope of employment or within the individual's official capacity.
  - (b) "Government official" does not mean a member of the legislative branch of state government.
- (2) "Lobbyist" has the meaning identified in Utah Code Subsections 36-11-102(11)(a) and (b).
- (3)
  - (a) "Volunteer lobbyist" means a person not registered as a lobbyist who engages in lobbying within the meaning of Utah Code Subsection 36-11-102(10).
  - (b) "Volunteer lobbyist" does not mean an individual who appears on the individual's own behalf to engage in lobbying within the meaning of Utah Code Subsection 36-11-102(10).

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

### **Chapter 2 Lobbyist Ethics**

#### **HR5-2-101 Lobbyist code of ethics.**

A lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official may not:

- (1) attempt to influence a representative, elected or appointed state official, state employee, or legislative employee by means of deceit or by threat of violence or economic or political reprisal against any person or property, with intent by doing so to alter or affect the representative's, elected or appointed state official's, state employee's, or legislative employee's decision, vote, opinion, or action concerning any matter that is to be considered or performed by the representative, official, or employee or the agency or body of which the representative, official, or employee is a member;
- (2) knowingly provide false information to a representative, elected or appointed state official, state employee, or legislative employee as to any material fact pertaining to any legislation;
- (3) knowingly omit, conceal, or falsify in any manner information required by the lobbyist registration and lobbyist disclosure reports;
- (4) participate in committee assignments or leadership races of the House of Representatives;
- (5) cause or influence the introduction of any piece of legislation, substitute, or amendment for the purpose of afterwards becoming employed to secure its passage or defeat;
- (6) misappropriate or misuse legislative office supplies;
- (7) use legislative reproduction or facsimile machines without paying for that use;

- (8) enter or use a representative's, elected or appointed state official's, state employee's, or legislative employee's office, phone, computer, or parking space without explicit permission;
- (9) attempt to remove or remove any document from any representative's or legislative employee's office, desk, file cabinet, reproduction machine, facsimile machine, or any other place without explicit permission;
- (10) engage in sexually harassing behavior or behavior violating the state's sexual harassment policy toward representatives or employees of the Legislature;
- (11) offer employment to a representative or legislative employee that impairs the representative's or legislative employee's independence of judgement as to their official duties;
- (12) offer employment that would require or induce a representative or legislative employee to disclose records classified as private, protected, or controlled;
- (13) use or disclose for personal financial gain any records classified as private, protected, or controlled that were obtained from a representative or legislative employee or conspire with any person for that purpose; or
- (14) induce or seek to induce a representative or legislative employee to commit a violation of any provision of this House rule.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR5-2-101 Lobbyist code of ethics.**

A lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official may not:

- (1) attempt to influence a representative, elected or appointed state official, state employee, or legislative employee by means of deceit or by threat of violence or economic or political reprisal against any person or property, with intent by doing so to alter or affect the representative's, elected or appointed state official's, state employee's, or legislative employee's decision, vote, opinion, or action concerning any matter that is to be considered or performed by the representative, official, or employee or the agency or body of which the representative, official, or employee is a member;
- (2) knowingly provide false information to a representative, elected or appointed state official, state employee, or legislative employee as to any material fact pertaining to any legislation;
- (3) knowingly omit, conceal, or falsify in any manner information required by the lobbyist registration and lobbyist disclosure reports;
- (4) participate in committee assignments or leadership races of the House of Representatives;
- (5) cause or influence the introduction of any piece of legislation, substitute, or amendment for the purpose of afterwards becoming employed to secure its passage or defeat;
- (6) misappropriate or misuse legislative office supplies;
- (7) use legislative reproduction or facsimile machines without paying for that use;
- (8) enter or use a representative's, elected or appointed state official's, state employee's, or legislative employee's office, phone, computer, or parking space without explicit permission;
- (9) attempt to remove or remove any document from any representative's or legislative employee's office, desk, file cabinet, reproduction machine, facsimile machine, or any other place without explicit permission;
- (10) engage in discriminatory conduct, as defined in Legislative Management Committee Policy E -- Legislative Workplace Discrimination Prevention, toward a representative or legislative employee;
- (11) offer employment to a representative or legislative employee that impairs the representative's or legislative employee's independence of judgement as to their official duties;

- (12) offer employment that would require or induce a representative or legislative employee to disclose records classified as private, protected, or controlled;
- (13) use or disclose for personal financial gain any records classified as private, protected, or controlled that were obtained from a representative or legislative employee or conspire with any person for that purpose; or
- (14) induce or seek to induce a representative or legislative employee to commit a violation of any provision of this House rule.

Amended by 1st Sub. H.R. 1, 2025 General Session

### **Chapter 3**

#### **Enforcement of Lobbyist Code of Ethics**

##### **HR5-3-101 Enforcement -- Written complaint.**

- (1) To initiate an ethics complaint against a lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official who has violated the lobbyist code of ethics established in HR5-2-101, three representatives shall file a written complaint with the speaker of the House, the House minority leader, and the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official who is the subject of the complaint.
- (2) The written complaint shall contain:
  - (a) the name and address of each of the three representatives who are filing the complaint;
  - (b) the name of the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official who is the subject of the complaint;
  - (c) the nature of the alleged violation, citing specifically to the provisions of HR5-2-101 that the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official is alleged to have violated;
  - (d) all documents that support the complaint as an attachment to it; and
  - (e) the facts alleged to support the complaint.
- (3)
  - (a) A complaint filed under this rule is a protected record under Utah Code Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act, until referred to the House Management Committee for action, because disclosure of the information in the complaint would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy and that disclosure is not in the public interest.
  - (b) A complaint filed under this rule that is dismissed by the speaker and minority leader is a protected record under Utah Code Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act, because disclosure of the information in the complaint would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy and that disclosure is not in the public interest.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

##### **HR5-3-102 Enforcement -- Speaker review -- Minority leader review.**

- (1)
  - (a) After receiving the complaint, the speaker shall meet with the representatives who filed the complaint, the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official who is the subject of the complaint, and any other persons who have relevant information about the complaint.
  - (b) In that meeting, the speaker may choose to meet with those persons together or separately.

- (2)
  - (a) After the meeting, the speaker shall inform the minority leader that the speaker recommends that:
    - (i) the complaint be dismissed;
    - (ii) the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official be privately chastised and the complaint be dismissed; or
    - (iii) the House Management Committee be convened to hear the complaint.
  - (b)
    - (i) After receipt of the speaker's recommendation, the minority leader shall meet with the representatives who filed the complaint, the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official who is the subject of the complaint, and any other persons who have relevant information about the complaint.
    - (ii) In that meeting, the minority leader may choose to meet with those persons together or separately.
  - (c) After the meeting, the minority leader shall prepare a letter informing the speaker that the minority leader:
    - (i) concurs in the speaker's recommendation for disposition of the complaint; or
    - (ii) does not concur in the speaker's recommendation for disposition of the complaint.
  - (d) If the minority leader concurs in the speaker's recommendation, the speaker shall implement the decision.
  - (e) If the minority leader does not concur in the speaker's recommendation, the speaker shall, within 30 days after having received the written complaint, convene the House Management Committee to hear the complaint.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR5-3-103 Enforcement -- Hearing -- Staff.**

- (1) If the speaker must convene the House Management Committee, the speaker shall, after consultation with the House minority leader, schedule a House Management Committee meeting to adjudicate the complaint.
- (2)
  - (a) The committee must comply with the procedures and requirements of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act, including the procedures and requirements for closing a meeting.
  - (b) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall staff the committee.
- (3)
  - (a) At the hearing, the committee shall review the complaint.
  - (b) The committee may allow the representatives who filed the complaint to address and be questioned by the committee.
  - (c) The committee shall provide the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official who is the subject of the complaint with the opportunity to address and be questioned by the committee.
  - (d) The committee may allow other persons with information relevant to the complaint to address and be questioned by the committee.
  - (e)
    - (i) The complainants, the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official, and any witness appearing before the committee may have legal counsel present.

- (ii) That counsel may privately advise their client about the client's legal rights when specifically requested to do so by their client, but may not address the committee, ask questions of any party or witness, or engage in oral arguments with the committee.
- (iii) If counsel fails to abide by any of these rules, the committee may exclude the counsel from the meeting.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**HR5-3-104 Enforcement -- Penalty.**

- (1) If the House Management Committee determines by a preponderance of the evidence that the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official has violated one or more provisions of HR5-2-101, the committee may impose any sanction against the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official that is not forbidden by the United States Constitution or the Utah Constitution.
- (2) Appropriate sanctions include, but are not limited to, any, all, or some combination of the following:
  - (a) prohibiting the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official from access to some or all of the legislative area of the state capitol for a period of time; and
  - (b) recommending an adjudicative proceeding be filed with the lieutenant governor against the lobbyist under Utah Code Title 36, Chapter 11, Part 4, Penalties and Statutory Construction.

Enacted by H.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**Chapter 4**  
**Approved Meeting or Activity**

**HR5-4-101 Approved activities.**

- (1) This rule governs the designation of an approved activity as authorized by Utah Code Title 36, Chapter 11, Lobbyist Disclosure and Regulation Act.
- (2) Consistent with Utah Code Section 36-11-102, an "approved activity" means an event, a tour, or a meeting:
  - (a) to which a representative is invited; and
  - (b) at which the representative's attendance is approved by the speaker of the House.



## Joint Rules

### Title JR1. Joint Rules Governing General Legislative Organization and Process

#### Chapter 1 Rules of Procedure

##### **JR1-1-101 Sources governing legislative procedure.**

Rules of legislative procedure are derived from several sources and take precedence in the following order:

- (1) constitutional provisions, statutory provisions, and case law;
- (2) these legislative rules;
- (3) custom, usage, and practice; and
- (4) Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure.

Enacted by H.J.R. 9, 2006 General Session

##### **JR1-1-102 Adoption of legislative rules.**

- (1)
  - (a) At the beginning of each legislative session, the Legislature shall adopt Joint Rules by a constitutional two-thirds vote of all senators and representatives.
  - (b) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(c), after the initial adoption of Joint Rules, the Legislature may adopt additional Joint Rules or amend or repeal existing Joint Rules by a constitutional majority vote.
  - (c) The Legislature may adopt or amend a Joint Rule that includes a voting requirement of more than a constitutional majority only by a constitutional two-thirds vote of all senators and representatives.
- (2) The Senate and House Rules Committees shall:
  - (a) meet before each annual general session of the Legislature convenes;
  - (b) review Joint Rules; and
  - (c) recommend to the Legislature any modifications that they consider necessary.

##### **JR1-1-102 Adoption of legislative rules.**

- (1) At the beginning of each legislative session, the Legislature shall adopt Joint Rules by a constitutional two-thirds vote of all senators and representatives.
- (2) Except as provided in Subsection (3), after the initial adoption of Joint Rules, the Legislature may adopt additional Joint Rules or amend or repeal existing Joint Rules by a constitutional majority vote.
- (3) The Legislature may adopt or amend a Joint Rule that includes a voting requirement of more than a constitutional majority only by a constitutional two-thirds vote of all senators and representatives.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

##### **JR1-1-103 Legislative general counsel to correct certain technical errors in legislative rules.**

The legislative general counsel may correct technical errors in the Rules of the Utah Legislature in preparing the rules for publication, including:

- (1) adopting a uniform system of punctuation, capitalization, numbering, or wording;
- (2) eliminating duplication or the repeal of rules directly or by implication, including renumbering when necessary;
- (3) correcting defective or inconsistent rule or paragraph structure in the arrangement of the subject matter of existing rules;
- (4) eliminating obsolete or redundant words;
- (5) correcting obvious errors or inconsistencies, including those involving punctuation, capitalization, cross references, numbering, or wording;
- (6) changing the boldface to more accurately reflect the substance of each rule, part, chapter, or title; and
- (7) merging or determining priority of any amendments, enactments, or repealers to the same rule provisions.

**JR1-1-104 Single chamber's authority to suspend Joint Rules.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a single chamber may not suspend a Joint Rule.
- (2) A single chamber may suspend by motion and majority vote one or more of the following rules:
  - (a) JR2-1-103;
  - (b) JR4-3-103(2);
  - (c) JR4-3-105;
  - (d) JR4-3-302;
  - (e) JR4-4-101(2)(b);
  - (f) JR4-4-201; or
  - (g) JR4-4-202.
- (3) A motion and vote under Subsection (2) is valid only if the legislator making the motion identifies in the motion each rule the legislator intends to suspend.

Enacted by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR1-1-104 Single chamber's authority to suspend Joint Rules.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a single chamber may not suspend a Joint Rule.
- (2) A single chamber may suspend by motion and majority vote one or more of the following rules:
  - (a) JR2-1-103;
  - (b) JR4-3-103(2);
  - (c) JR4-3-105;
  - (d) JR4-3-302;
  - (e) JR4-4-101(3)(b);
  - (f) JR4-4-201; or
  - (g) JR4-4-202.
- (3) A motion and vote under Subsection (2) is valid only if the legislator making the motion identifies in the motion each rule the legislator intends to suspend.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

## Chapter 2 Convening and Adjourning the Legislature

### Part 1 Convening the Legislature

#### **JR1-2-101 Convening the Legislature -- Process -- Date.**

- (1) The Legislature shall convene:
- (a) on the date set by the Utah Constitution for the beginning of the annual general session;
  - (b) on the date set by the governor in the proclamation that calls the Legislature into special session; or
  - (c) on the date set by joint proclamation of the president and the speaker that convenes the Legislature into special session.
- (2) The Legislature shall convene by:
- (a) each chamber being called to order;
  - (b) having an invocation;
  - (c) reciting the pledge of allegiance;
  - (d) reading the certificates of election and giving the oath of office to legislators, if necessary;
  - (e) calling the roll and declaring whether or not a quorum is present;
  - (f) electing a presiding officer, if necessary;
  - (g) appointing standing committees, if necessary;
  - (h) adopting rules;
  - (i) giving and receiving the notifications required in JR1-2-102 and JR1-2-103; and
  - (j) introducing bills.
- (3) Nothing in this rule:
- (a) requires the Senate or House to perform the items in this rule in a particular order; or
  - (b) prohibits the Senate or House from adding or deleting items.
- (4) The daily order of business set forth in SR1-5-103 and HR1-5-103 governs on all legislative days other than the day on which the Legislature convenes.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

#### **JR1-2-102 Notification of organization of each chamber.**

Immediately after the organization of the Senate and House of Representatives at the beginning of each session of the Legislature, each chamber shall appoint a committee composed of three legislators to notify the other chamber that it is organized and ready to transact business.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

#### **JR1-2-103 Joint committee to notify governor.**

Upon a motion of the respective chambers, a joint committee consisting of three senators and three representatives shall be appointed to inform the governor personally that both chambers of the Legislature:

- (1) have convened and are organized; and
- (2) are ready to receive any communications from the governor.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

## **Part 2 Adjourning the Legislature**

### **JR1-2-201 Consent of other chamber required.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), each chamber may adjourn from day to day until:
  - (a) the constitutional time limit for an annual general session or special session expires;
  - (b) the Legislature is dissolved because the terms of office of a majority of the members of the legislative body have expired; or
  - (c) the Legislature adjourns sine die.
- (2) As provided in Utah Constitution, Article VI, Section 15, neither chamber may adjourn for more than three days unless the other chamber consents by majority vote.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

### **JR1-2-202 Adjournment sine die.**

- (1)
  - (a) If the Legislature is meeting until midnight on the last day of any session, the speaker and the president shall, at midnight, announce the time to the members of their respective chambers.
  - (b) Each chamber shall cease its business at midnight.
- (2) The Legislature shall adjourn sine die after:
  - (a) a committee from each chamber has notified the opposite chamber that they have completed their work;
  - (b) a joint committee has notified the governor that the Legislature has completed its work; and
  - (c) the governor has informed the joint committee that the governor has nothing further to present to the Legislature.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

## **Chapter 3 Record and Distribution of Legislative Action**

### **Part 1 Recording Legislative Action**

#### **JR1-3-101 Secretary and chief clerk to keep records of action.**

- (1) The secretary of the Senate and the chief clerk of the House, or their designees, shall record on each bill's jacket each action on every bill or resolution taken by the Senate and House of Representatives.
- (2)
  - (a) The Senate secretary or her designee shall ensure that adopted Senate amendments are inserted in the bill on goldenrod paper.
  - (b) The chief clerk of the House or her designee shall ensure that adopted House amendments are inserted in the bill on lilac paper.

Enacted by H.J.R. 9, 2006 General Session

**JR1-3-102 Senate and House Journals.**

- (1) Each chamber shall:
  - (a) keep a journal of the chamber's proceedings;
  - (b) publish the journal daily;
  - (c) ensure that the journal is continuous during the legislative session, with pages numbered in consecutive order;
  - (d) ensure that the vote on final passage of each bill is by yeas and nays and is entered upon the journal;
  - (e) ensure that the vote on any other question is by yeas and nays and is entered upon the journal at the request of five members of that chamber; and
  - (f) base the journal upon the record of the proceedings taken by the reading or docket clerk and the electronic recording of those proceedings.
- (2) The secretary of the Senate and the chief clerk of the House of Representatives shall provide a final certification of the journal for their respective chamber.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**Part 2  
Use of Legislative Seal**

**JR1-3-201 Authorized use of legislative seal.**

- (1) As used in this rule:
  - (a) "Legislative business" means activities performed by a legislator, during the legislator's term of office that are within the course and scope of the work of a legislator.
  - (b) "Legislative business" includes the use of the legislative seal on letterhead, memoranda, facsimile cover sheets, news releases, and other materials.
  - (c) "Legislative seal" means the emblem of the Utah State Senate or Utah House of Representatives designed and adopted by each body to authenticate official communications of the body or its members.
- (2)
  - (a) Each legislator shall ensure that, in using the legislative seal, the reputation and integrity of the legislative institution is preserved.
  - (b) A legislator may use the legislative seal for legislative business on personalized legislative stationary, business cards, and on other documents.
  - (c) The legislative seal may not be used on any political campaign materials.
  - (d) A person may not use the seal for any purpose once the person ceases to be a legislator.
- (3) The Senate and House shall provide to a member, upon request, an electronic or camera-ready copy of the legislative seal.

Enacted by H.J.R. 9, 2006 General Session

## **Chapter 4 Miscellaneous Rules**

### **Part 2 Working Meals**

#### **JR1-4-201 Working meals -- Reimbursement to staff offices.**

- (1) A legislative staff office may purchase a meal for a legislator who is working with the staff on legislative duties through a mealtime subject to the rate limitations provided under JR5-2-102.
- (2) The House, Senate, another legislative staff office, or a legislator, may reimburse a legislative staff office for a meal provided under Subsection (1).

Enacted by S.J.R. 11, 2015 General Session

### **Part 3 Unlawful Harassment**

#### **JR1-4-301 News media -- Unlawful harassment.**

- (1) Beginning on January 1, 2019, in order to obtain or maintain House or Senate press credentials, a member of the news media shall:
  - (a) on an annual basis, take online training provided by the Legislature on unlawful harassment; and
  - (b) sign a document indicating that the member has received a copy of, and agrees to abide by, the Legislature's policy on unlawful harassment.
- (2)
  - (a) A member of the news media is prohibited from engaging in unlawful harassment of a member, employee, or volunteer of the Legislature.
  - (b) The Legislature may revoke a member of the media's press credentials, or take other remedial action, if the member of the media violates Subsection (2)(a) or otherwise violates the Legislature's harassment policy.

#### **JR1-4-301 News media -- Discriminatory conduct.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "discriminatory conduct" means the same as that term is defined in Legislative Management Committee Policy E -- Legislative Workplace Discrimination Prevention.
- (2) In order to obtain or maintain House or Senate press credentials, a member of the news media shall:
  - (a) on an annual basis, take online training provided by the Legislature on discriminatory conduct; and
  - (b) sign a document indicating that the member has received a copy of, and agrees to abide by, Legislative Management Committee Policy E -- Legislative Workplace Discrimination Prevention.
- (3) A member of the news media is prohibited from engaging in discriminatory conduct toward a member or legislative employee.

- (4) The Legislature may revoke a member of the media's press credentials, or take other remedial action, if the member of the media violates Subsection (3) or otherwise violates Legislative Management Committee Policy E -- Legislative Workplace Discrimination Prevention.

Amended by H.J.R. 4, 2025 General Session

## **Part 4 Electronic Meetings**

### **JR1-4-401 Definitions.**

As used in this part:

- (1) "Anchor location" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 52-4-103.
- (2) "Electronic meeting" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 52-4-103.
- (3) "Emergency electronic meeting" means an electronic meeting described in Utah Code Subsection 52-4-207(5).
- (4) "Legislative public body" means a public body as defined in Utah Code Section 52-4-103 that is governed by legislative rules.
- (5) "Meeting" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 52-4-103.
- (6) "Participate" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 52-4-103.
- (7)
  - (a) "Presiding officer" means the individual presiding over the Senate or the House of Representatives.
  - (b) "Presiding officer" includes:
    - (i) for the Senate:
      - (A) the president;
      - (B) the president pro tempore; and
      - (C) any senator presiding under SR1-3-103; and
    - (ii) for the House of Representatives:
      - (A) the speaker;
      - (B) the speaker pro tempore; and
      - (C) any representative presiding under HR1-3-103.
- (8) "Specified reason" means:
  - (a) illness or injury of a member or a member's relative;
  - (b) health or safety concerns of a member or a member's relative;
  - (c) emergency travel;
  - (d) an emergency work related issue;
  - (e) an emergency child care related issue;
  - (f) a mandatory action day or a special circumstance day as those terms are defined in Utah Code Section 63A-17-111; or
  - (g) a circumstance similar to the circumstances described in Subsections (8)(a) through (f).

### **JR1-4-402 Meeting format and participation -- Electronic meeting policy.**

- (1) In accordance with this part and Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act, a legislative public body may convene and conduct a meeting of the legislative public body as an electronic meeting, subject to budget, public policy, and logistical considerations.

- (2)
  - (a) Except as allowed under this rule, a member of a legislative public body who attends a meeting of the legislative public body, including an electronic meeting, shall attend the meeting in person.
  - (b) A member of a legislative public body may attend an electronic meeting of the legislative public body by electronic means only if the member:
    - (i) has a specified reason; and
    - (ii) informs:
      - (A) the presiding officer or the presiding officer's designee; or
      - (B) the chair or the chair's designee.
  - (c) A legislative public body shall provide a description of how to electronically connect to an electronic meeting:
    - (i) to each member authorized to attend the meeting by electronic means under Subsection (2)(b); and
    - (ii)
      - (A) 24 hours before the meeting is scheduled to begin; or
      - (B) if it is impracticable to comply with the 24-hour requirement in Subsection (2)(c)(ii)(A), as soon as possible before the meeting begins.
- (3) The presiding officer or the chair of a legislative public body shall conduct an electronic meeting of the legislative public body from the anchor location.
- (4) When a legislative public body convenes an electronic meeting, a member of the legislative public body is considered present for all purposes, including determining a quorum, only if the member is:
  - (a) present in person at the anchor location; or
  - (b) participating in the meeting by electronic means.
- (5) When a member of a legislative public body attends a meeting of the legislative public body by electronic means in accordance with this part, the member shall ensure that:
  - (a) if participating via video conference, the member's attire and appearance are consistent with the attire and appearance that would be expected if the member were attending the meeting in person; and
  - (b) the member's location:
    - (i) reflects the dignity of the meeting, particularly if the member is attending via video conference; and
    - (ii) is free from any sight or noise that:
      - (A) can be seen or heard by others during the meeting; and
      - (B) is extraneous, distracting, disruptive, or inappropriate.
- (6) A member of a legislative public body may not attend a meeting by electronic means while engaging in any activity that would be abnormal or prohibited if the member were attending the meeting in person, including operating a motor vehicle.
- (7) In accordance with Utah Code Section 52-4-207, a legislative public body that convenes and conducts an electronic meeting may provide a means by which members of the public who are not physically present at the anchor location may attend the meeting by electronic means.
- (8) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this rule:
  - (a) any member of a legislative public body may attend an emergency electronic meeting by electronic means; and
  - (b) the presiding officer or the chair of a legislative public body may conduct an emergency electronic meeting of the legislative public body remotely by electronic means.



**JR1-4-402 Meeting format and participation -- Electronic meeting policy.**

- (1) In accordance with this part and Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act, a legislative public body may convene and conduct a meeting of the legislative public body as an electronic meeting, subject to budget, public policy, and logistical considerations.
- (2)
  - (a) Except as allowed under this rule, a member of a legislative public body who attends a meeting of the legislative public body, including an electronic meeting, shall attend the meeting in person.
  - (b) A member of a legislative public body may attend an electronic meeting of the legislative public body by electronic means only if the member:
    - (i) has a specified reason; and
    - (ii) informs:
      - (A) the presiding officer or the presiding officer's designee; or
      - (B) the chair or the chair's designee.
  - (c) A legislative public body shall provide a description of how to electronically connect to an electronic meeting:
    - (i) to each member authorized to attend the meeting by electronic means under Subsection (2)(b); and
    - (ii)
      - (A) 24 hours before the meeting is scheduled to begin; or
      - (B) if it is impracticable to comply with the 24-hour requirement in Subsection (2)(c)(ii)(A), as soon as possible before the meeting begins.
- (3) The presiding officer or the chair of a legislative public body shall conduct an electronic meeting of the legislative public body from the anchor location.
- (4) When a legislative public body convenes an electronic meeting, a member of the legislative public body is considered present for all purposes, including determining a quorum, only if the member is:
  - (a) present in person at the anchor location; or
  - (b) participating in the meeting by electronic means.
- (5) When a member of a legislative public body attends a meeting of the legislative public body by electronic means in accordance with this part, the member shall ensure that:
  - (a) if participating via video conference, the member's attire and appearance are consistent with the attire and appearance that would be expected if the member were attending the meeting in person; and
  - (b) the member's location:
    - (i) reflects the dignity of the meeting, particularly if the member is attending via video conference; and
    - (ii) is free from any sight or noise that:
      - (A) can be seen or heard by others during the meeting; and
      - (B) is extraneous, distracting, disruptive, or inappropriate.
- (6) A member of a legislative public body may not attend a meeting by electronic means while engaging in any activity that would be abnormal or prohibited if the member were attending the meeting in person, including operating a motor vehicle.
- (7) In accordance with Utah Code Section 52-4-207:
  - (a) a legislative public body that convenes and conducts an electronic meeting may provide a means by which members of the public who are not physically present at the anchor location may attend the meeting by electronic means; and

(b) a chair, or a legislative body by majority vote, may direct a roll call vote during an electronic meeting.

(8) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this rule:

(a) any member of a legislative public body may attend an emergency electronic meeting by electronic means; and

(b) the presiding officer or the chair of a legislative public body may conduct an emergency electronic meeting of the legislative public body remotely by electronic means.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

## **Part 5 Congressional Vacancies**

### **JR1-4-501 Legislative recommendations to temporarily fill a vacancy in office of United States senator.**

(1) If a vacancy occurs in the office of United States senator, the Legislature shall, in accordance with this rule and Utah Code Subsection 20A-1-502(4), nominate three individuals, one of whom the governor will appoint to temporarily fill the vacancy.

(2) The Legislative Management Committee shall:

(a) adopt a joint resolution proposing three or more names to the Legislature to consider for nomination;

(b) determine which chamber of the Legislature will first consider the resolution; and

(c) assign a floor sponsor for the resolution in each chamber.

(3) The Legislature shall, by majority vote of each chamber, submit a final resolution, containing the names of only three individuals, to the governor as the Legislature's nominees.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

## **Part 6 Performance Reporting and Government Efficiency Improvement Process**

### **JR1-4-601 Definitions.**

As used in this part:

(1) "Appropriated entity" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 63J-1-902.

(2) "Efficiency evaluation" means an evaluation of a government process identified for efficiency improvements under this part.

(3) "Government process" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 63J-1-902.

(4) "Legislative office" means:

(a) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel;

(b) the Office of the Legislative Auditor General;

(c) the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst; or

(d) Legislative Services.

(5) "Performance measure" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 63J-1-902.

(6) "Product or service" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 63J-1-902.

**JR1-4-602 Performance reporting.**

Each legislative office shall:

- (1) develop performance measures to include in an appropriations act for each fiscal year; and
- (2) annually submit to the Subcommittee on Oversight created in Utah Code Section 36-12-8.1 a report that contains:
  - (a) any recommendations for legislative changes for the next fiscal year to the office's previously adopted performance measures; and
  - (b) the final status of the office's performance measures included in the appropriations act for the fiscal year ending the previous June 30.

**JR1-4-602 Performance reporting.**

Each legislative office shall:

- (1) develop performance measures to include in an appropriations act for each fiscal year; and
- (2) annually submit to the Legislative Management Committee created in Utah Code Section 36-12-6 a report that contains:
  - (a) any recommendations for legislative changes for the next fiscal year to the office's previously adopted performance measures; and
  - (b) the final status of the office's performance measures included in the appropriations act for the fiscal year ending the previous June 30.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR1-4-603 Efficiency improvement process.**

- (1)
  - (a) When conducting an efficiency evaluation under this rule, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst may work with the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget and the appropriated entity that administers the government process to identify:
    - (i) any operational inefficiencies in the government process and ways to eliminate the inefficiencies;
    - (ii) rewards or incentives for implementing recommendations of the efficiency evaluation; and
    - (iii) any misalignment in the appropriated entity's products or services in relation to the appropriated entity's adopted performance measures.
  - (b) The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall report to the Office of the Legislative Auditor General the results of each efficiency evaluation.
- (2)
  - (a) The Office of the Legislative Auditor General shall independently review the results of each efficiency evaluation and may conduct initial survey work.
  - (b) Based on the review described in Subsection (2)(a), the Office of the Legislative Auditor General may recommend to the Audit Subcommittee created in Utah Code Section 36-12-8 that the Office of the Legislative Auditor General conducts an in-depth audit of the appropriated entity.
  - (c) The Office of the Legislative Auditor General shall provide a copy of any in-depth audit to the Audit Subcommittee created in Utah Code Section 36-12-8 for referral to a legislative committee or appropriations subcommittee.

- (3) Upon receipt of an in-depth audit under Subsection (2)(c):
  - (a) a legislative interim committee shall:
    - (i) review the appropriated entity that is the subject of the in-depth audit; and
    - (ii) if appropriate, recommend to the Legislature any legislation to improve the efficiency of the appropriated entity; and
  - (b) a legislative appropriations subcommittee shall:
    - (i) review the appropriated entity that is the subject of the in-depth audit;
    - (ii) determine whether the appropriated entity is appropriately using the appropriated entity's state funds; and
    - (iii) if appropriate, recommend to the Legislature any budgetary changes to improve the efficiency of the appropriated entity.
- (4) As part of the efficiency improvement process described in this rule, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst or the Office of the Legislative Auditor General may, in consultation with the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget:
  - (a) recommend that an appropriated entity receives training; or
  - (b) provide training to the appropriated entity.
- (5) The efficiency improvement process described in this rule does not apply to a legislative department government process.

## **Part 7 Personnel**

### **JR1-4-701 Annual performance evaluation of professional staff directors and general counsel.**

Before July 1 each year the president and speaker shall:

- (1) in consultation with the Senate minority leader and the House minority leader, conduct a performance evaluation of the legislative auditor general, the legislative fiscal analyst, the director of the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, and the legislative general counsel; and
- (2) set compensation for the legislative auditor general, the legislative fiscal analyst, the director of the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, and the legislative general counsel for the upcoming fiscal year.

Enacted by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

## **Title JR2. Special Sessions and Veto Override Session**

### **Chapter 1 Special Sessions**

**JR2-1-101 Annual general session rules apply.**

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, rules adopted or amended by each chamber of the Legislature during the immediately preceding annual general session, and any intervening session, apply to the conduct of that chamber during a special session.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR2-1-102 Introduction of bills.**

Legislation authorized by the governor's special session proclamation or by joint proclamation of the president and the speaker may be introduced in either chamber at any time during a special session of the Legislature.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR2-1-103 Motion to reconsider.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), during a special session, a senator may make a motion to reconsider in accordance with Senate Rules governing floor procedures and a representative may make a motion to reconsider in accordance with House Rules governing floor procedures.
- (2) The following provisions do not apply to a motion to reconsider made during a special session:
  - (a) SR4-9-101(2)(c) and (3); and
  - (b) HR4-9-101(2)(d) and (3).

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

## **Chapter 2 Veto Override Sessions**

### **Part 1 General Veto Override Procedures**

**JR2-2-101 Veto override process.**

- (1) A bill passed by the Legislature and vetoed by the governor shall be reconsidered first in the chamber of origin of the bill.
- (2)
  - (a) When a vetoed bill is returned to the House or Senate by the governor, it shall be placed on the third reading calendar.
  - (b) The Legislature may not amend or otherwise modify a vetoed bill or item of appropriation.
- (3) If a constitutional two-thirds of the members elected to the first chamber vote to pass the bill, it shall be sent to the other chamber, together with the governor's objections.
- (4) If a constitutional two-thirds of the members elected to the other chamber approve the bill, the bill becomes law.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

### **Part 2 Veto Override Sessions**

**JR2-2-201 Poll to convene and calling a veto override session.**

- (1)
  - (a) If the Legislature is prevented by adjournment sine die from reconsidering any vetoed bill or item of appropriation vetoed by the governor, the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House shall poll their respective members by mail or other means to determine if the Legislature shall convene to reconsider vetoed legislation.
  - (b) Each member shall respond to the poll in writing, by telephone, or other available means.
- (2)
  - (a) The president and speaker shall notify the governor about the results of the poll.
  - (b) The sponsor of a bill being considered for the veto override shall be provided, upon request, the itemized list of how each legislator responded to the poll.
- (3)
  - (a) If two-thirds of the members of each chamber are in favor of convening a veto override session, the Legislature shall convene in a veto override session not to exceed five calendar days, at a time agreed upon by the president and speaker.
  - (b) A veto override session, if called, shall be convened prior to 60 days after the adjournment of the session at which the bill or appropriation item under consideration was passed.
- (4)
  - (a) The presiding officers shall issue the call of the veto override session of the Legislature to their members.
  - (b) The call shall contain a list of each bill and appropriation item vetoed by the governor and the date and time for convening the veto override session.
- (5) The Legislature shall consider the vetoed bills and appropriation items according to the process outlined in JR2-2-101.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR2-2-202 Scope.**

The Legislature may consider only bills or appropriation items vetoed by the governor and may not consider any bill or appropriation item that was not vetoed by the governor.

Enacted by H.J.R. 9, 2006 General Session

**JR2-2-203 Rules governing.**

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the rules adopted by each chamber of the Legislature during the immediately preceding annual general session apply to the conduct of that chamber during a veto override session.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**Title JR3. Joint Conventions and Joint Committees**

**Chapter 1**

## Joint Conventions

### **JR3-1-101 Process for calling and conducting -- Scope.**

- (1)
  - (a)The president of the Senate and the speaker of the House may, by mutual consent, call joint conventions of the two chambers and shall include in the call the purpose for which the joint convention is called.
  - (b)Joint conventions shall be held in the chambers of the House of Representatives, with the president of the Senate presiding.
- (2)At the time fixed for the joint convention:
  - (a)the House of Representatives shall prepare to receive the Senate; and
  - (b)the Senate shall proceed to the chamber of the House of Representatives.
- (3)The secretary of the Senate and the chief clerk of the House of Representatives shall:
  - (a)act as secretaries of the joint convention; and
  - (b)enter the proceedings of the convention in the journal of at least one chamber.
- (4)At a joint convention, members of either chamber may not engage in the transaction of any business other than that for which they were assembled.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

### **JR3-1-102 Rules governing joint conventions.**

- (1)The House Rules govern the proceedings in joint convention except those House Rules that are clearly not applicable.
- (2)
  - (a)Absent House members may be compelled to attend joint conventions under House Rules.
  - (b)Absent Senate members may be compelled to attend joint conventions under Senate Rules.
  - (c)The sergeant-at-arms of each chamber shall attend joint conventions to compel the attendance of absent members if called upon.
- (3)Joint conventions may adjourn from time to time as necessary.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

## Chapter 2 Joint Committees

### Part 1 General Rules Governing Joint Committees

#### **JR3-2-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- (1)"Accountable process budget" means a budget that is created by starting from zero and adding line items and programs recommended through an accountable budget process.
- (2)"Accountable budget process" means a review of a line item or program in a simple base budget to determine whether or the extent to which to recommend the line item or program be included in a budget for the upcoming fiscal year.
- (3)"Base budget" means:

- (a)an accountable process budget; or
  - (b)for a line item or program that was not the subject of an accountable process budget analysis during the immediately preceding interim, a simple base budget.
- (4)"Chair" means:
- (a)the chair of an appropriations subcommittee or the Executive Appropriations Committee; or
  - (b)a member of a joint appropriations subcommittee or the Executive Appropriations Committee member who is authorized to act as chair under JR3-2-303.
- (5)"Committee" means a joint appropriations subcommittee or the Executive Appropriations Committee.
- (6)"Fee agency" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 63J-1-504.
- (7)"Fee schedule" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 63J-1-504.
- (8)"Majority vote" means a majority of a quorum as provided in JR3-2-404.
- (9)"Original motion" means a non-privileged motion that is accepted by the chair when no other motion is pending.
- (10)"Pending motion" refers to a motion starting when a chair accepts a motion and ending when the motion is withdrawn or when the chair calls for a vote on the motion.
- (11)
- (a)"Privileged motion" means a procedural motion to adjourn, set a time to adjourn, recess, end debate, extend debate, or limit debate.
  - (b)"Privileged motions" are not substitute motions.
- (12)
- (a)"Proposed budget item" means any funding item under consideration for inclusion in an appropriations bill.
  - (b)"Proposed budget item" includes a request for appropriation.
- (13)"Request for appropriation" means a legislator request to:
- (a)obtain funding for a project or program that has not previously been funded;
  - (b)significantly expand funding for an existing project or program; or
  - (c)obtain separate funding for a project or program.
- (14)
- (a)"Simple base budget" means amounts appropriated by the Legislature for each line item for the current fiscal year that:
    - (i)are not designated as one-time in an appropriation, regardless of whether the appropriation is covered by ongoing or one-time revenue sources; and
    - (ii)were not vetoed by the governor, unless the Legislature overrode the veto.
  - (b)"Simple base budget" includes:
    - (i)any changes to those amounts approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee; and
    - (ii)amounts appropriated for debt service.
- (15)"Substitute motion" means a non-privileged motion that is made when a non-privileged motion is pending.
- (16)"Under consideration" means the time starting when a chair opens a discussion on a subject or an appropriations request that is listed on a committee agenda and ending when the committee disposes of the subject or request, moves on to another item on the agenda, or adjourns.

Amended by H.J.R. 17, 2024 General Session

**JR3-2-102 Rules governing joint committees.**

Committees of the Legislature meeting jointly shall be organized and operate under:

- (1) standing committee rules, for standing committees meeting jointly;



- (2) interim committee rules, for interim committees meeting jointly; and
- (3) the rules under this part, for joint appropriations subcommittee or the Executive Appropriations Committee.

Amended by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-103 Minimum membership.**

Each standing, appropriation, and interim committee, meeting jointly, shall have at least two senators and at least two representatives in its membership.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

## **Part 2 Standing Committees**

**JR3-2-201 Standing committees.**

The chairs of similar standing committees in the House and Senate may convene a joint standing committee meeting to discuss legislation of common interest with the approval of both the speaker of the House and president of the Senate.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

## **Part 3 Creation and Organization**

**JR3-2-301 Joint Appropriations Committee -- Creation.**

The Joint Appropriations Committee of the Legislature consists of all the members of the Legislature.

Enacted by H.J.R. 9, 2006 General Session

**JR3-2-302 Joint appropriations subcommittees -- Creation -- Membership.**

The members of the Joint Appropriations Committee shall be divided into the following joint appropriations subcommittees:

- (1) Transportation and Infrastructure;
- (2) Economic and Community Development;
- (3) Executive Offices and Criminal Justice;
- (4) Social Services;
- (5) Higher Education;
- (6) Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality;
- (7) Public Education; and
- (8) General Government.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR3-2-302 Joint appropriations subcommittees -- Creation -- Membership.**

The members of the Joint Appropriations Committee shall be divided into the following joint appropriations subcommittees:

- (1)Transportation and Infrastructure;
- (2)Economic and Community Development;
- (3)Criminal Justice;
- (4)Social Services;
- (5)Higher Education;
- (6)Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality;
- (7)Public Education; and
- (8)General Government.

Amended by H.J.R. 4, 2025 General Session

**JR3-2-303 President and speaker to appoint committee members, chairs, and vice chairs.**

- (1)
  - (a)The president of the Senate and speaker of the House shall appoint their respective members to each committee.
  - (b)
    - (i)The president of the Senate shall designate one senator in each committee as the Senate chair.
    - (ii)The speaker of the House shall designate one representative in each committee as the House chair and one representative in each committee as the House vice chair.
- (2)A vice chair may perform the duties of a chair:
  - (a)as requested by the chair; or
  - (b)in the absence of the chair.
- (3)The chair, or the vice chair as authorized under Subsection (2), may designate a member of the committee to conduct a committee meeting when neither the chair nor the vice chair is able to attend a meeting.
- (4)A committee member designated under Subsection (3) may conduct a committee meeting but may not perform the duties of a chair described in JR3-2-603 and JR3-2-604.
- (5)The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall staff the joint appropriations subcommittees.

Amended by S.J.R. 2, 2021 General Session

**Part 4**

**Executive Appropriations Committee and Appropriation Process -- Session**

**JR3-2-401 Executive appropriations -- Creation -- Membership -- Staffing.**

- (1) There is created an Executive Appropriations Committee consisting of 20 members composed of:
  - (a) three members of the majority leadership of the Senate and four members of the majority leadership of the House;
  - (b) two members of the minority leadership of the Senate and three members of the minority leadership of the House;

- (c) the chair and vice chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee and the chair and vice chair of the House Appropriations Committee; and
- (d)
  - (i) one member from the majority party of the Senate as appointed by the president of the Senate or as chosen by the Senate majority caucus;
  - (ii) two members from the minority party of the Senate as appointed by the Senate minority leader or as chosen by the Senate minority caucus; and
  - (iii) one member from the minority party of the House as appointed by the House minority leader or as chosen by the House minority caucus.
- (2) A member of the Executive Appropriations Committee, whose membership is determined under Subsection (1)(a) or (b), may appoint a designee to permanently serve in that individual's place if:
  - (a) the individual is a member of the majority party and the designee is approved by the speaker or the president; or
  - (b) the individual is a member of the minority party and the designee is approved by the House or Senate minority party leader.
- (3) The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall staff the Executive Appropriations Committee.

Amended by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-402 Executive appropriations -- Duties -- Base budgets.**

- (1)
  - (a) The Executive Appropriations Committee shall meet no later than the third Wednesday in December to:
    - (i) direct staff as to what revenue estimate to use in preparing budget recommendations, to include a forecast for federal fund receipts;
    - (ii) consider treating above-trend revenue growth as one-time revenue for major tax types and for federal funds;
    - (iii) hear a report on the historical, current, and anticipated status of the following:
      - (A) debt;
      - (B) long term liabilities;
      - (C) contingent liabilities;
      - (D) General Fund borrowing;
      - (E) reserves;
      - (F) fund balances;
      - (G) nonlapsing appropriation balances;
      - (H) cash funded infrastructure investment; and
      - (I) changes in federal funds paid to the state;
    - (iv) hear a report on:
      - (A) the next fiscal year base budget appropriation for Medicaid accountable care organizations according to Utah Code Section 26B-3-203;
      - (B) an explanation of program funding needs;
      - (C) estimates of overall medical inflation in the state; and
      - (D) mandated program changes and their estimated cost impact on Medicaid accountable care organizations;
    - (v) decide whether to set aside special allocations for the end of the session, including allocations:
      - (A) to address any anticipated reduction in the amount of federal funds paid to the state; and

- (B)of one-time revenue to pay down debt and other liabilities;
  - (vi)
    - (A)hear a report on construction inflation and the ongoing operation and maintenance costs of any capital development project requested by an institution under Utah Code Section 53B-2a-117 or 53B-22-204; and
    - (B)in response to the report described in Subsection (1)(a)(vi)(A), decide whether to adjust the next fiscal year base budget or set aside special allocations for the end of the session;
  - (vii)decide whether to set aside special allocations for legislation that will reduce taxes, including legislation that will reduce one or more tax rates;
  - (viii)subject to Subsection (1)(c), unless waived by majority vote, if the amortization rate as defined in Utah Code Section 49-11-102 for the new fiscal year is less than the amortization rate for the preceding fiscal year, set aside an amount equal to the value of the reduction in the amortization rate;
  - (ix)approve the appropriate amount for each subcommittee to use in preparing its budget;
  - (x)set a budget figure; and
  - (xi)adopt a base budget in accordance with Subsection (1)(b) and direct the legislative fiscal analyst to prepare one or more appropriations acts appropriating one or more base budgets for the next fiscal year.
- (b)In a base budget adopted under Subsection (1)(a), the Executive Appropriations Committee shall set appropriations from the General Fund, the Income Tax Fund, and the Uniform School Fund as follows:
- (i)if the next fiscal year ongoing revenue estimates set under Subsection (1)(a)(i) are equal to or greater than the current fiscal year ongoing appropriations, the new fiscal year base budget is not changed;
  - (ii)if the next fiscal year ongoing revenue estimates set under Subsection (1)(a)(i) are less than the current fiscal year ongoing appropriations, the new fiscal year base budget is reduced by the same percentage that projected next fiscal year ongoing revenue estimates are lower than the total of current fiscal year ongoing appropriations;
  - (iii)in making a reduction under Subsection (1)(b)(ii), appropriated debt service shall not be reduced, and other ongoing appropriations shall be reduced, in an amount sufficient to make the total ongoing appropriations, including the unadjusted debt service, equal to the percentage calculated under Subsection (1)(b)(ii); and
  - (iv)the new fiscal year base budget shall include an appropriation to the Department of Health for Medicaid accountable care organizations in the amount required by Utah Code Section 26B-3-203.
- (c)
- (i)The Executive Appropriations Committee shall:
    - (A)comply with the set aside requirement described in Subsection (1)(a)(vii) using money from the General Fund, Income Tax Fund, and Uniform School Fund;
    - (B)accumulate money set aside under Subsection (1)(a)(vii) across fiscal years; and
    - (C)when the total amount set aside under Subsection (1)(a)(vii), including any amount to be set aside in the new fiscal year, equals or exceeds the cost of a 0.50% increase in benefited state employee salaries for the new fiscal year, include in the base budget an increase in benefited state employee salaries equal to the total set aside amount.
  - (ii)The Executive Appropriations Committee may waive or modify a requirement described in Subsection (1)(c)(i) by majority vote.
- (d)The chairs of each joint appropriations subcommittee are invited to attend this meeting.

- (2) All proposed budget items shall be submitted to one of the subcommittees named in JR3-2-302 for consideration and recommendation.
- (3)
  - (a) After receiving and reviewing subcommittee reports, the Executive Appropriations Committee may refer the report back to a joint appropriations subcommittee with any guidelines the Executive Appropriations Committee considers necessary to assist the subcommittee in producing a balanced budget.
  - (b) The subcommittee shall meet to review the new guidelines and report the adjustments to the chairs of the Executive Appropriations Committee as soon as possible.
- (4)
  - (a) After receiving the reports, the Executive Appropriations Committee chairs will report them to the Executive Appropriations Committee.
  - (b) The Executive Appropriations Committee shall:
    - (i) make any further adjustments necessary to balance the budget; and
    - (ii) complete all decisions necessary to draft the final appropriations bills no later than the last Friday before the 45th day of the annual general session.

Amended by S.J.R. 15, 2024 General Session

**JR3-2-402 Executive appropriations -- Duties -- Base budgets.**

- (1)
  - (a) The Executive Appropriations Committee shall meet no later than the third Wednesday in December to:
    - (i) direct staff as to what revenue estimate to use in preparing budget recommendations, to include a forecast for federal fund receipts;
    - (ii) consider treating above-trend revenue growth as one-time revenue for major tax types and for federal funds;
    - (iii) hear a report on the historical, current, and anticipated status of the following:
      - (A) debt;
      - (B) long term liabilities;
      - (C) contingent liabilities;
      - (D) General Fund borrowing;
      - (E) reserves;
      - (F) fund balances;
      - (G) nonlapsing appropriation balances;
      - (H) cash funded infrastructure investment; and
      - (I) changes in federal funds paid to the state;
    - (iv) hear a report on:
      - (A) the next fiscal year base budget appropriation for Medicaid accountable care organizations according to Utah Code Section 26B-3-203;
      - (B) an explanation of program funding needs;
      - (C) estimates of overall medical inflation in the state; and
      - (D) mandated program changes and their estimated cost impact on Medicaid accountable care organizations;
    - (v) decide whether to set aside special allocations for the end of the session, including allocations:
      - (A) to address any anticipated reduction in the amount of federal funds paid to the state; and
      - (B) of one-time revenue to pay down debt and other liabilities;

- (vi)
    - (A)hear a report on construction inflation and the ongoing operation and maintenance costs of any capital development project requested by an institution under Utah Code Section 53B-2a-117 or 53B-22-204; and
    - (B)in response to the report described in Subsection (1)(a)(vi)(A), decide whether to adjust the next fiscal year base budget or set aside special allocations for the end of the session;
  - (vii)decide whether to set aside special allocations for legislation that will reduce taxes, including legislation that will reduce one or more tax rates;
  - (viii)subject to Subsection (1)(c), unless waived by majority vote, if the amortization rate as defined in Utah Code Section 49-11-102 for the new fiscal year is less than the amortization rate for the preceding fiscal year, set aside an amount equal to the value of the reduction in the amortization rate;
  - (ix)approve the appropriate amount for each subcommittee to use in preparing its budget;
  - (x)set a budget figure; and
  - (xi)adopt a base budget in accordance with Subsection (1)(b) and direct the legislative fiscal analyst to prepare one or more appropriations acts appropriating one or more base budgets for the next fiscal year.
- (b)In a base budget adopted under Subsection (1)(a), the Executive Appropriations Committee shall set appropriations from the General Fund, the Income Tax Fund, and the Uniform School Fund as follows:
- (i)if the next fiscal year ongoing revenue estimates set under Subsection (1)(a)(i) are equal to or greater than the current fiscal year ongoing appropriations, the new fiscal year base budget is not changed;
  - (ii)if the next fiscal year ongoing revenue estimates set under Subsection (1)(a)(i) are less than the current fiscal year ongoing appropriations, the new fiscal year base budget is reduced by the same percentage that projected next fiscal year ongoing revenue estimates are lower than the total of current fiscal year ongoing appropriations;
  - (iii)in making a reduction under Subsection (1)(b)(ii), appropriated debt service shall not be reduced, and other ongoing appropriations shall be reduced, in an amount sufficient to make the total ongoing appropriations, including the unadjusted debt service, equal to the percentage calculated under Subsection (1)(b)(ii); and
  - (iv)the new fiscal year base budget shall include an appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services for Medicaid accountable care organizations in the amount required by Utah Code Section 26B-3-203.
- (c)
- (i)The Executive Appropriations Committee shall:
    - (A)comply with the set aside requirement described in Subsection (1)(a)(vii) using money from the General Fund, Income Tax Fund, and Uniform School Fund;
    - (B)accumulate money set aside under Subsection (1)(a)(vii) across fiscal years; and
    - (C)when the total amount set aside under Subsection (1)(a)(vii), including any amount to be set aside in the new fiscal year, equals or exceeds the cost of a 0.50% increase in benefited state employee salaries for the new fiscal year, include in the base budget an increase in benefited state employee salaries equal to the total set aside amount.
  - (ii)The Executive Appropriations Committee may waive or modify a requirement described in Subsection (1)(c)(i) by majority vote.
- (d)The chairs of each joint appropriations subcommittee are invited to attend the meeting described in this Subsection (1).

- (2) All proposed budget items shall be submitted to one of the subcommittees named in JR3-2-302 for consideration and recommendation.
- (3)
  - (a) After receiving and reviewing subcommittee reports, the Executive Appropriations Committee may refer the report back to a joint appropriations subcommittee with any guidelines the Executive Appropriations Committee considers necessary to assist the subcommittee in producing a balanced budget.
  - (b) The subcommittee shall meet to review the new guidelines and report the adjustments to the chairs of the Executive Appropriations Committee as soon as possible.
- (4)
  - (a) After receiving the reports, the Executive Appropriations Committee chairs will report them to the Executive Appropriations Committee.
  - (b) The Executive Appropriations Committee shall:
    - (i) make any further adjustments necessary to balance the budget; and
    - (ii) complete all decisions necessary to draft the final appropriations bills no later than the last Friday before the 45th day of the annual general session.
- (5) No later than December 1 of each calendar year, the Executive Appropriations Committee shall:
  - (a) review the budget for the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, the Office of the Legislative Auditor General, and the Office of Legislative Services; and
  - (b) certify the Legislature's budget to the governor in accordance with Utah Code Section 63J-1-201.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

### **JR3-2-403 Quorum requirements.**

A quorum of a joint appropriations subcommittee and the Executive Appropriations Committee is at least 50% in one chamber and more than 50% in the other, subject to the requirements in JR3-2-404.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

### **JR3-2-404 Voting requirements.**

- (1) A majority vote of a joint appropriations subcommittee and the Executive Appropriations Committee is at least 50% of those in attendance in one chamber and more than 50% of those in attendance in the other.
- (2) For an appropriation subcommittee, and excluding the Executive Appropriations Committee, in determining whether a quorum is present, a legislator who is the president, the speaker, a majority leader, a majority whip, an assistant majority whip, the Senate Rules Committee chair, the Senate Rules Committee vice chair, the House Rules Committee chair, the House Rules Committee vice chair, an Executive Appropriations Committee chair, an Executive Appropriations Committee vice chair, a minority leader, a minority whip, an assistant minority whip, or the fourth member of leadership from a minority party, is not counted in determining a quorum for the committee, except during the time that the legislator is present at the meeting.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

### **JR3-2-405 Committee order of business.**

Unless a committee chair, or a committee by majority vote, determines otherwise, the order of business for an appropriations committee is:

- (1) call to order by the chair;
- (2) approval of the minutes of previous meetings;
- (3) announcement of the agenda;
- (4) announcement of time restrictions, if any, subject to the requirements of JR3-2-604; and
- (5) consideration of appropriations committee business.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

## **Part 5**

### **Executive Appropriations Committee and Subcommittees -- Interim**

#### **JR3-2-501 Meetings -- Accountable process budget creation -- Appropriations and fee reviews.**

- (1)
  - (a) During the interim, the Executive Appropriations Committee shall meet at least every other month on the day before interim meetings.
  - (b) The appropriations subcommittee chairs may attend these meetings and provide input regarding their budget.
- (2) Appropriations subcommittees shall meet at least once during the interim and may also hold additional meetings if authorized by the Legislative Management Committee.
- (3)
  - (a) Each interim, each appropriations subcommittee shall create an accountable process budget for approximately 20% of the budgets that fall within the appropriations subcommittee's responsibilities.
  - (b) Each appropriations subcommittee shall ensure that each of the budgets for which the appropriations subcommittee has responsibility is the subject of an accountable budget process at least once every five years.
  - (c) For each budget that is subject to an accountable budget process, an appropriations subcommittee shall:
    - (i) review and discuss the budget evaluation submitted in accordance with Utah Code Section 63J-1-903;
    - (ii) identify whether any portion of the budget overlaps with another budget; and
    - (iii) identify any opportunities to increase budgetary efficiencies.
  - (d) If a fee agency's budget is subject to review under Subsection (3)(c), an appropriations subcommittee shall:
    - (i) review the fee agency's current fee schedule submitted under Utah Code Section 63J-1-504; and
    - (ii) consider and make recommendations regarding:
      - (A) the methods the fee agency uses to determine the amount of each fee; and
      - (B) the fee agency's estimated cost related to each fee.
- (4)
  - (a) The Executive Appropriations Committee may, based on a legislator's or citizen's complaint, review any appropriation, whether in an appropriations bill or otherwise, to ensure that the



entity to which the funds were appropriated complies with any legislative intent expressed in the legislation appropriating the funds.

- (b) If the Executive Appropriations Committee finds that an entity has not complied with any legislative intent concerning an appropriation expressed in the legislation appropriating the fund, the committee may make a recommendation concerning the appropriation to the entity receiving the funds and the Legislative Management Committee.

Amended by H.J.R. 17, 2024 General Session

## **Part 6 Duties of a Committee Chair**

### **JR3-2-601 Chair to enforce legislative rules and procedures.**

The chair shall ensure the integrity of the appropriations committee process by enforcing legislative rules and parliamentary procedure without delay.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

### **JR3-2-602 Chair to set agenda -- Requirements.**

The chair of an appropriations committee shall set the agenda for the committee meeting.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

### **JR3-2-603 Chair to post notice and agenda -- Notification to sponsors of request for an appropriation.**

- (1) The chair shall cause a public notice and agenda to be posted at least 24 hours before each appropriations committee meeting as required under Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.
- (2) The chair shall notify the sponsor of a request for appropriation that is listed on an agenda of the time and place of the committee meeting in which the request for appropriation will be considered not less than 24 hours before the committee meeting.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

### **JR3-2-604 Chair may direct order of agenda -- Time restrictions.**

The chair, or a committee by majority vote, may adopt committee procedures and time restrictions, including:

- (1) directing the order of the agenda;
- (2) directing the order in which a witness or presenter will be heard;
- (3) directing the number of witnesses or presenters that will be heard; and
- (4) limiting the time the committee will spend on:
  - (a) an item on the agenda; or
  - (b) an individual witness or presenter.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-605 Chair to preserve order and decorum.**

In accordance with JR7-1-302, the chair shall preserve order and decorum during a committee meeting.

**JR3-2-606 Chair to recognize committee members -- Remarks to be germane -- Committee members may make motions when recognized -- Addressing the committee.**

- (1) The chair shall recognize a committee member who desires to speak to a subject that is under consideration by an appropriations committee.
- (2) Upon recognition by the chair, a committee member:
  - (a) shall ensure that the member's remarks are germane to the subject under consideration; and
  - (b) may make a motion that is authorized by this chapter.
- (3)
  - (a) Presenters, witnesses, visitors, staff, and committee members may not speak to an appropriations committee unless recognized by the chair.
  - (b) The chair may not take comment from a member of the public unless:
    - (i) the individual provides the individual's legal name and the entity that the individual represents, if any; and
    - (ii) if the individual is participating via video conference:
      - (A) the individual provides the individual's place of residence; and
      - (B) the individual's video is enabled.

**JR3-2-607 Chair to accept all motions that are in order -- Once accepted, the motion is pending.**

- (1) The chair shall accept a motion requested by a member of an appropriations committee who has been properly recognized unless the motion is prohibited by this chapter or by parliamentary procedure.
- (2) To properly accept a motion, the chair shall:
  - (a) restate each verbal motion; and
  - (b) distribute copies of each written motion to members of the committee.
- (3) When a chair properly accepts a motion under Subsection (2), the motion is pending.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-608 Chair to allow response to motions before placing motions for a vote.**

After a motion has been accepted, and before the chair places a motion for a vote, the chair shall permit:

- (1) members of the committee to ask the committee member who placed the motion questions about the motion;
- (2) members of the committee to debate the motion;
- (3) the sponsor of a budget item or request for appropriation that is affected by the motion to respond to the motion; and
- (4) the committee member who placed the motion to have the final word on the motion.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-609 Chair to place motion for vote.**

After the chair has permitted a committee member to sum on a motion as required under JR3-2-608(4), the chair shall place the motion for a vote unless the motion is withdrawn subject to the requirements of JR3-2-811.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-610 Chair to verbally announce vote on motions -- Motions pass with majority vote of a quorum -- Exceptions.**

- (1) After an appropriations committee votes on a motion, the chair shall:
  - (a) determine whether the motion passed or failed;
  - (b) verbally announce that the motion passed or that the motion failed; and
  - (c) if the vote on the motion is not unanimous, verbally identify by name either the committee members who voted "yes" or the committee members who voted "no."
- (2) Unless otherwise specifically indicated in this chapter, motions pass with a majority vote of a quorum as defined in JR3-2-404.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-611 Chair may direct a roll call vote.**

Although most motions will be determined by a voice vote, the chair, or a committee by majority vote, may direct a roll call vote.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-612 Chair to decide points of order -- Committee may appeal chair's decision.**

- (1) A chair shall rule on a point of order without committee discussion or debate.
- (2) As provided in JR3-2-806, a committee member may:
  - (a) make a point of order; or
  - (b) appeal the decision of the chair.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-613 Chair to ensure integrity of minutes -- Retention of minutes -- Content requirements.**

- (1) The chair shall:
  - (a) ensure that a secretary takes minutes of appropriation committee meetings; and
  - (b) present the minutes to the committee for approval.
- (2) The chair shall ensure that committee minutes comply with the requirements of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.
- (3) The chair shall ensure that committee minutes include:
  - (a) the date, time, and place of each committee meeting;
  - (b) a list of committee members present;
  - (c) each motion made;
  - (d) the vote on each motion;
  - (e) points of order; and
  - (f) the outcome of each appeal of the decision of the chair.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

## Part 7 Duties of an Appropriations Committee

### JR3-2-701 Request for appropriation -- Contents -- Timing.

- (1)
  - (a) A legislator intending to file a request for appropriation shall file the request for appropriation with the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst in accordance with this rule.
  - (b) Except for an amendment to a proposed budget item described in JR3-2-703, a committee may not adopt, recommend, or prioritize a request for appropriation that is not filed or generated in accordance with this rule.
  - (c) A legislator may not file a request for appropriation if the request is intended to fund the fiscal impact of legislation.
  - (d) The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall automatically generate a request for appropriation to fund the fiscal impact of legislation if:
    - (i) the legislation has an expenditure impact of \$1,000,000 or more from the General Fund or the Income Tax Fund; and
    - (ii) the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst knows the fiscal impact of the legislation before the deadline described in Subsection (3)(a).
- (2)
  - (a) A legislator may file a request for appropriation beginning 60 days after the day on which the Legislature adjourns its annual general session sine die.
  - (b) A legislator-elect may file a request for appropriation beginning on:
    - (i) the day after the day on which the election canvass is complete; or
    - (ii) if the legislator-elect's election results have not been finalized as of the canvass date, the day after the day on which the election results for the legislator-elect's race are final.
  - (c)
    - (i) An incumbent legislator may not file a request for appropriation as of the date that the legislator:
      - (A) fails to file to run for reelection;
      - (B) is ineligible to be included on the ballot for the election in which the legislator would have sought an additional term; or
      - (C) fails to win reelection and the legislator's opponent is eligible to file a request for appropriation under Subsection (2)(b).
    - (ii) Subsection (2)(c)(i) does not apply to a request for appropriation for a general session that occurs while the legislator is in office.
- (3)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), a legislator may not file a request for appropriation with the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst after noon on the 11th day of the annual general session.
  - (b) After the date established by this Subsection (3), a legislator may file a request for appropriation if:
    - (i) for a request by a House member, the representative makes a motion to file a request for appropriation and that motion is approved by a constitutional majority of the House;
    - (ii) for a request by a senator, the senator makes a motion to file a request for appropriation and that motion is approved by a constitutional majority vote of the Senate; or

- (iii) a member of the Executive Appropriations Committee has presented the request at a public meeting of the Executive Appropriations Committee.
- (4) A legislator who files a request for appropriation:
  - (a) is the chief sponsor; and
  - (b) shall provide the following information related to the project or program that is the subject of the request for appropriation:
    - (i) the name and a description of the project or program;
    - (ii) the statewide purpose of the project or program;
    - (iii) if applicable, the legislator's designee who is knowledgeable about and responsible for providing pertinent information while the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst processes the request;
    - (iv) the state funding source from which the legislator proposes to fund the project or program;
    - (v) the amount of the request and whether the amount is to be appropriated one-time, ongoing, or a combination of one-time and ongoing;
    - (vi) an itemized budget for the project or program;
    - (vii) the state agency that has jurisdiction over the project or program;
    - (viii) if the request is for pass through funding that a state agency will distribute, the type of entity or organization the legislator intends to receive the funding;
    - (ix) the scalability of the project or program; and
    - (x) one or more outcomes the legislator expects the project or program to achieve.

**JR3-2-702 Review and referral of requests for appropriation.**

- (1)
  - (a) The legislative fiscal analyst shall review each request for appropriation.
  - (b) If the request for appropriation requires that a statute be enacted, amended, or repealed, the legislative fiscal analyst shall immediately transfer the request to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel as a request for legislation.
  - (c) If the request for appropriation contains each item described in JR3-2-701(4) and does not require that a statute be enacted, amended, or repealed, the legislative fiscal analyst shall number, title, and refer the request for appropriation to:
    - (i) the House chair of the Executive Appropriations Committee, if the sponsor is a House member; or
    - (ii) the Senate chair of the Executive Appropriations Committee, if the sponsor is a Senate member.
- (2) The House or Senate chair of the Executive Appropriations Committee shall refer the request for appropriation to the joint appropriations subcommittee with oversight responsibility or to the Executive Appropriations Committee.
- (3) Each joint appropriations subcommittee that receives a request for appropriation shall:
  - (a) allow the sponsor to present and discuss the request for appropriation with the subcommittee;
  - (b) discuss the request for appropriation; and
  - (c) do one of the following:
    - (i) include all or part of the request for appropriation in the budget recommendation made by the subcommittee or the Executive Appropriations Committee;
    - (ii) reject the request for appropriation; or
    - (iii) recommend to the Executive Appropriations Committee that all or part of the requested appropriation be placed on a funding prioritization list.

**JR3-2-703 Amending proposed budget items -- Amendments must be germane.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2), and if recognized by the chair, a committee member may make a motion to amend a proposed budget item that is under consideration.
  - (b)
    - (i) A committee member may propose a verbal amendment to a proposed budget item under consideration if the amendment contains 15 or fewer words.
    - (ii) Before proposing a motion to amend, a committee member shall ensure that a proposed amendment that contains more than 15 words is printed and distributed to committee staff and to all committee members present.
- (2)
  - (a) A committee member may only make a motion to amend that is germane to the proposed budget item under consideration.
  - (b) A committee member who believes that an amendment is not germane to the subject of the proposed budget item may make a point of order or appeal as described in JR3-2-806.

**JR3-2-704 Reconsideration of action.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), and if recognized by the chair, a committee member may make a motion to reconsider the committee's action on a proposed budget item if the proposed budget item is:
  - (a) assigned to the committee; and
  - (b) listed on the committee agenda as required by Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.
- (2) A committee may not reconsider its action:
  - (a) more than once in a meeting; and
  - (b) until the committee has considered other committee business.

**JR3-2-705 Testimony may be taken under oath.**

- (1) At the direction of the chair, or upon a majority vote of the committee, the testimony of a witness, presenter, or visitor who speaks to a committee may be taken under oath.
- (2) The chair or committee staff shall administer the oath.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-706 Additional committee meetings.**

With permission from the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House, a chair may hold an appropriations committee meeting independent of the regularly scheduled committee meetings.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-707 Closed appropriations committee meetings.**

An appropriations committee may close a committee meeting in accordance with the procedures and requirements of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-708 Prohibited from meeting while House or Senate is in session -- Exceptions.**

- (1) An appropriations committee may not meet while the House or Senate is in session unless:
  - (a)
    - (i) the House chair receives permission from the speaker to meet; and
    - (ii) the Senate chair receives permission from the president to meet; or
  - (b)
    - (i) a majority of the House approves a motion for the committee to meet while the House is in session; and
    - (ii) a majority of the Senate approves a motion for the committee to meet while the Senate is in session.
- (2) Unless a committee is authorized to meet as provided in Subsection (1), any action taken by a committee while the House or Senate is in session is invalid.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-709 Review of nonlapsing appropriations.**

- (1) Each appropriations subcommittee shall:
  - (a) during an accountable budget process under JR3-2-501, review each account, fund, and appropriation to a program that is designated as nonlapsing under Utah Code Section 63J-1-602.1 or 63J-1-602.2; and
  - (b) review any nonlapsing appropriations report submitted in accordance with Utah Code Section 63J-1-602.
- (2) For any nonlapsing appropriation that is saved over multiple years to pay for an anticipated expense, an appropriations subcommittee shall make a recommendation as to whether the Legislature should instead appropriate one-time funding for the expense.

**JR3-2-710 Right of legislators to attend appropriations committee meetings.**

- (1) Any member of the Legislature may:
  - (a) attend any meeting of an appropriations committee or subcommittee, unless the meeting is closed in accordance with Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act; and
  - (b) if recognized by the chair during a portion of the meeting when public comment is permitted, present the legislator's views on the subject under consideration.
- (2) A legislator who attends a meeting of an appropriations committee or subcommittee of which the legislator is not a member may not:
  - (a) make a motion; or
  - (b) vote.

Enacted by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**Part 8**  
**Appropriations Committee Parliamentary Procedures**

**JR3-2-801 Obtaining the floor in committee -- Remarks to be germane.**

- (1) As required in JR3-2-606, a chair shall recognize a committee member who desires to speak to the committee.
- (2) A committee member who is recognized by the chair may make a motion consistent with the requirements of this chapter.
- (3) A second to a motion is not required.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-802 Committee members shall vote.**

A committee member shall vote on every motion placed for a vote while the committee member is present at a meeting.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-803 Privileged motions in committee -- General requirements, procedure, and priority.**

- (1) Privileged motions:
  - (a) are non-debatable; and
  - (b) take precedence over non-privileged motions.
- (2) If a privileged motion is requested while another privileged motion is pending, the chair shall grant priority to the privileged motions in the following order:
  - (a) adjourn;
  - (b) set time to adjourn;
  - (c) recess;
  - (d) end debate or call the question;
  - (e) extend debate; and
  - (f) limit debate.
- (3) Except for a motion to adjourn, a privileged motion, if adopted, does not dispose of other pending motions.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-804 Original motions in committee -- General requirements, procedure, and priority.**

- (1) Original motions:
  - (a) are debatable; and
  - (b) may be replaced with a substitute motion.
- (2) A committee member may not make an original motion if:
  - (a) a privileged motion is pending; or
  - (b) a substitute motion is pending.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-805 Substitute motions in committee -- General requirements, procedure, and priority.**

- (1) Substitute motions:
  - (a) are debatable; and
  - (b) take precedence over original motions.
- (2)
  - (a) A committee member may make a substitute motion if an original motion is pending.



- (b) A committee member may not make a substitute motion if:
  - (i) a privileged motion is pending; or
  - (ii) another substitute motion is pending.
- (c) If a substitute motion is adopted, a substitute motion disposes of the original motion.
- (d) If a substitute motion is not adopted, the original motion is pending.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-806 Point of order -- Appeal of chair's decision.**

- (1) A point of order is not a motion and, except during a vote, may be made by a member of an appropriations committee at any time during a committee meeting.
- (2) If a member of an appropriations committee is concerned that legislative rules or procedures are not being followed, the committee member may make a point of order.
- (3) When a point of order is made, the chair shall immediately allow the committee member to state the member's point.
- (4) A chair shall rule on the point of order without committee discussion or debate as provided in JR3-2-612.
- (5) An appeal of the decision of the chair is not a motion and may be made by a committee member after the chair has ruled on a point of order.
- (6)
  - (a) An appropriations committee may, by majority vote, overrule the decision of the chair on a point of order.
  - (b) If the committee overrules the decision of the chair, the ruling of a committee is final.
  - (c) If a committee does not overrule the decision of the chair, the ruling of a chair is final.

**JR3-2-807 Point of information.**

- (1) A point of information is not a motion and, except during summation or a vote, may be made by a member of an appropriations committee at any time during a committee meeting.
- (2) If a member of an appropriations committee desires clarification on any aspect of a committee meeting, the committee member may make a point of information.
- (3) When a point of information is made, the chair shall immediately allow the committee member to state the point.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-808 Division of a motion.**

- (1) A division is not a motion and, except during a vote, may be made by a member of an appropriations committee at any time during a committee meeting without being recognized by the chair.
- (2) The committee member who divides a motion shall clearly state how the motion is to be divided.
- (3) A committee member may not divide a motion in such a manner that could create an unintelligible or ambiguous result.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-809 Prohibited motions.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except for a motion to adjourn, a committee member may not make a motion unless a quorum of the committee is present.
  - (b) When a quorum is not present, a motion to adjourn is passed with a majority vote of those present.
- (2) No motion is in order during a vote.
- (3) A point of order is not in order during a vote.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR3-2-810 Repeating defeated motion.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a motion that is defeated may not be made by a committee member until the committee has considered other committee business.
- (2) A motion to postpone a proposed budget item to a day certain, if defeated, may not be made again by any committee member during the same committee meeting.

**JR3-2-811 Withdraw motion.**

A pending motion may be withdrawn at any time before the motion is placed for a vote.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**Part 9  
Conference Committees**

**JR3-2-901 Appointment and chairs -- Notice.**

- (1)
  - (a) If the Senate refuses to concur in the House amendments to Senate legislation, the secretary of the Senate shall notify the House of the refusal and ask the House to recede from its amendments.
  - (b) Either chamber may recede from its position on any difference existing between the two chambers by a majority vote of its members.
  - (c)
    - (i) If the House refuses to recede, the speaker shall appoint a conference committee of three.
    - (ii) After making the appointment, the speaker shall:
      - (A) publicly announce the House members of the conference committee and the time and place that the conference committee will meet;
      - (B) ensure that no more than two of the appointees are members of the majority party; and
      - (C) direct House staff to provide electronic notice that identifies the House members of the conference committee and the time and place of the conference committee meeting.
  - (d) If the speaker does not immediately appoint a conference committee, the president may appoint a conference committee as provided in Subsection (2)(c).
  - (e) After the Senate refuses to concur in the House amendments to Senate legislation, the House may not amend or substitute the legislation, unless:
    - (i) the sole effect of the amendment or substitute is to recede from one or more House amendments to the legislation; or

- (ii)the amendment or substitute is part of a conference committee report.
- (2)
- (a)If the House refuses to concur in the Senate amendments to House legislation, the chief clerk of the House shall notify the Senate of the refusal and ask the Senate to recede from its amendments.
  - (b)Either chamber may recede from its position on any difference existing between the two chambers by a majority vote of its members.
- (c)
- (i)If the Senate refuses to recede, the president shall appoint a conference committee of three.
  - (ii)After making the appointment, the president shall:
    - (A)publicly announce the Senate members of the conference committee and the time and place that the conference committee will meet;
    - (B)ensure that no more than two of the appointees are members of the majority party; and
    - (C)direct Senate staff to provide electronic notice that identifies the Senate members of the conference committee and the time and place of the conference committee meeting.
  - (d)If the president does not immediately appoint a conference committee, the speaker may appoint a conference committee as provided in Subsection (1)(c).
  - (e)After the House refuses to concur in the Senate amendments to House legislation, the Senate may not amend or substitute the legislation, unless:
    - (i)the sole effect of the amendment or substitute is to recede from one or more Senate amendments to the legislation; or
    - (ii)the amendment or substitute is part of a conference committee report.
- (3)
- (a)Whenever the president or speaker appoints a conference committee, the secretary of the Senate or chief clerk of the House shall:
    - (i)immediately notify the other chamber of the action taken; and
    - (ii)request the appointment of conference committee members from that other chamber.
  - (b)After receiving the notice and request, the presiding officer of the other chamber shall:
    - (i)appoint a conference committee of three;
    - (ii)publicly announce the members of the conference committee from that chamber and the time and place that the conference committee will meet; and
    - (iii)direct staff to provide electronic notice that identifies the members of the conference committee and the time and place of the conference committee meeting.
- (4)
- (a)The first senator named on the conference committee is the Senate chair of the committee, and the first representative named on the conference committee is the House chair.
  - (b)The conference committee chairs shall direct the preparation of the conference committee report.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR3-2-902 Conference committee procedures.**

- (1)The chair from the chamber of origin of the legislation shall chair meetings of the conference committee.
  - (2)Staff from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel may attend the conference committee meeting to assist in the preparation of the committee report.
- (3)
- (a)Subject to Subsection (3)(b), conference committee meetings are open to the public.

- (b) Public comment may not be received or made during a conference committee meeting unless a majority of committee members from one chamber and at least 50% from the other chamber vote to receive public comment.
- (4)
  - (a) A majority of committee members from each chamber must approve a conference committee report in order for it to be presented to the Legislature.
  - (b)
    - (i) If the conference committee cannot reach an agreement, the committee shall report the failure to agree to both chambers.
    - (ii) Upon notice that a conference committee has failed to agree:
      - (A) the presiding officer of each chamber may appoint a new committee by following the requirements of JR3-2-901 or reappoint the former committee and announce the time and place of the committee's meeting; or
      - (B) either chamber may vote to refuse further conferences.
    - (iii) If a chamber votes to refuse further conferences, the legislation shall be returned to the originating chamber and filed.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR3-2-903 Conference committee report -- Contents -- Disposition.**

- (1) The conference committee's report shall:
  - (a) be in writing; and
  - (b) list the vote of each member of the conference committee by name.
- (2)
  - (a) Subject to Subsection (2)(b), the committee may report any modifications or amendments to the legislation that the committee thinks advisable.
  - (b) A conference committee may not consider or report on any matter except those at issue between the two chambers.
- (3)
  - (a) If the legislation being discussed by the conference committee is House legislation, the Senate conference committee members shall present the conference committee report first to the Senate.
  - (b) If the legislation being discussed by the conference committee is Senate legislation, the House conference committee members shall present the conference committee report first to the House.
- (4) Before a chamber votes on a motion to adopt a conference committee report, the report shall be read.
- (5)
  - (a) If a chamber approves a motion to adopt a conference committee report, the legislation shall be put at the top of the chamber's third reading calendar for consideration.
  - (b) If the chamber is the first chamber to consider the conference committee report, after the chamber acts on the legislation, the chamber shall transmit the legislation and the conference committee report to the other chamber along with a letter explaining the chamber's action.
- (6)
  - (a) If a motion to adopt a conference committee report fails, either chamber may request that the other chamber:
    - (i) appoint a new committee by following the requirements of JR3-2-901; or

- (ii)reappoint the former committee and announce the time and place of the committee's meeting.
- (b)If a chamber refuses a request under Subsection (6)(a), the legislation shall be returned to the originating chamber and filed.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR3-2-904 Failure to meet.**

If the members of the conference committee do not meet in a timely manner after being appointed, the presiding officers of both chambers may appoint a new conference committee and disband the original conference committee.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

### **Chapter 3 Long-Term Planning Conference**

**JR3-3-101 Long-Term Planning Conference.**

- (1)The president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives shall, by mutual consent, call a joint Long-Term Planning Conference of members of the two houses.
- (2)The conference will be held on a date or dates designated jointly by the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (3)The conference may last one or two days and may include meetings, workshops, and other sessions and activities designed to accomplish the purpose of the conference as described in Section JR3-3-102.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR3-3-102 Purpose of the Long-Term Planning Conference.**

The purpose of the Long-Term Planning Conference is to provide information and tools that will encourage the Legislature, and other guests invited at the discretion of the Legislature, to:

- (1) focus on long-term planning, policy making, and budgeting by the Legislature, state and local government agencies, and educational institutions;
- (2) learn about the long-term economic and demographic trends of the state;
- (3) learn about the long-term budgetary outlook for the state, including any issues or constraints;
- (4) consider ways to implement long-term planning processes as part of creating effective policies, laws, and appropriations that address more than just immediate concerns; and
- (5) make informed decisions and implement sound public policy initiatives that ensure the long-term success and economic vitality of the state and its citizens.

Enacted by H.J.R. 10, 2014 General Session

**JR3-3-103 Conference agenda -- Staffing.**

- (1)The president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives shall jointly establish the agenda for the conference.

- (2) The agenda described in Subsection (1) may include a variety of presenters, including representatives of education, government, business, and the private sector.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

## **Chapter 4 International Relations and Trade Committee**

### **Part 1 General Provisions**

#### **JR3-4-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, "international relations efforts" means activities to foster and enhance relationships between the state and foreign countries, including:

- (1) hosting foreign government officials, trade delegations, or other dignitaries;
- (2) representing the state in official visits to foreign countries;
- (3) developing relationships and laying the groundwork for increased trade, educational and cultural exchanges, language programs, tourism opportunities, and civic education experiences involving other countries; and
- (4) seeking and attracting foreign direct investment opportunities to the state.

#### **JR3-4-102 Repeal of committee -- Review.**

- (1) This chapter is repealed July 1, 2023.
- (2) The Economic Development and Workforce Services Interim Committee shall:
  - (a) review this chapter during the 2022 interim to evaluate whether the International Relations and Trade Committee created in this chapter should continue to function; and
  - (b) if the committee determines the International Relations and Trade Committee should continue to function, prepare legislation to amend or repeal Subsection (1) accordingly.

### **Part 2 International Relations Efforts**

#### **JR3-4-201 International Relations and Trade Committee created -- Membership -- Quorum -- Chairs.**

- (1) There is created an International Relations and Trade Committee consisting of:
  - (a) the president of the Senate;
  - (b) the speaker of the House of Representatives;
  - (c) three members of the Senate, appointed by the president of the Senate, no more than two of whom may be from the majority party; and
  - (d) five members of the House of Representatives, no more than three of whom may be from the majority party.
- (2)

- (a) A majority of committee members appointed under Subsections (1)(c) and (d) constitutes a quorum.
- (b) The president and speaker are not counted in determining a quorum of the committee.
- (3) The president shall appoint one of the Senate members of the committee as cochair, and the speaker shall appoint one of the House of Representatives members of the committee as cochair.

**JR3-4-202 Purposes of committee.**

The purposes of the committee are to:

- (1) engage in international relations efforts;
- (2) serve as a focal point for legislative efforts to support the state's international relations and trade efforts;
- (3) help provide government officials, trade delegations, and other dignitaries who visit the state from foreign countries a world class hospitality experience that leaves a favorable and lasting impression and facilitates and enhances mutually enriching international relationships;
- (4) consider and study matters relating to the state's international relations and trade efforts and make recommendations to the Legislature concerning ways to advance the state's international relations and trade efforts; and
- (5) perform any other function or fulfill any other responsibility related to international relations and trade that legislative leadership assigns to the committee.

**JR3-4-203 Coordination with others involved in international relations.**

The committee shall:

- (1) work to fulfill the purposes of the committee, as provided in JR3-4-202; and
- (2) coordinate the committee's international relations efforts with the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity, the World Trade Center Utah, the Economic Development Corporation of Utah, and the state's honorary consular corps.

**Title JR4. Bills and Resolutions**

**Chapter 1  
General Provisions**

**Part 1  
General Provisions and Format Requirements**

**JR4-1-101 Definitions.**

As used in this title:

- (1)"Bill" means legislation introduced for consideration by the Legislature that does any, some, or all of the following to Utah statutes:
  - (a)amends;

- (b)enacts;
  - (c)repeals;
  - (d)repeals and reenacts; or
  - (e)renumbers and amends.
- (2)"Boldface" means the brief descriptive summary of the contents of a statutory section prepared by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel that is printed for each title, chapter, part, and section of the Utah Code.
- (3)"Concurrent resolution" means a written proposal of the Legislature and governor, which, to be approved, must be passed by both chambers of the Legislature and concurred to by the governor.
- (4)"Constitutional joint resolution" means a joint resolution proposing to amend, enact, or repeal portions of the Utah Constitution which, to be approved for submission to the voters, must be passed by a two-thirds vote of both chambers of the Legislature.
- (5)"Drafting instructions" means:
- (a)specific information concerning the change or addition to law or policy that a legislator intends to propose through legislation; or
  - (b)a specific situation or concern that a legislator intends to address through legislation.
- (6)"House resolution" means a written proposal of the House of Representatives which, to be approved, must be passed by the House of Representatives.
- (7)"Joint resolution" means a written proposal of the Legislature which, to be approved, must be passed by both chambers of the Legislature, including a constitutional joint resolution.
- (8)"Laws of Utah" means all of the laws currently in effect in Utah.
- (9)"Legislation" means a bill or resolution introduced for consideration by the Legislature.
- (10)"Request for legislation" means a formal request from a legislator or an authorized legislative committee that the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel prepare a bill or resolution.
- (11)"Resolution" includes a joint resolution, concurrent resolution, House resolution, and Senate resolution.
- (12)"Senate resolution" means a written proposal of the Senate which, to be approved, must be passed by the Senate.
- (13)"Statute" means a law that has met the constitutional requirements for enactment.
- (14)"Statutory section" means the unique unit of the laws of Utah that is identified by a title, chapter, and section number.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-1-101 Definitions.**

As used in this title:

- (1)"Bill" means legislation introduced for consideration by the Legislature that does any, some, or all of the following to Utah statutes:
- (a)amends;
  - (b)enacts;
  - (c)repeals;
  - (d)repeals and reenacts; or
  - (e)renumbers and amends.
- (2)"Boldface" means the brief descriptive summary of the contents of a statutory section prepared by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel that is printed for each title, chapter, part, and section of the Utah Code.



- (3)"Concurrent resolution" means a written proposal of the Legislature and governor, which, to be approved, must be passed by both chambers of the Legislature and concurred to by the governor.
- (4)"Constitutional joint resolution" means a joint resolution proposing to amend, enact, or repeal portions of the Utah Constitution which, to be approved for submission to the voters, must be passed by a two-thirds vote of both chambers of the Legislature.
- (5)"Drafting instructions" means:
  - (a)specific information concerning the change or addition to law or policy that a legislator intends to propose through legislation; or
  - (b)a specific situation or concern that a legislator intends to address through legislation.
- (6)"House resolution" means a written proposal of the House of Representatives which, to be approved, must be passed by the House of Representatives.
- (7)"Joint resolution" means a written proposal of the Legislature which, to be approved, must be passed by both chambers of the Legislature, including a constitutional joint resolution.
- (8)"Laws of Utah" means all of the laws currently in effect in Utah.
- (9)"Legislation" means a bill or resolution introduced for consideration by the Legislature.
- (10)"Legislative sponsor" means:
  - (a)the chief sponsor under JR4-2-103; or
  - (b)the legislator designated by the chief sponsor to be the opposite chamber floor sponsor.
- (11)"Request for legislation" means a formal request from a legislator or an authorized legislative committee that the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel prepare a bill or resolution.
- (12)"Resolution" includes a joint resolution, concurrent resolution, House resolution, and Senate resolution.
- (13)"Senate resolution" means a written proposal of the Senate which, to be approved, must be passed by the Senate.
- (14)"Statute" means a law that has met the constitutional requirements for enactment.
- (15)"Statutory section" means the unique unit of the laws of Utah that is identified by a title, chapter, and section number.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

## **Part 2 Bill Format**

### **JR4-1-201 General bill format requirements.**

- (1) Each bill shall be typewritten or printed on paper 8-1/2 by 11 inches.
- (2)
  - (a) When a bill proposes to enact new law, all of the language proposed to be enacted by the bill shall be underlined.
  - (b) When a bill proposes to enact a statutory section of new law, all of the language in the entire section must be underlined.
  - (c) When a bill proposes to repeal an existing statutory section and reenact that statutory section using new language, the new language of the entire section shall be underlined.
- (3) When a bill proposes to amend a statutory section without repealing the entire statutory section:

- (a) all of the language to be repealed must appear between brackets with the letters struck through; and
  - (b) all of the new language proposed to be enacted by the bill must be underlined.
- (4) When a bill proposes to repeal a statutory section, the statutory sections to be repealed shall be listed in the long title as required by these rules and listed by statutory section number and bold face at the end of the bill before any special clauses.

Enacted by H.J.R. 11, 2007 General Session

**JR4-1-201 General bill format requirements.**

- (1) Each bill shall be typewritten or printed on paper 8-1/2 by 11 inches.
- (2)
- (a) When a bill proposes to enact new law, all of the language proposed to be enacted by the bill shall be underlined.
  - (b) When a bill proposes to enact a statutory section of new law, all of the language in the entire section must be underlined.
  - (c) When a bill proposes to repeal an existing statutory section and reenact that statutory section using new language, the new language of the entire section shall be underlined.
- (3) When a bill proposes to amend a statutory section without repealing the entire statutory section:
- (a) all of the language to be repealed must appear with the letters struck through; and
  - (b) all of the new language proposed to be enacted by the bill must be underlined.
- (4) When a bill proposes to repeal a statutory section, the statutory sections to be repealed shall be listed in the long title as required by these rules and listed by statutory section number and bold face at the end of the bill before any special clauses.

Amended by H.J.R. 4, 2025 General Session

**JR4-1-202 Specific bill format requirements.**

- (1) Each bill shall contain:
- (a) a designation containing the information required by Subsection (2);
  - (b) a short title, which provides a short common description of the bill;
  - (c) the year and type of legislative session in which the bill is to be introduced;
  - (d) the phrase "State of Utah";
  - (e) the sponsor's name, after the heading "Chief Sponsor:";
  - (f) if the bill is a House bill that has passed third reading in the House, the Senate sponsor's name after the heading "Senate Sponsor:";
  - (g) if the bill is a Senate bill that has passed third reading in the Senate, the House sponsor's name after the heading "House Sponsor:";
  - (h) a long title, which includes:
    - (i) a brief general description of the subject matter in the bill;
    - (ii) a list of each section of the Utah Code affected by the bill, which cites by statute number those statutes that the bill proposes be amended, enacted, repealed and reenacted, renumbered and amended, and repealed; and
    - (iii) for bills that contain an appropriation, the sum proposed to be appropriated by the bill unless the bill is an appropriation bill or supplemental appropriation bill whose single subject is the appropriation of money;
  - (i) an enacting clause in the following form: "Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:"; and

- (j)the subject matter, given in one or more sections.
- (2)The designation shall be a heading that identifies the bill by its chamber of introduction and by unique number assigned to it by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel and shall be in the following form: "S.B." or "H.B." followed by the number assigned to the bill.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-1-202 Specific bill format requirements.**

- (1)Each bill shall contain:
  - (a)a designation containing the information required by Subsection (2);
  - (b)a short title, which provides a short description of the bill;
  - (c)the year and type of legislative session in which the bill is to be introduced;
  - (d)the phrase "State of Utah";
  - (e)the sponsor's name, after the heading "Chief Sponsor:";
  - (f)if the bill is a House bill that has passed third reading in the House, the Senate sponsor's name after the heading "Senate Sponsor:";
  - (g)if the bill is a Senate bill that has passed third reading in the Senate, the House sponsor's name after the heading "House Sponsor:";
  - (h)a long title, which includes:
    - (i)a brief general description of the subject matter in the bill;
    - (ii)a list of the bill's key provisions;
    - (iii)a list of each section of the Utah Code affected by the bill, which cites by statute number those statutes that the bill proposes be amended, enacted, repealed and reenacted, renumbered and amended, and repealed; and
    - (iv)for bills that contain an appropriation, the sum proposed to be appropriated by the bill unless the bill is an appropriation bill or supplemental appropriation bill whose single subject is the appropriation of money;
  - (i)an enacting clause in the following form: "Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:"; and
  - (j)the subject matter, given in one or more sections.
- (2)The designation shall be a heading that identifies the bill by the bill's chamber of introduction and by unique number assigned to the bill by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel and shall be in the following form: "S.B." or "H.B." followed by the number assigned to the bill.
- (3)The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall draft a bill's short title and long title described in Subsection (1) using language that:
  - (a)accurately and objectively describes the bill's contents; and
  - (b)does not explicitly or implicitly advocate for one or more of the bill's policy objectives.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR4-1-203 Effective date of bills.**

- (1)
  - (a) Unless otherwise directed by the Legislature and subject to Subsections (2) and (3), a bill becomes effective 60 days after the adjournment of the session at which it passed.
  - (b) The 60 days begins to run the day after the Legislature adjourns sine die.
- (2)

- (a) The effective date of a bill may not be a date later than January 1 of the second calendar year immediately following the calendar year of the session at which the bill is passed.
- (b) A bill with a contingent effective date is not subject to Subsection (2)(a).
- (3)
  - (a) If the effective date of a bill is contingent, before the bill may be introduced:
    - (i) the bill sponsor shall inform the legislative general counsel of the contingent effective date; and
    - (ii) the legislative general counsel shall, on behalf of the bill sponsor, request approval of the contingent effective date from the president and speaker.
  - (b) A bill that has a contingent effective date that is not approved by the president and the speaker may not be introduced.
  - (c) Subsections (3)(a) and (b) do not apply to a bill that has a contingent effective date that is contingent on voter approval of an amendment to the Utah Constitution.
- (4) A rules committee, a standing committee, the Senate, or the House of Representatives is prohibited from suspending the provisions of Subsection (2) or (3).

### **Part 3 Resolution Format**

#### **JR4-1-301 General resolution format requirements.**

- (1) Each resolution shall be typewritten or printed on paper 8-1/2 by 11 inches.
- (2) Each resolution shall contain:
  - (a) a designation containing the information required by Subsection (3);
  - (b) a short title;
  - (c) the year and type of legislative session in which the resolution is to be introduced;
  - (d) the phrase "State of Utah";
  - (e) the sponsor's name, after the heading "Chief Sponsor:";
  - (f) the Senate sponsor's name after the heading "Senate Sponsor:" if the resolution:
    - (i) is a concurrent resolution or a joint resolution;
    - (ii) originated in the House of Representatives; and
    - (iii) has passed third reading in the House of Representatives;
  - (g) the House sponsor's name after the heading "House Sponsor:" if the resolution:
    - (i) is a concurrent resolution or a joint resolution;
    - (ii) originated in the Senate; and
    - (iii) has passed third reading in the Senate;
  - (h) a long title, which shall include a list of constitutional sections, legislative rules, or the Utah Supreme Court's Rules of Procedure or Rules of Evidence affected, if applicable;
  - (i) a resolving clause containing the information required by Subsection (4);
  - (j) for joint resolutions, concurrent resolutions, Senate resolutions, and House resolutions:
    - (i) one or more paragraphs that begin with the word "Whereas" that function as the preamble; and
    - (ii) one or more paragraphs that begin with the words "Be it Resolved" that identify the statement of purpose or policy; and
  - (k) special clauses including, if necessary, an effective date.

- (3) The designation shall be a heading that identifies the resolution by the resolution's chamber of introduction and by unique number assigned to the resolution by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel and shall be in the following form:
  - (a) for a joint resolution, unless the resolution converted to a joint resolution in accordance with JR4-5-104: "S.J.R." or "H.J.R." followed by the number assigned to the joint resolution;
  - (b) for a concurrent resolution, regardless of whether the concurrent resolution converts to a joint resolution in accordance with JR4-5-104: "S.C.R." or "H.C.R." followed by the number assigned to the concurrent resolution;
  - (c) for a Senate resolution: "S.R." followed by the number assigned to the Senate resolution; or
  - (d) for a House resolution: "H.R." followed by the number assigned to the House resolution.
- (4) Each resolution shall contain a resolving clause in one of the following forms:
  - (a) in a constitutional joint resolution, or in a joint resolution proposing to amend the Utah Supreme Court's Rules of Procedure or Rules of Evidence: "Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, with at least two-thirds of all members elected to each of the two houses concurring:";
  - (b) in a joint resolution: "Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:";
  - (c) in a concurrent resolution: "Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, with the Governor concurring:";
  - (d) in a Senate resolution: "Be it resolved by the Senate of the state of Utah:"; or
  - (e) in a House resolution: "Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the state of Utah:".

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-1-302 Effective date of resolutions.**

- (1) Unless otherwise directed by the Legislature and subject to Subsections (2) and (3), a resolution becomes effective on:
  - (a) the day that the resolution receives final approval from:
    - (i) the House of Representatives or the Senate, if the resolution is a single chamber resolution;
    - (ii) both the House of Representatives and the Senate, if the resolution is a joint resolution;
    - (iii) the House of Representatives, the Senate, and the governor, if the resolution is a concurrent resolution; or
    - (iv) the House of Representatives, the Senate, and the voters at the next general election, if the resolution is a constitutional joint resolution; or
  - (b) the day after the day on which the time period described in JR4-5-104 expires, if the resolution is a concurrent resolution that converts to a joint resolution in accordance with JR4-5-104.
- (2)
  - (a) The effective date of a resolution may not be a date later than December 31 of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year of the session at which the resolution is passed.
  - (b) A resolution with a contingent effective date is not subject to Subsection (2)(a).
- (3)
  - (a) If the effective date of a resolution is contingent, before the resolution may be introduced:
    - (i) the resolution sponsor shall inform the legislative general counsel of the contingent effective date; and
    - (ii) the legislative general counsel shall, on behalf of the resolution sponsor, request approval of the contingent effective date from the president and speaker.
  - (b) A resolution that has a contingent effective date that is not approved by the president and the speaker may not be introduced.

- (c) Subsections (3)(a) and (b) do not apply to a resolution to amend the Utah Constitution that is contingent on approval by the voters.
- (4) A rules committee, a standing committee, the Senate, or the House of Representatives may not suspend the provisions of Subsection (2) or (3).

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-1-303 Distribution of resolutions.**

- (1)
  - (a) Subject to Subsection (2), the secretary of the Senate shall ensure that Senate Resolutions and Senate Joint Resolutions are distributed as required by the resolution.
  - (b) Subject to Subsection (2), the chief clerk of the House shall ensure that House Resolutions and House Joint Resolutions are distributed as required in the resolution.
- (2) If either the House or the Senate, or both, enact a resolution urging action by the United States House of Representatives, the United States Senate, or the United States Congress as a whole, in informing those entities of the action, the resolution may only be sent to:
  - (a) the Utah congressional delegation;
  - (b) the speaker of the United States House of Representatives;
  - (c) the majority leader of the United States Senate; and
  - (d) at the request of the legislative sponsor, any member of the appropriate U.S. House or U.S. Senate committee or subcommittee.

Enacted by H.J.R. 11, 2007 General Session

**Part 4  
Amendments in Context**

**JR4-1-401 Identifying adopted amendments in context.**

- (1) When a Senate committee or floor amendment is adopted in the Senate, the Senate amendment shall be noted in the legislation with additional spacing and markers indicating the beginning and ending of the adopted Senate amendment.
- (2) When a House committee or floor amendment is adopted in the House, the House amendment shall be noted in the legislation with additional spacing and markers indicating the beginning and ending of the adopted House amendment.
- (3)
  - (a) Notwithstanding JR4-1-201, and except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), when an additional section from the Utah Code is added to a bill by amendment:
    - (i) all of the language in the section that is to be repealed must appear between brackets with the letters struck through; and
    - (ii) all of the new language in the section that is proposed to be enacted by the bill must be underlined.
  - (b) If the additional section added to the bill by amendment is to be repealed, the text of the repealed section need not be included.

Enacted by H.J.R. 11, 2007 General Session

**JR4-1-401 Requesting amendments -- Identifying adopted amendments in context.**

- (1)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b):
    - (i) only a senator may request an amendment for introduction in a Senate standing committee or on the Senate floor; and
    - (ii) only a representative may request an amendment for introduction in a House standing committee or on the House floor.
  - (b) A legislative sponsor of the legislation may request an amendment for introduction in a Senate or House standing committee, regardless of whether the legislator is a senator or a representative.
- (2) When a Senate committee or floor amendment is adopted in the Senate, the Senate amendment shall be noted in the legislation with additional spacing and markers indicating the beginning and ending of the adopted Senate amendment.
- (3) When a House committee or floor amendment is adopted in the House, the House amendment shall be noted in the legislation with additional spacing and markers indicating the beginning and ending of the adopted House amendment.

Amended by H.J.R. 4, 2025 General Session

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**Chapter 2**  
**Requesting and Introducing Bills and Resolutions**

**Part 1**  
**Requesting Bills or Resolutions**

**JR4-2-101 Requests for legislation -- Contents -- Timing.**

- (1)
- (a) A legislator wishing to introduce a bill or resolution shall file a request for legislation with the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel within the time limits established by this rule.
  - (b) The request for legislation shall:
    - (i) designate the chief sponsor, who is knowledgeable about and responsible for providing pertinent information as the legislation is drafted; and
    - (ii) include drafting instructions for the legislation.
  - (c)
    - (i)
      - (A) The chief sponsor may modify the drafting instructions provided in accordance with Subsection (1)(b)(ii) only if the modified drafting instructions do not deviate from the core subject matter of the original drafting instructions.
      - (B) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall apply the standard described in Subsection (1)(c)(i)(A) in a manner that favors the chief sponsor.
    - (ii) If the chief sponsor wishes to modify the drafting instructions in a manner prohibited under Subsection (1)(c)(i), the chief sponsor shall file a new, separate request for legislation in accordance with this rule.

- (2)
- (a) Any legislator may file a request for legislation beginning 60 days after the Legislature adjourns its annual general session sine die.
  - (b) A legislator-elect may file a request for legislation beginning on:
    - (i) the day after the date the election canvass is completed; or
    - (ii) if the legislator-elect's election results have not been finalized as of the canvass date, the day after the date the election results for the legislator-elect's race are finalized.
  - (c)
    - (i) An incumbent legislator may not file any requests for legislation as of the date that the legislator:
      - (A) fails to file to run for election to a seat in the Legislature;
      - (B) is ineligible to be included on the ballot for the election in which the legislator would have sought an additional term; or
      - (C) fails to win reelection and the legislator's opponent is eligible to file a request for legislation under Subsection (2)(b).
    - (ii) Subsection (2)(c)(i) does not apply to a request for legislation for:
      - (A) a general session that occurs while the legislator is in office; or
      - (B) a special session that occurs while the legislator is in office.
  - (d)
    - (i) If, for any reason, a legislator who filed a request for legislation is unavailable to serve in the next annual general session, the former legislator may seek another legislator to assume sponsorship of each request for legislation filed by the legislator who is unavailable to serve.
    - (ii) If the former legislator is unable to find another legislator to sponsor the legislation within 30 days, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall abandon each request for legislation from the legislator who is unavailable to serve.
  - (e)
    - (i) If a legislator dies while in office and is the chief sponsor of one or more requests for legislation or pieces of legislation, the individual appointed to the legislator's seat may assume sponsorship of each request for legislation or piece of legislation.
    - (ii) If the individual appointed to the legislator's seat chooses not to assume sponsorship of one or more of the legislator's requests for legislation or pieces of legislation, the following individual shall seek another legislator to assume sponsorship of each request for legislation or piece of legislation:
      - (A) if the legislator was a member of the House majority caucus, the House majority leader;
      - (B) if the legislator was a member of the House minority caucus, the House minority leader;
      - (C) if the legislator was a member of the Senate majority caucus, the Senate majority leader;
      - or
      - (D) if the legislator was a member of the Senate minority caucus, the Senate minority leader.
    - (iii) If the individual described in Subsection (2)(e)(ii) does not find a new sponsor for a request for legislation, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall abandon the request for legislation.
- (3)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(c), a legislator may not file a request for legislation with the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel after noon on the 11th day of the annual general session.
  - (b) On the 11th day of the annual general session, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall make public on the Legislature's website the short title and sponsor of each



request for legislation, unless the sponsor abandons the request for legislation before noon on the 11th day of the annual general session.

(c)

(i) After the 11th day of the annual general session, a legislator may file a request for legislation only if:

(A) for House legislation, the representative makes a motion to request legislation for drafting and introduction and that motion is approved by a constitutional majority of the House; or

(B) for Senate legislation, the senator makes a motion to request legislation for drafting and introduction and that motion is approved by a constitutional majority vote of the Senate.

(ii) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall make public on the Legislature's website the short title and sponsor of each request for legislation described in this Subsection (3)(c).

(4) After a request for legislation is abandoned, a legislator may not revive the request for legislation.

(5) A legislator wishing to obtain funding for a project, program, or entity, when that funding request does not require that a statute be enacted, repealed, or amended, may not file a request for legislation but instead shall file a request for appropriation by following the procedures and requirements of JR3-2-701.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

#### **JR4-2-101 Requests for legislation -- Timing.**

(1) As used in this rule, "appointed legislator" means:

(a) an incumbent legislator appointed to replace another legislator who resigns or is unable to serve; or

(b) an individual appointed to replace a legislator who resigns or is unable to serve.

(2)

(a) A legislator wishing to introduce a bill or resolution shall file a request for legislation with the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel within the time limits established by this rule.

(b) The request for legislation shall:

(i) designate the chief sponsor, who is knowledgeable about and responsible for providing pertinent information as the legislation is drafted; and

(ii) include drafting instructions for the legislation.

(c)

(i)

(A) The chief sponsor may modify the drafting instructions provided in accordance with Subsection (2)(b)(ii) only if the modified drafting instructions do not deviate from the core subject matter of the original drafting instructions.

(B) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall apply the standard described in Subsection (2)(c)(i)(A) in a manner that favors the chief sponsor.

(ii) If the chief sponsor wishes to modify the drafting instructions in a manner prohibited under Subsection (2)(c)(i), the chief sponsor shall file a new, separate request for legislation in accordance with this rule.

(3)

(a) Any legislator may file a request for legislation beginning 60 days after the Legislature adjourns its annual general session sine die.

(b) A legislator-elect may file a request for legislation beginning on:

- (i) the day after:
    - (A) for a single county race, the date on which the county election canvass is completed; or
    - (B) for a multi-county race, the date on which the statewide election canvass is completed; or
  - (ii) if the legislator-elect's election results have not been finalized as of the canvass date, the day after the date the election results for the legislator-elect's race are finalized.
- (c)
- (i) An incumbent legislator may not file any requests for legislation as of the date that the legislator:
    - (A) fails to file to run for election to a seat in the Legislature;
    - (B) is ineligible to be included on the ballot for the election in which the legislator would have sought an additional term; or
    - (C) fails to win reelection and the legislator's opponent is eligible to file a request for legislation under Subsection (3)(b).
  - (ii) Subsection (3)(c)(i) does not apply to a request for legislation for:
    - (A) a general session that occurs while the legislator is in office; or
    - (B) a special session that occurs while the legislator is in office.
- (d)
- (i) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(e), if a legislator who filed a request for legislation is unable to serve in the next annual general session for any reason, the former legislator may seek another legislator to assume sponsorship of the former legislator's legislation.
  - (ii) If a former legislator is unable to find another legislator to assume sponsorship under Subsection (3)(d)(i), the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall abandon each request the earlier of:
    - (A) 30 days after the day on which the former legislator is unable to serve; or
    - (B) noon on the 11th day of the annual general session.
  - (iii) The 30-day time period described in Subsection (3)(d)(ii)(A) begins the day on which a former legislator no longer holds the former legislator's seat.
- (e)
- (i) If a legislator dies while in office and is the chief sponsor of one or more requests for legislation or pieces of legislation, the individual appointed to the legislator's seat may assume sponsorship of each request for legislation or piece of legislation.
  - (ii) If the individual appointed to the legislator's seat chooses not to assume sponsorship of one or more of the legislator's requests for legislation or pieces of legislation, the following individual shall seek another legislator to assume sponsorship of each request for legislation or piece of legislation:
    - (A) if the legislator was a member of the House majority caucus, the House majority leader;
    - (B) if the legislator was a member of the House minority caucus, the House minority leader;
    - (C) if the legislator was a member of the Senate majority caucus, the Senate majority leader;or
    - (D) if the legislator was a member of the Senate minority caucus, the Senate minority leader.
  - (iii) If the individual described in Subsection (3)(e)(ii) does not find a new sponsor:
    - (A) for a request for legislation, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall abandon the request for legislation; and
    - (B) for legislation, the legislation shall be returned to the originating chamber and filed.
- (f)
- (i) A legislator-elect who is an incumbent legislator may retain any requests for legislation the legislator-elect filed before the date described in Subsection (3)(b).

- (ii) An appointed legislator who is an incumbent legislator may retain any requests for legislation the appointed legislator filed before assuming the seat to which the legislator is appointed.
- (4)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(c), a legislator may not file a request for legislation with the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel after noon on the 11th day of the annual general session.
  - (b) On the 11th day of the annual general session, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall make public on the Legislature's website the short title and sponsor of each request for legislation, unless the sponsor abandons the request for legislation before noon on the 11th day of the annual general session.
  - (c)
    - (i) After the 11th day of the annual general session, a legislator may file a request for legislation only if:
      - (A) for House legislation, the representative makes a motion to request legislation for drafting and introduction and that motion is approved by a constitutional majority of the House; or
      - (B) for Senate legislation, the senator makes a motion to request legislation for drafting and introduction and that motion is approved by a constitutional majority vote of the Senate.
    - (ii) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall make public on the Legislature's website the short title and sponsor of each request for legislation described in this Subsection (4)(c).
- (5) After a request for legislation is abandoned, a legislator may not revive the request for legislation.
- (6) A legislator wishing to obtain funding for a project, program, or entity, when that funding request does not require that a statute be enacted, repealed, or amended, may not file a request for legislation but instead shall file a request for appropriation by following the procedures and requirements of JR3-2-701.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR4-2-102 Drafting and prioritizing legislation.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "interim committee" means a committee established under JR7-1-201.
- (2)
- (a) Requests for legislation shall be drafted on a first-in, first-out basis, except for legislation that is prioritized under the provisions of this rule.
  - (b) When sufficient drafting information is available, the following requests for legislation shall be drafted before other requests for legislation, in the following order of priority:
    - (i) a committee bill file, as defined in JR7-1-101; and
    - (ii) a request for legislation that is prioritized by a legislator under Subsection (3).
- (3)
- (a) Beginning on the first day on which a request for legislation may be filed under JR4-2-101, a member of the House of Representatives may designate up to four requests for legislation as priority requests, and a member of the Senate may designate up to five requests for legislation as priority requests, subject to the following deadlines:
    - (i) except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), priority request number one for representatives, and priority request numbers one and two for senators, must be requested on or before November 15, or the following regular business day if November 15 falls on a weekend or a holiday;

- (ii) priority request number two for representatives, and priority request number three for senators, must be requested on or before the first Thursday in December, or the following business day if the first Thursday falls on a holiday;
  - (iii) priority request number three for representatives, and four for senators must be requested on or before the first Thursday in January, or the following business day if the first Thursday falls on a holiday; and
  - (iv) priority request number four for representatives, and five for senators must be requested on or before the first Thursday of the annual general session.
- (b)
- (i) A representative-elect who is not a sitting legislator, shall designate priority request number one on or before the first Thursday in December, or the following business day if the first Thursday falls on a holiday.
  - (ii) A representative-elect who is a sitting senator shall designate each of the representative-elect's priority requests in accordance with the deadlines for representatives described in Subsection (3)(a).
  - (iii)
    - (A) A senator-elect who is not a sitting legislator, shall designate priority request numbers one and two on or before the first Thursday in December, or the following business day if the first Thursday falls on a holiday.
    - (B) A senator-elect who is a sitting representative, shall designate priority request number one in accordance with Subsection (3)(a)(i), and priority request number two on or before the first Thursday in December, or the following business day if the first Thursday falls on a holiday.
- (c)
- (i) A legislator who is appointed to replace a legislator who resigns or is otherwise unable to serve, may:
    - (A) if the legislator is a representative, designate up to four requests for legislation as priority requests, less the number of priority requests designated by the legislator's predecessor;
    - or
    - (B) if the legislator is a senator, designate up to five requests for legislation as priority requests, less the number of priority requests designated by the legislator's predecessor.
  - (ii) The deadline for an appointed legislator to designate each priority request is the same as the deadline that would apply if the designation were made by the legislator's predecessor.
- (d)
- (i) A legislator who fails to make a priority request on or before a deadline loses that priority request.
  - (ii) Subsection (3)(d)(i) does not prohibit a legislator from using any remaining priority requests that are associated with a later deadline, if available.
- (e) A legislator may not designate a request for legislation as a priority request unless the request:
- (i) provides specific or conceptual information concerning the change or addition to law or policy that the legislator intends the proposed legislation to make; or
  - (ii) identifies the specific situation or concern that the legislator intends the legislation to address.
- (4) A legislator may not:
- (a) revoke a priority designation once it has been requested;
  - (b) transfer a priority designation to a different request for legislation; or
  - (c) transfer a priority designation to another legislator.

- (5)
- (a) Notwithstanding Subsection (4), a request for legislation designated as a priority request remains a priority request if the request for legislation is transferred to another legislator in accordance with:
    - (i) Subsection JR4-2-101(2)(d) because the legislator resigned or was removed from office; or
    - (ii) Subsection JR4-2-101(2)(e).
  - (b) A priority request described in Subsection (5)(a) does not count against the number of priority designations to which the receiving legislator is entitled under Subsection (3).
- (6) Except as provided under JR4-2-502 or as otherwise provided in these rules, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:
- (a) reserve as many bill numbers as necessary to number the bills recommended by an interim committee; and
  - (b) number all other legislation in the order in which the legislation is approved by the sponsor for numbering.

**JR4-2-102 Drafting and prioritizing legislation.**

New Text.

Repealed and Re-enacted by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR4-2-103 Legislation -- Sponsorship requirements.**

- (1)
- (a) The legislator who approves the legislation for numbering is the chief sponsor.
  - (b) The chief sponsor may withdraw sponsorship of the legislation by following the procedures and requirements of Senate Rules or House Rules.
- (2)
- (a) Before or after the legislation is introduced, legislators from the same chamber as the chief sponsor may have their names added to or deleted from the legislation as co-sponsors by following the procedures and requirements of Senate Rules or House Rules.
  - (b) Except as provided in Subsection (3), only legislators who are members of the same chamber as the chief sponsor may co-sponsor legislation.
- (3) Before the secretary of the Senate or the chief clerk of the House may transfer legislation to the opposite chamber, the chief sponsor shall:
- (a) designate a member of the opposite chamber as sponsor of the legislation for that chamber; and
  - (b) provide the secretary or chief clerk with the name of that sponsor for designation on the legislation.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-2-103 Legislation -- Sponsorship.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "former legislator" means a legislator who:
- (a) is unable to serve in the next annual general session; or
  - (b) is an incumbent legislator appointed to replace another legislator who resigns or is unable to serve.
- (2)
- (a) The legislator who approves a request for legislation for numbering is the chief sponsor.

- (b)The chief sponsor may withdraw sponsorship of the legislation by following the procedures and requirements of Senate Rules or House Rules.
  - (c)Subject to JR4-2-102(4), the chief sponsor of the legislation cannot change more than twice.
- (3)
- (a)Before or after the legislation is introduced, legislators from the same chamber as the chief sponsor may have their names added to or deleted from the legislation as co-sponsors by following the procedures and requirements of Senate Rules or House Rules.
  - (b)Except as provided in Subsection (3), only legislators who are members of the same chamber as the chief sponsor may co-sponsor legislation.
- (4)Before the secretary of the Senate or the chief clerk of the House may transfer legislation to the opposite chamber, the chief sponsor shall:
- (a)designate a member of the opposite chamber as sponsor of the legislation for that chamber; and
  - (b)provide the secretary or chief clerk with the name of that sponsor for designation on the legislation.
- (5)
- (a)Except as provided in JR4-2-101(3)(e):
    - (i)a former legislator who is a senator and the chief sponsor of legislation may seek another senator to assume sponsorship of the former legislator's legislation; or
    - (ii)a former legislator who is a representative and the chief sponsor of legislation may seek another representative to assume sponsorship of the former legislator's legislation.
  - (b)If, within 30 days, a former legislator is unable to find another legislator to assume sponsorship of the former legislator's legislation, the legislation shall be returned to the originating chamber and filed.
  - (c)The 30-day time period described in Subsection (5)(b) begins the day on which a former legislator no longer holds the former legislator's seat.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

## **Part 2**

### **Substitute and Replacement Bills or Resolutions**

#### **JR4-2-201 Definitions.**

As used in this part:

- (1)"Committee substitute" means a substitute bill or resolution that is prepared for introduction in a Senate or House standing committee.
  - (2)"Floor substitute" means a substitute bill or resolution that is prepared for introduction on the Senate or House floor.
- (3)
- (a)"Germane" means that the substitute is relevant, appropriate, and in a natural and logical sequence to the subject matter of the original legislation.
  - (b)"Germane" includes a substitute that changes the effect or is in conflict with the spirit of the original legislation if the substance of the substitute can be encompassed within the subject of the underlying bill.
- (4)"Replacement legislation" means a bill, resolution, or substitute that replaces the original because of a technical error.

- (5)"Substitute" means a new bill or resolution that:
- (a)replaces the old bill or resolution in title and body; and
  - (b)is germane to the subject of the original bill or resolution.

Amended by H.J.R. 5, 2021 General Session

**JR4-2-201 Definitions.**

As used in this part:

- (1)
- (a)"Germane" means that the substitute is relevant, appropriate, and in a natural and logical sequence to the subject matter of the original legislation.
  - (b)"Germane" includes a substitute that changes the effect or is in conflict with the spirit of the original legislation if the substance of the substitute can be encompassed within the subject of the underlying bill.
- (2)"Replacement legislation" means a bill, resolution, or substitute that replaces the original because of a technical error.
- (3)"Substitute" means a new bill or resolution that:
- (a)replaces the old bill or resolution in title and body; and
  - (b)is germane to the subject of the original bill or resolution.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR4-2-202 Substitute bills or resolutions.**

- (1)
- (a)By following the procedures and requirements of Senate or House rule, a legislator may propose a committee substitute to any Senate or House legislation that is under consideration by a committee of which the legislator is a member.
  - (b)By following the procedures and requirements of Senate or House rule, a legislator may propose a floor substitute to any Senate or House legislation that is under consideration by the chamber of which the legislator is a member.
- (2)To initiate drafting of a substitute, a legislator shall give instructions to the attorney who drafted the legislation.
- (3)After the substitute sponsor has approved the substitute, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:
- (a)electronically set the line numbers of the substitute;
  - (b)assign a version number to the substitute; and
  - (c)distribute the substitute according to the substitute sponsor's instructions.
- (4)
- (a)Subject to the other provisions of this rule, after the original version of the legislation is introduced, a rules committee, standing committee, or the Senate or House of Representatives may adopt the original version of the legislation or any substitute version of the legislation, regardless of the version number.
  - (b)
    - (i)If the version of the legislation being adopted was previously adopted, but replaced with a different version, the version of the legislation being adopted shall be adopted as it was previously introduced, without any amendments that may have been added to the introduced version.

- (ii) An amendment described in Subsection (4)(b)(i), or any other amendment otherwise in order, may be proposed by a motion separate from the motion to adopt that substitute or original version of the legislation.
- (c) A rules committee, a standing committee, the Senate, and the House of Representatives are prohibited from suspending the provisions of this Subsection (4).

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-2-202 Substitute bills or resolutions.**

- (1)
  - (a) To initiate drafting of a substitute, a legislator shall give instructions to the attorney who drafted the legislation.
  - (b) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(c):
    - (i) only a senator may request a substitute for introduction in a Senate standing committee or on the Senate floor; and
    - (ii) only a representative may request a substitute for introduction in a House standing committee or on the House floor.
  - (c) A legislative sponsor of the legislation may request a substitute for introduction in a Senate or House standing committee regardless of whether the legislator is a senator or a representative.
- (2) After the substitute sponsor has approved the substitute, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:
  - (a) electronically set the line numbers of the substitute;
  - (b) assign a version number to the substitute; and
  - (c) distribute the substitute according to the substitute sponsor's instructions.
- (3)
  - (a) Subject to the other provisions of this rule, after the original version of the legislation is introduced, a rules committee, standing committee, or the Senate or House of Representatives may adopt the original version of the legislation or any substitute version of the legislation, regardless of the version number.
  - (b)
    - (i) If the version of the legislation being adopted was previously adopted, but replaced with a different version, the version of the legislation being adopted shall be adopted as it was previously introduced, without any amendments that may have been added to the introduced version.
    - (ii) An amendment described in Subsection (3)(b)(i), or any other amendment otherwise in order, may be proposed by a motion separate from the motion to adopt that substitute or original version of the legislation.
  - (c) A rules committee, a standing committee, the Senate, and the House of Representatives are prohibited from suspending the provisions of this Subsection (3).

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR4-2-203 Replacement bills or resolutions.**

- (1) If the legislative general counsel determines that a numbered bill or resolution contains a technical error, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel may prepare and submit a replacement bill or resolution that corrects the error.
- (2) A sponsor may not file, and legislative staff may not create, replacement legislation if:



- (a) the original legislation has been approved by the sponsor;
  - (b) the legislation has been numbered; and
  - (c) copies of the legislation have been distributed.
- (3) Nothing in this rule prohibits a sponsor from preparing amendments to the original legislation or one or more substitutes of the original legislation and proposing their adoption by a committee or by either chamber of which the legislator is a member.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-2-203 Replacement bills or resolutions.**

- (1) If the legislative general counsel determines that a numbered bill or resolution contains a technical error, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel may prepare and submit a replacement bill or resolution that corrects the error.
- (2) A sponsor may not file, and legislative staff may not create, replacement legislation if:
- (a) the original legislation has been approved by the sponsor;
  - (b) the legislation has been numbered; and
  - (c) copies of the legislation have been distributed.
- (3) Nothing in this rule prohibits a sponsor from preparing amendments to the original legislation or one or more substitutes of the original legislation and proposing their adoption in accordance with JR4-3-108.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR4-2-204 Substitute bills and amendments to bills must be germane.**

A bill may not be amended or substituted unless the changes are germane to the purpose of the original bill.

Enacted by H.J.R. 11, 2007 General Session

**Part 3**  
**Drafting and Approval of Legislation by Office**  
**of Legislative Research and General Counsel**

**JR4-2-301 Drafting and sponsor approval of legislation.**

- (1) After receiving a request for legislation, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:
- (a) review the request and any accompanying draft; and
  - (b) draft the legislation for approval by the sponsor in the order and priority set under JR4-2-102.
- (2) In drafting the legislation, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall, when applicable:
- (a) ensure that the legislation is in proper legal form;
  - (b) remove any ambiguities;
  - (c) avoid constitutional or statutory conflicts; and
  - (d) correct technical errors as provided in Utah Code Section 36-12-12.
- (3) When the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel has completed the legislation, the office shall:

- (a) send the legislation to the chief sponsor for review and approval; and
- (b) after the chief sponsor approves the legislation, number and distribute the legislation as provided in JR4-2-503.

## **Part 4**

### **Committee Notes, Fiscal Notes, and Legislative Review Notes**

#### **JR4-2-401 Committee notes -- Notations on bill.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "authorized legislative committee" means the same as that term is defined in JR7-1-101.
- (2) After an authorized legislative committee approves a motion to favorably recommend draft legislation, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall note the following on the legislation when the legislation is numbered for introduction as a bill:
  - (a) that the authorized legislative committee recommended the legislation; and
  - (b) the committee vote, listed by numbers of yeas, nays, and absent.
- (3) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel may not place a note described in Subsection (2) on a piece of legislation if the motion to favorably recommend the draft legislation was made in violation of JR7-1-512(3).

#### **JR4-2-401 Committee notes -- Notations on bill.**

- (1) As used in this rule:
  - (a) "Authorized legislative committee" means the same as that term is defined in JR7-1-101.
  - (b) "Committee note" means a notation that the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel places on legislation that receives a favorable recommendation from an authorized legislative committee.
  - (c) "Technical correction" means a change that does not substantively alter legislation, including:
    - (i) correcting obvious typographical and grammatical errors;
    - (ii) correcting obvious errors and inconsistencies involving punctuation, capitalization, cross references, numbering, and wording;
    - (iii) modifying the long title of legislation, including a special clause, to ensure that the long title accurately reflects the legislation's content;
    - (iv) replacing an outdated section of Utah Code with the section that is currently in effect; or
    - (v) any combination of Subsections (1)(c)(i) through (iv).
- (2) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall ensure that a committee note includes:
  - (a) the name of the authorized legislative committee that recommended the legislation; and
  - (b) the committee vote, listed by numbers of yeas, nays, and absent.
- (3)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall remove a committee note from legislation when the legislation is amended or substituted.
  - (b) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel may not remove a committee note from legislation if an amendment or substitute makes a technical correction.

- (4) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel may not place a committee note on legislation if the motion to favorably recommend the draft legislation was made in violation of JR7-1-512(3).

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR4-2-403 Fiscal notes.**

- (1)
- (a)
- (i) When the legislative fiscal analyst receives the electronic copy of the approved legislation from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, that office shall, within three business days:
- (A) review and analyze the legislation to determine its fiscal impact; and
- (B) provide a fiscal note to the sponsor of the legislation.
- (ii) To the extent reasonably necessary, the three day deadline for the preparation of the fiscal note may be extended if:
- (A) the legislative fiscal analyst requests it, states the reasons for the delay, and informs the sponsor of the legislation of the delay; or
- (B) the legislation affects public retirement benefits, requires an actuarial analysis to prepare the fiscal note, and the legislative fiscal analyst informs the sponsor of the legislation of the delay.
- (b) If the legislative fiscal analyst determines that the legislation has no fiscal impact, the legislative fiscal analyst may release the fiscal note immediately after the sponsor has received a copy of the fiscal note.
- (c) The sponsor may:
- (i) approve the release of the fiscal note;
- (ii) direct that the fiscal note be held; or
- (iii) if the sponsor disagrees with the fiscal note, contact the legislative fiscal analyst to discuss that disagreement and provide evidence, data, or other information to support a revised fiscal note.
- (d) If the sponsor does not contact the legislative fiscal analyst with instructions about the fiscal note within one 24 hour legislative day, the legislative fiscal analyst shall release the fiscal note.
- (e) The legislative fiscal analyst shall make the final determination on the fiscal note.
- (f) The fiscal note shall be printed with the legislation.
- (2) If an amendment or a substitute to legislation appears to substantively change the fiscal impact of the legislation, the legislative fiscal analyst shall prepare an amended fiscal note for the legislation.
- (3) The fiscal note is not an official part of the legislation.

**JR4-2-406 Funding mix for state employee compensation adjustments and internal service fund rate impacts.**

- (1) The legislative fiscal analyst shall prepare a budget for state employee compensation adjustments and internal service fund rate impacts that minimizes costs to the unrestricted General Fund, Income Tax Fund, and Uniform School Fund, by:
- (a) using a mix of funding sources that is proportionate to that of the base budget, as defined in JR3-2-101, at the appropriation unit level for the same budget year;

- (b) including sources other than the unrestricted General Fund, Income Tax Fund, and Uniform School Fund, regardless of the availability of additional revenue;
  - (c) adjusting the funding mix when the full or partial use of one or more sources is directed in statute, federal regulation, or the terms of a federal grant; and
  - (d) adjusting the funding mix based on the appropriate use of funding sources other than the unrestricted General Fund, Income Tax Fund, and Uniform School Fund, transportation-related funds, federal funds, restricted accounts, and dedicated credits.
- (2) When the legislative fiscal analyst adjusts the funding mix in accordance with Subsection (1)(c) or (d), the legislative fiscal analyst shall:
- (a) eliminate the appropriate portion of the source from the funding mix;
  - (b) deduct the amount associated with the source from the base budget total;
  - (c) recalculate the proportional distribution among remaining sources; and
  - (d) distribute the appropriate budget adjustment amounts accordingly.
- (3) If the legislative fiscal analyst identifies a funding mix that would provide additional spending authority for sources other than the unrestricted General Fund, Income Tax Fund, and Uniform School Fund and additional revenue is unavailable, in accordance with Subsection (1)(b), an agency may make or request program reductions, reprioritizations, reallocations, or fee increases pursuant with Utah Code Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act.
- (4) The legislative fiscal analyst shall request that an internal service fund agency reflect state employee compensation adjustments and impacts from rate changes in other internal funds in the rates recommended by the internal service fund agency for a given budget cycle, either:
- (a) on a prospective basis for the budget year, based on an estimated amount; or
  - (b) on a one-year lag basis, if the specific internal service fund has sufficient operating reserves to maintain the internal service fund's fiscal integrity.
- (5)
- (a) The Executive Appropriations Committee may approve for one fiscal year exceptions to the budget preparation criteria described in Subsections (1) through (4).
  - (b) The legislative fiscal analyst shall prepare a budget that includes exceptions approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee under this Subsection (5).
  - (c) The Executive Appropriations Committee shall annually determine whether to re-approve an exception approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee under this Subsection (5).

## **Part 5**

### **Numbering, Distribution, and Printing of Bills and Resolutions**

#### **JR4-2-501 Numbering and distributing bills and resolutions.**

After receiving approval from the sponsor under JR4-2-301, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:

- (1) proofread the legislation and perform other quality control measures;
- (2) indicate on the first page of the legislation that the drafting attorney has approved the legislation for filing;
- (3) place a committee note on the legislation if required by JR4-2-401;
- (4) assign a number to the legislation to appear after the designation required by JR4-1-202 and JR4-1-301;
- (5) electronically set the legislation's line numbers; and

(6) distribute an electronic copy of the legislation as required by JR4-2-503.

**JR4-2-501 Numbering and distributing legislation.**

- (1) After receiving approval from a chief sponsor under JR4-2-301, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:
  - (a) proofread the legislation and perform other quality control measures;
  - (b) indicate on the first page of the legislation that the drafting attorney has approved the legislation for filing;
  - (c) place a committee note on the legislation if required by JR4-2-401;
  - (d) assign a number to the legislation to appear after the designation required by JR4-1-202 and JR4-1-301;
  - (e) electronically set the legislation's line numbers; and
  - (f) distribute an electronic copy of the legislation as required by JR4-2-503.
- (2) Subject to JR4-2-502, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall number legislation in the following order:
  - (a) legislation recommended by an authorized legislative committee; and
  - (b) legislation in the order in which the legislation is approved by the sponsor for numbering.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR4-2-502 Reservation of bill numbers.**

- (1) In each annual general legislative session, House Bills 1 through the number of bill numbers specified under Subsection (2)(a) and Senate Bills 1 through the number of bill numbers specified under Subsection (2)(a) are reserved for other appropriations and funding bills.
- (2)
  - (a) By November 1, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall notify the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel of the number of bill numbers to reserve in each chamber for fiscal legislation for the next annual general legislative session.
  - (b) The notice under Subsection (2)(a) shall include the short title and the chief sponsor of each bill number reserved.
- (3) To the extent practicable, each bill reserved under this rule shall alternate the sponsoring chamber between the House and Senate each year.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-2-503 Distribution of bills and resolutions and preparation for introduction.**

- (1) After the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel has numbered a piece of legislation, the office shall:
  - (a) provide an electronic copy of the legislation to the chief sponsor, the Office of Legislative Printing, and the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst; and
  - (b) post a copy on the Internet.
- (2) After receiving a copy of the numbered bill from legislative printing, the docket clerk shall:
  - (a) create the official backed copy of the legislation; and
  - (b) notify the secretary of the Senate or the chief clerk of the House that the legislation is ready for introduction.

Amended by S.J.R. 11, 2014 General Session

**JR4-2-504 Printing bills and resolutions.**

- (1) As provided in Senate or House Rules, legislation may be ordered printed in the number of copies considered necessary.
- (2) A sponsor may have copies of his legislation printed in the quantity that the sponsor considers necessary.
- (3) As provided in Senate or House Rules, legislation may be printed before receiving a committee note or fiscal note.

Enacted by H.J.R. 11, 2007 General Session

**JR4-2-505 Bill information requirements on legislative website.**

The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall publicly provide the following information on the Legislature's website:

- (1) a listing of each legislator's name and the number of requests for legislation that are currently open in the name of that legislator for the current legislative session; and
- (2) on the respective web page for each authorized legislative committee as defined in JR4-2-401:
  - (a) a listing of the short title of each request for legislation that:
    - (i) is opened by the committee or the committee's chairs, as provided under JR7-1-602; or
    - (ii) the authorized legislative committee voted to favorably recommend; and
  - (b) if the authorized legislative committee voted on a motion to favorably recommend a request for legislation described in Subsection (2)(a):
    - (i) a notation as to whether the authorized legislative committee approved the motion; and
    - (ii) a listing of the votes cast by the members of the authorized legislative committee, listed by name and vote.

### **Chapter 3**

## **Introduction and Consideration of Legislation**

### **Part 1**

## **Introduction and Consideration of Legislation**

**JR4-3-101 Introduction of legislation.**

- (1) The secretary of the Senate or chief clerk of the House shall inform the presiding officer about legislation ready for introduction.
- (2) When directed to do so by the presiding officer, the reading clerk shall introduce the legislation by reading its number and short title, which constitutes the legislation's first reading.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR4-3-102 Reference of legislation.**

- (1) During an annual general or special session of the Legislature, after a piece of legislation has been introduced and read for the first time, it shall be referred to a committee or to the floor as provided in Senate or House Rules.

- (2) The secretary of the Senate and the chief clerk of the House or their designees shall deliver all legislation assigned to a committee to the chair of that committee or to that chair's designee.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR4-3-102 Reference of legislation.**

During an annual general or special session of the Legislature, after legislation has been introduced and read for the first time, the legislation shall be referred to a committee or to the floor as provided in Senate or House Rules.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR4-3-103 Standing committee responsibilities -- Limitations.**

- (1) Each standing committee shall:
  - (a) examine legislation referred to it;
  - (b) amend or substitute the legislation if necessary; and
  - (c) report the legislation back to the floor.
- (2) After noon on the 41st day of the annual general session:
  - (a) a House standing committee may not consider a piece of legislation introduced by a member of the House; and
  - (b) a Senate standing committee may not consider a piece of legislation introduced by a member of the Senate.
- (3) If legislation is referred to an interim committee, the interim committee may examine and recommend to the sponsor any changes to it that the committee considers necessary.

**JR4-3-104 Floor action.**

According to the procedures and requirements of Senate Rules and House Rules, each chamber shall consider legislation that is referred to it by a committee or that is otherwise in its possession.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-3-105 Calendaring legislation -- Preference for legislation of other chamber.**

During the third and fourth days of each week:

- (1) the Senate shall consider House legislation appearing on the Senate calendar; and
- (2) the House shall consider Senate legislation appearing on the House calendar.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR4-3-105 Calendaring legislation -- Preference for legislation of other chamber.**

On Wednesday and Thursday of each week:

- (1) the Senate shall consider House legislation appearing on the Senate calendar; and
- (2) the House shall consider Senate legislation appearing on the House calendar.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR4-3-106 Notice to other chamber that legislation has failed.**

- (1) When a piece of legislation that passed the Senate is rejected by the House, the chief clerk of the House shall transmit notice of the rejection to the Senate.
- (2) When a piece of legislation that passed the House is rejected by the Senate, the secretary of the Senate shall transmit notice of the rejection to the House.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR4-3-107 Legislation transmitted to other chamber.**

- (1) The secretary of the Senate or chief clerk of the House shall:
  - (a) transmit notice of passage on third reading to the other chamber;
  - (b) comply with the requirements of Subsection (2) if necessary; and
  - (c) if sent to the other chamber, enter the date of transmission in the journal.
- (2) The secretary of the Senate or chief clerk of the House shall, before transmitting a piece of legislation to the other chamber, ensure that, if the legislation passed with amendments or was substituted, the amendments or substitute are:
  - (a) retyped or reprinted in the typeface and on the color paper designated for each chamber; and
  - (b) transmitted with the legislation.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-3-108 Consideration and action on amendments to legislation made in the other chamber.**

- (1)
  - (a) If the Senate amends and passes, or substitutes and passes, a piece of House legislation, the House:
    - (i) must either "concur" or "refuse to concur" in the amendments or substitute; and
    - (ii) may not amend or substitute the legislation.
  - (b)
    - (i) If the House concurs, the legislation shall be voted on for final passage in the House.
    - (ii) If the legislation passes, the chief clerk of the House shall notify the Senate, obtain the signatures required by JR4-5-101, and send the legislation to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel for enrolling.
  - (c) If the House refuses to concur in the Senate amendments or substitute to a piece of House legislation, the chief clerk of the House and the House shall follow the procedures and requirements of Joint Rules Title 3, Chapter 2, Part 9, Conference Committees.
- (2)
  - (a) If the House amends and passes, or substitutes and passes, a piece of Senate legislation, the Senate:
    - (i) must either "concur" or "refuse to concur" in the amendments or substitute; and
    - (ii) may not amend or substitute the legislation.
  - (b)
    - (i) If the Senate concurs, the legislation shall be voted on for final passage in the Senate.
    - (ii) If the legislation passes, the secretary of the Senate shall notify the House, obtain the signatures required by JR4-6-101, and send the legislation to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel for enrolling.
  - (c) If the Senate refuses to concur in the House amendments or substitute to a piece of Senate legislation, the secretary of the Senate and the Senate shall follow the procedures and requirements of Joint Rules Title 3, Chapter 2, Part 9, Conference Committees.



Amended by H.J.R. 5, 2021 General Session

**JR4-3-108 Consideration and action on legislation made in the other chamber.**

(1) As used in this rule:

- (a) "Committee amendment sponsor" means the legislator who requests an amendment to legislation for introduction in a Senate or House standing committee.
- (b) "Committee substitute sponsor" means the legislator who requests substitute legislation for introduction in a Senate or House standing committee.
- (c) "Floor amendment sponsor" means the legislator who requests an amendment to legislation for introduction on the Senate or House floor.
- (d) "Floor substitute sponsor" means the legislator who requests substitute legislation for introduction on the Senate or House floor.

(2)

- (a) A Senate standing committee may not adopt an amendment or substitute legislation if the committee amendment sponsor or the committee substitute sponsor is a representative, unless the representative is the legislation's legislative sponsor.
- (b) A House standing committee may not adopt an amendment or substitute legislation if the committee amendment sponsor or the committee substitute sponsor is a senator, unless the senator is the legislation's legislative sponsor.

(3)

- (a) The Senate may not adopt an amendment or substitute legislation unless the floor amendment sponsor or the floor substitute sponsor is a senator.
- (b) The House may not adopt an amendment or substitute legislation unless the floor amendment sponsor or the floor substitute sponsor is a representative.

(4)

- (a) If the Senate amends and passes, or substitutes and passes, a piece of House legislation, the House:
  - (i) must either "concur" or "refuse to concur" in the amendments or substitute; and
  - (ii) may not amend or substitute the legislation.
- (b)
  - (i) If the House concurs, the legislation shall be voted on for final passage in the House.
  - (ii) If the legislation passes, the chief clerk of the House shall notify the Senate, obtain the signatures required by JR4-5-101, and send the legislation to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel for enrolling.
- (c) If the House refuses to concur in the Senate amendments or substitute to a piece of House legislation, the chief clerk of the House and the House shall follow the procedures and requirements of Joint Rules Title 3, Chapter 2, Part 9, Conference Committees.

(5)

- (a) If the House amends and passes, or substitutes and passes, a piece of Senate legislation, the Senate:
  - (i) must either "concur" or "refuse to concur" in the amendments or substitute; and
  - (ii) may not amend or substitute the legislation.
- (b)
  - (i) If the Senate concurs, the legislation shall be voted on for final passage in the Senate.
  - (ii) If the legislation passes, the secretary of the Senate shall notify the House, obtain the signatures required by JR4-5-101, and send the legislation to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel for enrolling.

- (c) If the Senate refuses to concur in the House amendments or substitute to a piece of Senate legislation, the secretary of the Senate and the Senate shall follow the procedures and requirements of Joint Rules Title 3, Chapter 2, Part 9, Conference Committees.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR4-3-109 Striking the enacting clause.**

- (1)
  - (a)
    - (i) Either chamber may strike the enacting clause on any piece of legislation by following the procedures and requirements of Subsection (1)(a)(ii).
    - (ii) To strike an enacting clause, a legislator shall make a motion on the floor to strike the enacting clause and a majority of the members of that chamber must approve the motion.
  - (b) If the enacting clause of a piece of legislation is struck:
    - (i) the action conclusively defeats the legislation; and
    - (ii) a motion to reconsider the action is out of order.
- (2) The enacting clause of each piece of legislation that has not passed the Legislature before adjournment sine die of an annual general session or a special session is automatically stricken.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**Part 2**

**Transmitting and Recording Receipt of Legislation and Notes from Other Chamber**

**JR4-3-201 Transmittal letters.**

The secretary of the Senate or the chief clerk of the House shall:

- (1) attach a transmittal letter signed by the secretary or clerk to each piece of legislation to be transmitted to the opposite chamber; and
- (2) ensure that the piece of legislation, with its transmittal letter, is sent to the opposite chamber.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-3-202 Memorializing formal receipt of legislation from other chamber.**

- (1)
  - (a) Upon receipt of a transmittal letter from the Senate, the chief clerk of the House or the chief clerk's designee shall sign a receipt recording the House's receipt of the legislation.
  - (b) Once the chief clerk or the chief clerk's designee signs the receipt, the legislation is in the possession of the House.
- (2)
  - (a) Upon receipt of a transmittal letter from the House, the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee shall sign a receipt recording the Senate's receipt of the legislation.
  - (b) Once the secretary or the secretary's designee signs the receipt, the legislation is in the possession of the Senate.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-3-203 Possession of a bill -- Process for obtaining the return of legislation sent to the other chamber.**

- (1) A piece of legislation is in the possession of the chamber in which it has been receipted.
- (2) A piece of legislation in the possession of one chamber may be returned to the other chamber only when:
  - (a) the chamber having possession of the legislation receives a written request from the opposite chamber requesting return of the legislation; and
  - (b) a majority of the chamber having possession of the legislation votes to return the legislation to the opposite chamber.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**Part 3  
Legislation Affecting Workload**

**JR4-3-301 Definitions.**

- (1) As used in this part, "increase legislative workload" means:
  - (a) placing a member of the Legislature on a board, commission, task force, or other public body;
  - (b) giving authority to a member of the Legislative Management Committee to appoint a member of a board, commission, task force, or other public body; or
  - (c) requiring a legislative staff office to staff a board, commission, task force, or other public body.
- (2) "Increases legislative workload" includes reauthorizing an existing provision described in Subsection (1).

**JR4-3-302 Considering legislation that increases legislative workload.**

- (1)
  - (a) The House shall refer any Senate legislation that increases legislative workload to the House Rules Committee before giving the legislation a third reading.
  - (b) The Senate shall table on third reading any House legislation that increases legislative workload.
- (2) Before adjourning on the 45th day of the annual general session:
  - (a) each legislator shall prioritize legislation that increases legislative workload in accordance with the process established by legislative leadership; and
  - (b) the Legislature may pass or defeat any legislation prioritized under Subsection (2)(a).

**JR4-3-303 Reporting legislation that increases legislative workload.**

- (1) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:
  - (a) identify legislation that increases legislative workload before the legislation passes both chambers of the Legislature; and
  - (b) each week during the annual general session, report legislation that increases legislative workload to the chairs of the Senate and House Rules committees.
- (2) In making the report required by Subsection (1)(b), the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel may provide information and make recommendations about:

- (a)the funding required by the legislation;
  - (b)the staffing resources required to implement the legislation;
  - (c)the time legislators and legislative staff will be required to commit as a result of the legislation;
  - (d)if the legislation creates or reauthorizes a board, commission, task force, or other public body, whether the responsibilities of that board, commission, task force, or other public body could reasonably be accomplished through an existing entity or without legislation; and
  - (e)whether the legislation sunsets or repeals the board, commission, task force, or other public body created by the legislation.
- (3)On or before the 31st day of the annual general session, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall report legislation that increases legislative workload to the president of the Senate, speaker of the House of Representatives, and minority leaders.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

## **Chapter 4**

### **Deadlines for Passage of Certain Bills**

#### **Part 1**

#### **Bills Containing Fiscal Notes**

#### **JR4-4-101 Deadline for passing certain fiscal note bills.**

- (1)As used in this section, "fiscal note bill" means legislation with a fiscal note that indicates a cost of \$20,000 or more to:
- (a)the General Fund, Income Tax Fund, or Uniform School Fund; or
  - (b)any other fund or account that affects a fund described in Subsection (1)(a).
- (2)
- (a)The House shall refer any Senate fiscal note bill to the House Rules Committee before giving that fiscal note bill a third reading.
  - (b)The Senate shall table on third reading each House fiscal note bill.
- (3)
- (a)Before adjourning on the 43rd day of the annual general session, each legislator shall prioritize fiscal note bills and identify other projects or programs for new or one-time funding according to the process established by leadership.
  - (b)Before adjourning on the 44th day of the annual general session, the Legislature shall either pass or defeat each fiscal note bill except constitutional amendment resolutions.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

#### **JR4-4-101 Deadline for passing certain fiscal note bills.**

- (1)As used in this section, "fiscal note bill" means legislation with a fiscal note that indicates a cost of \$20,000 or more to:
- (a)the General Fund, Income Tax Fund, or Uniform School Fund; or
  - (b)any other fund or account that affects a fund described in Subsection (1)(a).
- (2)

- (a) The House shall refer any Senate fiscal note bill to the House Rules Committee before giving that fiscal note bill a third reading.
  - (b) The Senate shall table on third reading each House fiscal note bill.
- (3)
- (a) Before adjourning on the 43rd day of the annual general session, each legislator shall prioritize fiscal note bills and identify other projects or programs for new or one-time funding according to the process established by leadership.
  - (b) No later than noon on the 44th day of the annual general session, the Legislature shall either pass or defeat each fiscal note bill except constitutional amendment resolutions.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

## **Part 2 Appropriations Bills**

### **JR4-4-201 Deadline for passing base budget bills.**

- (1) Each legislator shall receive a copy of each base budget bill for the next fiscal year by calendared floor time on the first day of the annual general session.
- (2) No later than noon on the 10th day, but not before the third day, of the annual general session, the Legislature shall either pass or defeat each base budget bill.

### **JR4-4-202 Deadline for passing certain appropriations bills and school finance bills.**

- (1) Each legislator shall receive a copy of any general appropriations bills, any supplemental appropriations bills, and any school finance bills by calendared floor time on the last Monday before the 45th day of the annual general session.
- (2) Before the calendared closing time of the 43rd day of the annual general session, the Legislature shall either pass or defeat those general appropriations bills, supplemental appropriations bills, and school finance bills.

Amended by H.J.R. 5, 2021 General Session

### **JR4-4-203 Deadline for passing the final appropriations bill.**

- (1) Each legislator shall receive a copy of the final appropriations bill by calendared floor time on the 45th day of the annual general session.
- (2) By noon on the 45th day of the annual general session, the Legislature shall either pass or defeat the final appropriations bill.

Repealed and Re-enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

### **JR4-4-203 Deadline for passing the final appropriations bill.**

On or before the 45th day of the annual general session, the Legislature shall either pass or defeat the final appropriations bill.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

### **Part 3 Bond Bills**

#### **JR4-4-301 Deadline for passing bond bills.**

- (1) Each legislator shall receive a copy of any bond bill by noon on the last Monday before the 45th day of the annual general session.
- (2) Before the calendared closing time of the 43rd day of the annual general session, the Legislature shall either pass or defeat each bond bill.

Amended by H.J.R. 5, 2021 General Session

### **Chapter 5 Disposition of Legislation after Passage**

#### **Part 1 Certifying and Enrolling the Legislation**

#### **JR4-5-101 Certification and signature.**

- (1)
  - (a) When a piece of Senate legislation has passed both chambers, the secretary of the Senate shall certify its final passage by identifying:
    - (i) the date that the legislation passed the Senate;
    - (ii) the number of senators voting for and against the legislation;
    - (iii) the number of senators absent for the vote;
    - (iv) the date that the legislation passed the House;
    - (v) the number of representatives voting for and against the legislation; and
    - (vi) the number of representatives absent for the vote.
  - (b) When a piece of House legislation has passed both chambers, the chief clerk of the House shall certify its final passage by identifying:
    - (i) the date that the legislation passed the House;
    - (ii) the number of representatives voting for and against the legislation;
    - (iii) the number of representatives absent for the vote;
    - (iv) the date that the legislation passed the Senate;
    - (v) the number of senators voting for and against the legislation; and
    - (vi) the number of senators absent for the vote.
- (2)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), within one legislative day of final passage, each piece of legislation shall be signed:
    - (i) first by the presiding officer of the chamber in which it was last voted upon; and
    - (ii) second by the presiding officer of the other chamber.
  - (b) Within five days following the adjournment sine die of a legislative session, each piece of legislation passed on the final day of that legislative session shall be signed:
    - (i) first by the presiding officer of the chamber in which it was last voted upon; and
    - (ii) second by the presiding officer of the other chamber.

- (c) Unless the session has adjourned sine die, the secretary of the Senate or chief clerk of the House shall note in the journal that the legislation was signed by the presiding officer.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-5-102 Enrollment and transmittal of legislation to the governor.**

- (1)
  - (a) After a piece of legislation that has passed both chambers has been signed by the presiding officers, the secretary or chief clerk shall deliver it to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.
  - (b) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:
    - (i) examine and enroll the legislation;
    - (ii) correct any technical errors as provided by Utah Code Section 36-12-12; and
    - (iii) transmit a copy of the enrolled legislation to:
      - (A) the secretary of the Senate for legislation originating in the Senate; and
      - (B) the chief clerk of the House for legislation originating in the House.
- (2) When enrolling the legislation, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:
  - (a) include the name of the House floor sponsor for Senate legislation under the heading "House Sponsor:"; or
  - (b) include the name of the Senate floor sponsor for House legislation under the heading "Senate Sponsor:".
- (3) The secretary of the Senate or chief clerk of the House shall:
  - (a) certify each enrolled piece of legislation; and
  - (b) ensure that a copy of the enrolled legislation is:
    - (i) transmitted to the governor;
    - (ii) filed with the secretary or chief clerk;
    - (iii) transmitted to the chief sponsor upon request; and
    - (iv) transmitted to the Office of Legislative Services.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR4-5-103 Legislative general counsel to correct certain technical errors.**

The legislative general counsel may correct technical errors in the code in preparing the database for publication.

Enacted by H.J.R. 15, 2017 General Session

**JR4-5-104 Converting certain joint and concurrent resolutions.**

- (1) As used in this rule:
  - (a) "Nonbinding concurrent resolution" means a nonbinding resolution that is a concurrent resolution.
  - (b) "Nonbinding House joint resolution" means a nonbinding resolution that is a House joint resolution.
  - (c)
    - (i) "Nonbinding resolution" means a resolution that:
      - (A) is primarily for the purpose of recognizing, honoring, or memorializing an individual, group, or event;
      - (B) requests, rather than compels, action or awareness by an individual or group; or

- (C) is informational or promotional in nature.
  - (ii) "Nonbinding resolution" does not include:
    - (A) a rules resolution;
    - (B) a resolution for a constitutional amendment; or
    - (C) any resolution that approves or authorizes any action, requires any substantive action be taken, or results in a change in law, policy, or funding.
  - (d) "Nonbinding Senate joint resolution" means a nonbinding resolution that is a Senate joint resolution.
- (2)
- (a) A nonbinding concurrent resolution converts to a joint resolution if the governor does not approve the nonbinding concurrent resolution before the expiration of the time limit described in Utah Constitution, Article VII, Section 8 that would apply if the nonbinding concurrent resolution were a bill.
  - (b) A nonbinding Senate joint resolution converts to a Senate resolution if:
    - (i) the Senate passes the nonbinding Senate joint resolution; and
    - (ii) the House does not pass the same version of the nonbinding Senate joint resolution as the Senate.
  - (c) A nonbinding House joint resolution converts to a House resolution if:
    - (i) the House passes the nonbinding House joint resolution; and
    - (ii) the Senate does not pass the same version of the nonbinding House joint resolution as the House.
- (3) The version of a nonbinding Senate joint resolution or a nonbinding House joint resolution that passes the originating chamber is the version that converts to a Senate resolution or a House resolution.
- (4)
- (a) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall convert a resolution in accordance with this rule when the office enrolls the resolution.
  - (b) The legislative general counsel may make technical revisions to convert a resolution in accordance with this rule, including the revisions necessary to comply with JR4-1-301.
- (5) When the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel converts a resolution in accordance with this rule, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall note the conversion in the Laws of Utah and on the enrolled resolution.

## **Part 2**

### **Recalling Legislation after Passage**

#### **JR4-5-201 Recalling legislation after the legislation is signed by the speaker and president.**

- (1) As used in this rule:
- (a) "Originating chamber" means the chamber in which a piece of legislation originates.
  - (b) "Non-originating chamber" means the chamber in which a piece of legislation does not originate.
- (2) An originating chamber may recall legislation that is in the possession of the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel by a motion and constitutional majority vote.
- (3)



- (a) A non-originating chamber may, by motion and constitutional majority vote, request that the originating chamber recall legislation from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.
  - (b) Upon receipt of a request described in Subsection (3)(a), the originating chamber may, by motion and constitutional majority vote, recall from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel the legislation that is the subject of the request.
  - (c) A non-originating chamber may not recall legislation from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel except as provided in this Subsection (3).
- (4) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall return legislation recalled under this rule:
- (a) for legislation recalled under Subsection (2), to the originating chamber; or
  - (b) for legislation recalled under Subsection (3), to the non-originating chamber.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

#### **JR4-5-202 Recalling legislation from the governor.**

When a bill has passed both chambers of the Legislature, been signed by the presiding officers, been enrolled, and been sent to the governor for his approval, it can be recalled only if:

- (1) a joint resolution requesting that the governor return the legislation is passed by a constitutional majority vote of both chambers; and
- (2) the governor elects to return it.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

## **Title JR5. Legislative Compensation and Expenses**

### **Chapter 1 General Provisions**

#### **JR5-1-101 Definitions.**

As used in this title:

- (1) "Authorized legislative day" means:
  - (a) a general session day, which includes any day during the period that begins on the day that the Legislature convenes in annual general session until midnight of the 45th day of the annual general session;
  - (b) a special session day;
  - (c) a veto override session day;
  - (d) an interim day designated by the Legislative Management Committee;
  - (e) an authorized legislative training day; or
  - (f) any other day that includes a meeting of a committee, subcommittee, commission, task force, or other legislative meeting, provided that:
    - (i) the committee, subcommittee, commission, task force, or other entity is created by statute or joint resolution;

- (ii) the legislator's attendance at the meeting is approved by the Legislative Management Committee; and
  - (iii) service and payment for service by the legislator is not in violation of the Utah Constitution, including Article V and Article VI, Sections 6 and 7.
- (2) "Authorized legislative training day" means a day that a Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee designates as an authorized legislative day for training or informational purposes under JR5-1-102, including the following:
- (a) chair training;
  - (b) an issue briefing;
  - (c) legislative leadership instruction;
  - (d) legislative process training;
  - (e) legislative rules training;
  - (f) new legislator orientation; or
  - (g) another meeting to brief, instruct, orient, or train a legislator or legislator-elect in furtherance of the legislator's or legislator-elect's official duties.
- (3) "Reimbursement" means money paid to compensate a legislator for money spent by the legislator in furtherance of the legislator's official duties.

Amended by H.J.R. 6, 2017 General Session

**JR5-1-102 Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee.**

- (1) The presiding officer and the majority leader and minority leader of each chamber are the Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee for that chamber.
- (2) Each committee shall:
- (a) establish procedures to implement the rules on legislative expenses, including establishing systems and procedures for the reimbursement of legislative expenses;
  - (b) ensure that procedures are established for the purpose of avoiding duplicate or improper payments or reimbursements; and
  - (c) meet at least annually, or at the request of a majority of the committee, to review legislative expenses and travel budgets.
- (3) Each committee may, for a calendar year, authorize up to 10 authorized legislative training days for each legislator.
- (4) The presiding officer may authorize temporary emergency legislative expenses.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

## **Chapter 2**

### **Lodging, Meal, and Transportation Expenses**

**JR5-2-101 Reimbursement of lodging.**

- (1) Subject to the other provisions of this rule, if a legislator's official duties necessitate overnight accommodations, the legislator may receive reimbursement for any actual lodging expenses incurred by the legislator for an:
- (a) authorized legislative day; or
  - (b) authorized legislative training day.

- (2) Except as provided in the policies and procedures established in accordance with Subsection (3), reimbursement under Subsection (1) may not exceed the daily rates published in the administrative rules governing reimbursement of lodging expenses for state employees.
- (3) Reimbursement for actual lodging expenses for a legislator for an authorized legislative day or authorized legislative training day shall be as provided in policies and procedures established by the Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee.

**JR5-2-101 Reimbursement of lodging.**

- (1) Subject to the other provisions of this rule, if a legislator's official duties necessitate overnight accommodations, the legislator may receive reimbursement for any actual lodging expenses incurred by the legislator for an:
  - (a) authorized legislative day; or
  - (b) authorized legislative training day.
- (2) Reimbursement for actual lodging expenses for a legislator for an authorized legislative day or authorized legislative training day shall be as provided in policies and procedures established by the Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR5-2-102 Reimbursement of meal expenses.**

- (1) Subject to the other provisions of this rule, for each authorized legislative day or authorized legislative training day a legislator may receive reimbursement for any actual meal expenses incurred by the legislator in association with the legislator's official duties.
- (2) Except as provided in the policies and procedures established in accordance with Subsection (3), reimbursement under Subsection (1):
  - (a) may not exceed the rates set in administrative rules governing reimbursement and meal expenses for state employees; and
  - (b) is subject to the time calculation requirements set in administrative rules governing reimbursement and meal expenses for state employees.
- (3) Reimbursement for actual meal expenses for a legislator for an authorized legislative day or authorized legislative training day shall be as provided in policies and procedures established by the Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee.

**JR5-2-102 Reimbursement of meal expenses.**

- (1) Subject to the other provisions of this rule, for each authorized legislative day or authorized legislative training day a legislator may receive reimbursement for any actual meal expenses incurred by the legislator in association with the legislator's official duties.
- (2) Reimbursement for actual meal expenses for a legislator for an authorized legislative day or authorized legislative training day shall be as provided in policies and procedures established by the Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR5-2-103 Reimbursement for transportation costs.**

- (1) A legislator may receive reimbursement for any actual transportation costs incurred by the legislator in association with the legislator's official duties for an:

- (a) authorized legislative day; or
  - (b) authorized legislative training day.
- (2) Transportation costs reimbursed under this rule shall be equal to:
- (a) for travel by private vehicle, the actual mileage incurred by the legislator for the legislator's private automobile use to and from the legislative meeting, to be paid in accordance with the private vehicle mileage reimbursement rate that is applied when daily pool fleet vehicles are unavailable, as published in the administrative rules governing reimbursement of transportation expenses for state employees;
  - (b) for public transportation:
    - (i) the actual cost of the transportation incurred by the legislator to and from the legislative meeting;
    - (ii) the private vehicle mileage actually incurred by the legislator to and from the terminus of the public transportation; and
    - (iii) the cost of parking actually incurred by the legislator; or
  - (c) for commercial transportation:
    - (i) the actual cost of the transportation, which shall be limited to coach or standard economy class, incurred by the legislator to and from the legislative meeting;
    - (ii) the private vehicle mileage actually incurred by the legislator to and from the terminus of the commercial transportation; and
    - (iii) the cost of parking actually incurred by the legislator.
- (3) Reimbursement for actual transportation costs incurred for a legislator for an authorized legislative day or an authorized legislative training day shall be as provided in procedures established by the Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee.

Amended by H.J.R. 5, 2021 General Session

**JR5-2-103 Reimbursement for transportation costs.**

- (1) A legislator may receive reimbursement for any actual transportation costs incurred by the legislator in association with the legislator's official duties for an:
- (a) authorized legislative day; or
  - (b) authorized legislative training day.
- (2) Transportation costs reimbursed under this rule shall be equal to:
- (a) for travel by private vehicle, the actual mileage incurred by the legislator for the legislator's private automobile use to and from the legislative meeting, to be paid in accordance with the policy adopted by the Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee;
  - (b) for public transportation:
    - (i) the actual cost of the transportation incurred by the legislator to and from the legislative meeting;
    - (ii) the private vehicle mileage actually incurred by the legislator to and from the terminus of the public transportation; and
    - (iii) the cost of parking actually incurred by the legislator; or
  - (c) for commercial transportation:
    - (i) the actual cost of the transportation, which shall be limited to standard economy or main cabin class, incurred by the legislator to and from the legislative meeting;
    - (ii) the private vehicle mileage actually incurred by the legislator to and from the terminus of the commercial transportation; and
    - (iii) the cost of parking actually incurred by the legislator.

- (3) Reimbursement for actual transportation costs incurred for a legislator for an authorized legislative day or an authorized legislative training day shall be as provided in procedures established by the Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR5-2-104 Verification -- Procedures.**

A legislator shall provide a receipt or other similar supporting documentation for each cost or expense for which the legislator seeks reimbursement under this chapter.

Enacted by H.J.R. 6, 2013 General Session

**JR5-2-105 Declining reimbursement and reduced reimbursement.**

- (1) A legislator may decline to request or to receive reimbursement for any expense or cost that is reimbursable under this chapter.
- (2) A legislator may request and receive a partial or reduced reimbursement for any expense or cost that is reimbursable under this chapter.

Enacted by H.J.R. 6, 2013 General Session

### **Chapter 3 Legislator Compensation**

**JR5-3-101 Legislator compensation -- Expense reimbursement.**

- (1) Except as provided under Subsection (2), a legislator shall receive daily compensation established in accordance with Utah Code Sections 36-2-2 and 36-2-3 for authorized legislative days as defined in JR5-1-101.
- (2) The Legislative Management Committee may authorize compensation and expense reimbursement, or expense reimbursement only, for a legislator who attends a meeting on an authorized legislative day as defined in JR5-1-101.

Amended by H.J.R. 5, 2021 General Session

### **Chapter 4 Out-of-State Travel**

**JR5-4-101 Reimbursement for costs of out-of-state travel.**

The following rules govern reimbursement for out-of-state travel by legislators:

- (1)
- (a) Subject to Subsections (1)(b) and (1)(c), legislators shall receive reimbursement for all approved actual and necessary expenses.
- (b) The presiding officer, the majority leader, and the minority leader shall meet annually to establish a policy governing out-of-state travel, including the process for them to approve out of state travel and approve reimbursement of expenses for that travel as required under Utah Code Section 36-12-17.

- (c) If a legislator elects to travel to an out-of-state destination by private automobile, the legislator shall receive actual mileage or the actual cost of alternative commercial transportation, whichever is less.
- (2) Each legislator shall provide supporting documentation for each expense for which the legislator seeks reimbursement.

Enacted by H.J.R. 11, 2007 General Session

**JR5-4-101 Reimbursement for costs of out-of-state travel.**

The following rules govern reimbursement for out-of-state travel by legislators:

- (1)
  - (a) Subject to Subsections (1)(b) and (1)(c), legislators shall receive reimbursement for all approved actual and necessary expenses.
  - (b) The presiding officer, the majority leader, and the minority leader shall meet annually to establish a policy governing out-of-state travel, including the process for them to approve out of state travel and approve reimbursement of expenses for that travel as required under Utah Code Section 36-12-17.
  - (c) If a legislator elects to travel to an out-of-state destination by private automobile, the legislator shall receive actual mileage or the actual cost of air transportation, whichever is less.
- (2) Each legislator shall provide supporting documentation for each expense for which the legislator seeks reimbursement.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

## **Chapter 5 Communication Device Expenses**

**JR5-5-101 Reimbursement for communications device expenses.**

- (1) The presiding officer, the majority leader, and the minority leader of each chamber of the Legislature may establish a policy governing reimbursement for expenses related to communications devices, which policy shall include:
  - (a) the types of communications device expenses that will be reimbursed to legislators; and
  - (b) the process for reimbursement of communications device expenses.
- (2) A legislator may, pursuant to a policy adopted under Subsection (1), be reimbursed for use of a communications device that is:
  - (a) owned by the legislator; and
  - (b) used by the legislator in the legislator's capacity as an employee of the Legislature.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR5-5-102 Verification -- Procedures.**

- (1) Each legislator shall provide supporting documentation for each cost or expense for which a legislator seeks reimbursement under this chapter.
- (2) The Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee shall ensure that procedures are established for the purpose of avoiding duplicate or improper reimbursements.

Enacted by S.J.R. 14, 2011 General Session

**JR5-5-103 Declining reimbursement and reduced reimbursement.**

- (1) A legislator may decline to request or receive reimbursement for any expense that is reimbursable under this chapter.
- (2) A legislator may request and receive a partial or reduced reimbursement for any expense that is reimbursable under this chapter.

Enacted by S.J.R. 14, 2011 General Session

**Title JR6. Legislative Ethics and Adjudication of Ethics Complaints**

**Chapter 1  
Ethics Requirements Governing Legislators**

**Part 1  
Ethical Standards for Legislators**

**JR6-1-101 Legislative ethics.**

- (1) The Utah Legislature consists of people who work part-time and must necessarily earn their living in other jobs and professions.
- (2) It is necessary to reconcile the functions of privately employed legislators who have their own private interests with the maintenance of high ethical standards and public confidence.
- (3) In seeking to balance these interests, it is necessary to avoid controls that might be so strict that they discourage capable and honorable persons from entering legislative service.
- (4) It is recognized that public confidence in the Legislature should be promoted and that competent members should serve in the Legislature even though most of them have private interests of various types.
- (5) It is also recognized that a citizen legislator is in a different position in doing business with the state and its political subdivisions than a public servant whose chief source of livelihood is derived from public funds.

Enacted by H.J.R. 11, 2007 General Session

**JR6-1-102 Code of official conduct.**

- (1) As used in this rule:
  - (a) "Person" includes an individual, a partnership, an association, an organization, a company, and a body politic and corporate, or a lobbyist from any of these.
  - (b) "Person" does not include an individual or entity described in Subsection (1)(a) that provides the legislator's primary source of income.
- (2) Each legislator shall comply with the guidelines established in Subsection (3).
- (3) In judging members of its house charged with an ethical violation, the Senate and House Ethics Committees shall consider whether or not the member has violated any of the following guidelines:

- (a) Members of the Senate and House shall not engage in any employment or other activity that would destroy or impair their independence of judgment.
- (b) Members of the Senate and House shall not be paid by a person to lobby, consult, or to further the interests of any legislation or legislative matter, except that a person may pay a member of the Senate or House to lobby, as defined in Utah Code Section 36-11-102, for the purpose of influencing federal legislative or federal executive action.
- (c) Members of the Senate and House shall not exercise any undue influence on any governmental entity. "Undue influence" means deceit or threat of violence.
- (d) Members of the Senate and House shall not engage in any activity that would be an abuse of official position or a violation of trust.
- (e) Members of the Senate and House shall not use any nonpublic information obtained by reason of their official position to gain advantage over any business or professional competition for activities with the state and its political subdivisions.
- (f) Members of the Senate and House shall not engage in any business relationship or activity that would require the disclosure of confidential information obtained because of their official position.
- (g) Members of the Senate and House shall not use their official position to secure privileges for themselves or others.
- (h) While in session, members of the Senate and House shall disclose any conflict of interest on any legislation or legislative matter as provided in JR6-1-201.
- (i) Members of the Senate and House may accept small gifts, awards, or contributions if these favors do not influence them in the discharge of official duties.
- (j) Members of the Senate and the House may engage in business or professional activities with the state or its political subdivisions if the activities are entered into under the same conditions and in the same manner applicable to any private citizen or company engaged in similar activities.
- (k) Legislators may enter into transactions with the state by contract by following the procedures and requirements of Utah Code Title 63G, Chapter 6a, Utah Procurement Code.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR6-1-103 Receipt of campaign donations.**

- (1) As used in this rule:
  - (a) "Campaign contribution" means cash or a negotiable instrument contributed for a political purpose to a campaigner.
  - (b) "Campaigner" means:
    - (i) a legislative office candidate;
    - (ii) an individual who holds a legislative office;
    - (iii) a personal campaign committee of a person described in Subsection (1)(b)(i) or (ii);
    - (iv) a political action committee controlled by a person described in Subsection (1)(b)(i) or (ii); or
    - (v) a person acting on behalf of a person described in Subsections (1)(b)(i) through (iv).
  - (c) "Capitol hill" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 36-5-1.
  - (d) "Indirect campaign contribution" means a campaign contribution that is delivered to a campaigner:
    - (i) when the campaigner is not present; or
    - (ii) via a third party or delivery service.
  - (e) "Political purpose" means the same as "political purposes" is defined in Utah Code Section 20A-11-101.



- (2)
  - (a) A campaigner may not accept receipt of a campaign contribution on capitol hill.
  - (b) A legislator who is in violation of this rule is subject to an ethics complaint regardless of whether the violation occurred while the legislator was a legislative office holder or a legislative office candidate.
- (3) Notwithstanding Subsection (2), a campaigner shall not be considered to have accepted receipt of a campaign contribution if:
  - (a) the campaign contribution is an indirect campaign contribution; and
  - (b) the campaigner promptly:
    - (i) returns the campaign contribution to the donor; or
    - (ii) refuses the campaign contribution in a written communication or other verifiable manner.

Amended by H.J.R. 5, 2021 General Session

**JR6-1-103 Receipt of campaign donations.**

- (1) As used in this rule:
  - (a) "Campaign contribution" means cash or a negotiable instrument contributed for a political purpose to a campaigner.
  - (b) "Campaigner" means:
    - (i) a legislative office candidate;
    - (ii) an individual who holds a legislative office;
    - (iii) a personal campaign committee of a person described in Subsection (1)(b)(i) or (ii);
    - (iv) a political action committee controlled by a person described in Subsection (1)(b)(i) or (ii); or
    - (v) a person acting on behalf of a person described in Subsections (1)(b)(i) through (iv).
  - (c) "Capitol hill" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 63O-1-101.
  - (d) "Indirect campaign contribution" means a campaign contribution that is delivered to a campaigner:
    - (i) when the campaigner is not present; or
    - (ii) via a third party or delivery service.
  - (e) "Political purpose" means the same as "political purposes" is defined in Utah Code Section 20A-11-101.
- (2)
  - (a) A campaigner may not accept receipt of a campaign contribution on capitol hill.
  - (b) A legislator who is in violation of this rule is subject to an ethics complaint regardless of whether the violation occurred while the legislator was a legislative office holder or a legislative office candidate.
- (3) Notwithstanding Subsection (2), a campaigner shall not be considered to have accepted receipt of a campaign contribution if:
  - (a) the campaign contribution is an indirect campaign contribution; and
  - (b) the campaigner promptly:
    - (i) returns the campaign contribution to the donor; or
    - (ii) refuses the campaign contribution in a written communication or other verifiable manner.

Amended by H.J.R. 4, 2025 General Session

**Part 2**

## Conflicts of Interest

### **JR6-1-201 Declaring and recording conflicts of interest.**

- (1) As used in this rule:
  - (a) "Conflict of interest" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 20A-11-1602.
  - (b) "Conflict of interest disclosure" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 20A-11-1602.
- (2) A legislator shall file a conflict of interest disclosure by complying with the requirements of Utah Code Title 20A, Chapter 11, Part 16, Conflict of Interest Disclosures.
- (3)
  - (a) For a legislator who is a senator, Senate staff shall ensure that a link to the legislator's conflict of interest disclosure is available to the public on the Senate's website.
  - (b) For a legislator who is a representative, House staff shall ensure that a link to the legislator's conflict of interest disclosure is available to the public on the House of Representative's website.
- (4) If a legislator has actual knowledge that the legislator has a conflict of interest that is not stated on the legislator's financial disclosure form filed under Subsection (2), that legislator shall, before or during a vote on legislation or any legislative matter, orally declare to the committee or legislative body:
  - (a) that the legislator may have a conflict of interest; and
  - (b) what that conflict is.
- (5) A verbal declaration of a conflict of interest under Subsection (4) shall be recorded:
  - (a) for a declaration made on the floor, in the Senate or House journal; or
  - (b) for a declaration made in a committee or other meeting, in the minutes of the meeting.
- (6) The requirements of this rule do not prohibit a legislator from voting on any legislation or legislative matter.

## Part 3 Ethics Training

### **JR6-1-301 Ethics training course -- Internet availability -- Content -- Participation tracking.**

- (1) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall develop and maintain an ethics training course for members of the Legislature.
- (2) The ethics training course shall include training materials and exercises that are available on the Internet to legislators and to the public.
- (3) The ethics training course shall be designed to assist legislators in understanding and complying with current ethical and campaign finance requirements under state law, legislative rules, and federal law.
- (4) The ethics training course shall include provisions for verifying when a legislator has successfully completed key training exercises.
- (5) A legislator shall successfully complete the key training exercises of the ethics training course once each year or as directed by the Legislative Management Committee.

Amended by H.J.R. 12, 2011 General Session

**Chapter 2**  
**House and Senate Ethics Committees and**  
**Independent Legislative Ethics Commission**

**Part 1**  
**Membership, Meetings, and Staff**

**JR6-2-101 Ethics committees -- Membership.**

- (1) There is established a Senate Ethics Committee and a House Ethics Committee.
- (2) The Senate Ethics Committee shall be composed of:
  - (a) the chair and three additional senators appointed by the president of the Senate; and
  - (b) the vice chair and three additional senators appointed by the Senate minority leader.
- (3) The House Ethics Committee shall be composed of:
  - (a) the chair and three additional representatives appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives; and
  - (b) the vice chair and three additional representatives appointed by the House minority leader.
- (4) A committee member shall serve a two-year term.
- (5)
  - (a) If a member of an ethics committee is accused of wrongdoing in a complaint to be reviewed by the committee, or if a member of an ethics committee determines that he or she has a conflict of interest in relation to a complaint to be reviewed by the ethics committee, a member of the Senate or House shall be appointed to temporarily serve in that member's place while the complaint is under review as follows:
    - (i) except as provided in Subsection (5)(a)(ii), the member shall be appointed by the person who appointed the member who is being temporarily replaced, consistent with Subsection (2), for a member of the Senate Ethics Committee, or Subsection (3), for the House Ethics Committee; or
    - (ii) if the person designated to make the appointment under Subsection (5)(a)(i) is accused of wrongdoing in the complaint or determines that he or she has a conflict of interest in relation to the complaint, the appointment shall be made by:
      - (A) the Senate majority leader, if the person designated is the president of the Senate;
      - (B) the Senate minority whip, if the person designated is the Senate minority leader;
      - (C) the House majority leader, if the person designated is the speaker of the House; or
      - (D) the House minority whip, if the person designated is the House minority leader.
  - (b) The temporary committee member's term ends when the committee has concluded its review of the complaint.

Amended by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-2-102 Ethics committee -- Meetings and staff.**

- (1) The Senate and House Ethics Committees shall operate as both standing and interim committees.
- (2) The committees shall meet as necessary, either as called at:
  - (a) the discretion of the chair; or

- (b) by a majority vote of the committee.
- (3) A majority of the committee is a quorum.
- (4) The staff of each committee consists of:
  - (a) the director of the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel;
  - (b) the legislative general counsel; and
  - (c) any other staff designated by the director or the legislative general counsel.

Amended by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-2-103 Independent Legislative Ethics Commission -- Membership.**

- (1) There is established an Independent Legislative Ethics Commission.
- (2) The commission is composed of five persons, each of whom is registered to vote in this state, appointed as follows:
  - (a) two members, who have served as judges of a court of record in this state, each of whom shall be nominated by the mutual consent of the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House, and appointed by a majority vote of the president of the Senate, speaker of the House, Senate minority leader, and House minority leader;
  - (b) one member, who has served as a judge of a court of record in this state, nominated by the mutual consent of the Senate minority leader and the House minority leader, and appointed by a majority vote of the president of the Senate, speaker of the House, Senate minority leader, and House minority leader;
  - (c) one member, who has served as a member of the Legislature in this state no more recently than four years before the date of appointment, appointed by the mutual consent of the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives; and
  - (d) one member, who has served as a member of the Legislature in this state no more recently than four years before the date of appointment, appointed by the mutual consent of the Senate minority leader and House minority leader.
- (3) A member of the commission may not, during the member's term of office on the commission, act or serve as:
  - (a) an officeholder as defined in Utah Code Section 20A-11-101;
  - (b) an agency head as defined in Utah Code Section 67-16-3;
  - (c) a lobbyist as defined in Utah Code Section 36-11-102; or
  - (d) a principal as defined in Utah Code Section 36-11-102.
- (4)
  - (a)
    - (i) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(a)(ii), each member of the commission shall serve a four-year term.
    - (ii) When appointing the initial members upon formation of the commission, one member nominated by the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives and one member nominated by the Senate minority leader and House minority leader shall be appointed to a two-year term so that approximately half of the commission is appointed every two years.
  - (b)
    - (i) When a vacancy occurs in the commission's membership for any reason, a replacement member shall be appointed for the unexpired term of the vacating member using the procedures and requirements of Subsection (2).
    - (ii) For the purposes of this rule, an appointment for an unexpired term of a vacating member is not considered a full term.

- (c) A member may not be appointed to serve for more than two full terms, whether those terms are two or four years.
  - (d) A member of the commission may resign from the commission by giving one month's written notice of the resignation to the president of the Senate, speaker of the House, Senate minority leader, and House minority leader.
  - (e) The chair of the Legislative Management Committee shall remove a member from the commission if the member:
    - (i) is convicted of, or enters a plea of guilty to, a crime involving moral turpitude;
    - (ii) enters a plea of no contest or a plea in abeyance to a crime involving moral turpitude; or
    - (iii) fails to meet the qualifications of office as provided in this rule.
  - (f) If a commission member is accused of wrongdoing in a complaint, or if a commission member is found, under JR6-2-103.5, to have a conflict of interest in relation to a complaint, a temporary commission member shall be appointed to serve in that member's place for the purposes of reviewing that complaint using the procedures and requirements of Subsection (2).
- (5)
- (a) A member of the commission may not receive compensation or benefits for the member's service, but may receive per diem and expenses incurred in the performance of the member's official duties as allowed in:
    - (i) Utah Code Section 63A-3-106;
    - (ii) Utah Code Section 63A-3-107; and
    - (iii) rules made by the Division of Finance according to Utah Code Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107.
  - (b) A member may decline to receive per diem and expenses for the member's service.
- (6)
- (a) The commission members shall convene a meeting annually each January and elect, by a majority vote, a commission chair from among the commission members.
  - (b) A person may not serve as chair for more than two consecutive years.

**JR6-2-103.5 Motion to disqualify Independent Legislative Ethics Commission member for conflict of interest.**

- (1) A complainant may file a motion to disqualify one or more members of the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission from participating in proceedings relating to an ethics complaint if the individual files the motion within 20 days after the later of:
- (a) the day on which the individual files the ethics complaint; or
  - (b) the day on which the individual knew or should have known of the grounds upon which the motion is based.
- (2) A respondent may file a motion to disqualify one or more members of the commission from participating in proceedings relating to an ethics complaint if the respondent files the motion within 20 days after the later of:
- (a) the day on which the respondent receives delivery of the ethics complaint; or
  - (b) the day on which the respondent knew or should have known of the grounds upon which the motion is based.
- (3) A motion filed under this rule shall include:
- (a) a statement that the members to whom the motion relates have a conflict of interest that, under the circumstances, would lead a reasonable person to question the impartiality of the members;

- (b) a detailed description of the grounds supporting the statement described in Subsection (3)(a); and
  - (c) a statement that the motion is filed in good faith, supported by an affidavit or declaration under penalty of Title 78B, Chapter 18a, Uniform Unsworn Declarations Act, stating that the motion and all accompanying statements and documents are true and correct to the best of the complainant's or respondent's knowledge.
- (4) A party may not file more than one motion to disqualify, unless the second or subsequent motion:
- (a) is based on grounds of which the party was not aware, and could not have been aware, at the time of the earlier motion; and
  - (b) is accompanied by a statement, included in the affidavit or declaration described in Subsection (3)(c), explaining how and when the party first became aware of the grounds described in Subsection (4)(a).
- (5) The commission shall dismiss a motion filed under this rule, with prejudice, if the motion:
- (a) is not timely filed; or
  - (b) does not comply with the requirements of this rule.
- (6) A member of the commission may:
- (a) on the member's own motion, disqualify the member from participating in proceedings relating to an ethics complaint if the member believes that the member has a conflict of interest that, under the circumstances, would lead a reasonable person to question the impartiality of the member; or
  - (b) ask the commission to disqualify another member of the commission if the member believes that the member has a conflict of interest that, under the circumstances, would lead a reasonable person to question the impartiality of the member.
- (7)
- (a) When a party files a motion under this rule, or when a commission member makes a request under Subsection (6)(b), the commission member for whom disqualification is sought may make the initial determination regarding whether the commission member has a conflict of interest.
  - (b) If a commission member described in Subsection (7)(a) determines that the commission member has a conflict of interest, the commission member shall disqualify the commission member from participating in the matter.
  - (c) If a commission member described in Subsection (7)(a) determines that the commission member does not have a conflict of interest, or declines to make the determination, the remainder of the commission shall, by majority vote, determine whether the commission member has a conflict of interest.
  - (d) A vote of the commission, under Subsection (7)(c), constitutes a final decision on the issue of a conflict of interest.
- (8) In making a determination under Subsection (7)(c), the commission may:
- (a) gather additional evidence;
  - (b) hear testimony; or
  - (c) request that the commission member who is the subject of the motion or request file an affidavit or declaration responding to questions posed by commission.

Amended by H.J.R. 5, 2021 General Session

**JR6-2-104 Independent Legislative Ethics Commission -- Meetings -- Staff.**

- (1) The Independent Legislative Ethics Commission shall meet for the purpose of reviewing an ethics complaint when:
  - (a) except otherwise expressly provided in this title, called to meet at the discretion of the chair;  
or
  - (b) called to meet by a majority vote of the commission.
- (2) A majority of the commission is a quorum.
- (3)
  - (a) The commission shall prepare, on an annual basis, a summary data report that contains:
    - (i) a general description of the activities of the commission during the past year;
    - (ii) the number of ethics complaints filed with the commission;
    - (iii) the number of ethics complaints reviewed by the commission;
    - (iv) the number of complaints filed against a member of the House of Representatives;
    - (v) the number of complaints filed against a member of the Senate;
    - (vi) a summary description of any ethics complaints that were recommended by the commission for review by a Legislative ethics committee; and
    - (vii) an accounting of the commission's budget and expenditures.
  - (b) The summary data report shall be submitted to an appropriate committee of the Legislature on an annual basis.
  - (c) The summary data report shall be a public record.
- (4) The Senate and the House of Representatives shall employ staff for the commission at a level that is reasonable to assist the commission in performing its duties as established in this chapter.
- (5)
  - (a) The Legislative Management Committee shall:
    - (i) authorize each staff position for the commission; and
    - (ii) approve the employment of each staff member for the commission.
  - (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (5)(a), the commission may hire an individual without authorization from the Legislative Management Committee if:
    - (i) the individual is hired by a majority vote of the commission, which authorization, in order to preserve the confidentiality of the complaint, shall be discussed and voted upon in a closed meeting of the commission;
    - (ii) the individual is hired for the purpose of assisting the commission with organizing, reviewing, and marshaling facts and evidence raised in connection with a complaint filed with the commission;
    - (iii) the individual is hired on a temporary, contractual basis; and
    - (iv) the total amount payable under the contract for services does not exceed \$5,000.
  - (c) A contract issued under Subsection (5)(b) is a private record as provided in Utah Code Section 63G-2-302.
- (6) Staff for the commission shall work only for the commission and may not perform services for the Senate, House of Representatives, or other legislative offices.

Amended by S.J.R. 16, 2015 General Session

## **Part 2**

### **General Powers and Procedures**

**JR6-2-201 Authority to review complaint -- Grounds for complaint -- Limitations on filings.**

- (1) Subject to the requirements of this chapter, the Senate Ethics Committee, the House Ethics Committee, and the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission are authorized to review an ethics complaint against a legislator if the complaint alleges:
  - (a) a violation of the code of official conduct as provided in JR6-1-102;
  - (b) a violation of JR6-1-103;
  - (c) a conviction of, or a plea of guilty to, a crime involving moral turpitude; or
  - (d) a plea of no contest or a plea in abeyance to a crime involving moral turpitude.
- (2)
  - (a) For an alleged violation under Subsection (1)(a), the complaint must be filed within two years of the date that the action or omission that forms the basis of the alleged violation occurred or within two years of the date that the action or omission would have been discovered by a reasonable person.
  - (b) For an alleged violation under Subsection (1)(c) or (d), the complaint shall be filed within two years of the date that the plea or conviction that forms the basis of the allegation was entered.
- (3)
  - (a) A complaint may not contain an allegation if that allegation and the general facts and circumstances supporting that allegation have been previously reviewed by the commission or an ethics committee unless:
    - (i) the allegation was previously reviewed by the commission and dismissed without being referred to an ethics committee for review;
    - (ii) the allegation is accompanied by material facts or circumstances supporting the allegation that were not raised or pled to the commission when the allegation was previously reviewed; and
    - (iii) the allegation and the general facts and circumstances supporting that allegation have only been reviewed by the commission on one previous occasion.
  - (b) If an allegation in the complaint does not comply with the requirements of Subsection (3)(a), the allegation shall be summarily dismissed with prejudice by:
    - (i) the chair of the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission, when reviewing the complaint under JR6-4-101; or
    - (ii) the commission, when reviewing the complaint under JR6-4-201.

Amended by H.J.R. 16, 2013 General Session

**JR6-2-202 General powers -- Jurisdiction.**

- (1) The commission and the committees have jurisdiction only over an individual who is currently serving in the Legislature.
- (2) The commission and the committees shall dismiss an ethics complaint if the respondent legislator resigns from the Legislature.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**Part 3**  
**General Provisions Governing Hearings on Ethics Complaint**

**JR6-2-301 General procedures for conducting a hearing on an ethics complaint.**



- (1) In conducting a hearing on a complaint, the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission or the Senate or House Ethics Committee shall comply with the following process in the order specified:
  - (a) introduction and instructions for procedure and process, at the discretion of the chair;
  - (b) complainants' opening argument, to be presented by a complainant or complainants' counsel;
  - (c) complainants' presentation of evidence and witnesses in support of allegations in the complaint;
  - (d) consideration of motions to dismiss the complaint or motions for a directed verdict, as applicable;
  - (e) respondent's opening argument, to be presented by the respondent or respondent's counsel;
  - (f) respondent's presentation of evidence and witnesses refuting allegations in the complaint;
  - (g) presentation of rebuttal evidence and witnesses by the complainants, at the discretion of the chair;
  - (h) presentation of rebuttal evidence and witnesses by the respondent, at the discretion of the chair;
  - (i) complainants' closing argument, to be presented by a complainant or complainants' counsel;
  - (j) respondent's closing argument, to be presented by the respondent or respondent's counsel;
  - (k) deliberations by the commission or committee; and
  - (l) adoption of the commission's or committee's findings.
- (2) The commission or an ethics committee may, in extraordinary circumstances, vary the order contained in Subsection (1) by majority vote and by providing notice to the parties.
- (3) The chair may schedule the examination of a witness or evidence subpoenaed at the request of the chair or the committee under JR6-2-303 at the chair's discretion.

Enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-2-302 Chair as presiding judge.**

- (1) Except as expressly provided otherwise in this title, the chair of the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission and the chair of the Senate or House Ethics Committee is vested with the power to direct the commission or committee during meetings authorized by this title.
- (2) Unless expressly prohibited from doing so under this title, the commission or committee may overrule a decision of the chair by using the following procedure:
  - (a) If a member objects to a decision of the chair, that member may appeal the decision by stating:
    - (i) "I appeal the decision of the chair."; and
    - (ii) the basis for the objection.
  - (b) This motion is nondebatable.
  - (c) The chair shall direct a roll call vote to determine if the commission or committee supports the decision of the chair.
  - (d) A majority vote of the commission or committee is necessary to overrule the decision of the chair.
- (3) The chair may set time limitations on any part of a meeting or hearing authorized by this title.

Enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-2-303 Subpoena powers.**

- (1) For all proceedings authorized by this title, the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission or the Senate or House Ethics Committee may issue a subpoena to:

- (a) require the attendance of a witness;
  - (b) direct the production of evidence; or
  - (c) require both the attendance of a witness and the production of evidence.
- (2) The commission shall issue a subpoena under this rule:
- (a) as required under JR6-2-305;
  - (b) at the direction of the commission chair, if the chair determines that the testimony or evidence is relevant to the review of a complaint under Chapter 4, Part 2, Review of Ethics Complaint by the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission; or
  - (c) upon a vote of a majority of the commission members.
- (3) An ethics committee shall issue a subpoena under this rule:
- (a) as required under JR6-2-305;
  - (b) at the direction of the committee chair or vice chair, if the chair or vice chair determines that the testimony or evidence is relevant to review of a complaint under Chapter 4, Part 3, Review of Ethics Complaint by Ethics Committee; or
  - (c) upon a vote of a majority of the committee members.
- (4) The director of the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall issue a subpoena on behalf of an ethics committee when requested to do so by one of the persons or entities authorized to do so under Subsection (3).

Enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-2-304 Contempt of the Legislature.**

- (1)
- (a) The following actions constitute contempt of the Legislature in relation to actions and proceedings under this title:
    - (i) disobedience to a direction of the commission chair;
    - (ii) disobedience to a direction of an ethics committee chair;
    - (iii) failure to answer a question during a hearing when directed to do so by:
      - (A) the commission chair, unless the direction is overridden by the commission under JR6-2-302;
      - (B) an ethics committee chair, unless the direction is overridden by the committee under JR6-2-302; or
      - (C) a majority of the commission or committee;
    - (iv) failure to comply with a subpoena or other order issued under authority of this title;
    - (v) violation of privacy provisions established by JR6-3-102;
    - (vi) violation of the communication provisions established by JR6-2-306;
    - (vii) violation of a request to comply with a provision of this title by a chair or a majority of the members of the commission or committee; or
    - (viii) any other ground that is specified in statute or recognized at common law.
  - (b) Because the purpose of the Fifth Amendment privilege not to incriminate oneself is to prevent prosecution for criminal action, it is improper for a witness to invoke the Fifth Amendment privilege if the witness cannot be prosecuted for the crime to which the witness's testimony relates.
- (2)
- (a) The following persons may authorize an enforcement action against a person in contempt of the Legislature under the provisions of this title:
    - (i) the commission chair, subject to the provisions of JR6-2-302;
    - (ii) members of the commission, by means of a majority vote;

- (iii) an ethics committee chair, subject to the provisions of JR6-2-302; or
  - (iv) members of an ethics committee, by means of a majority vote.
- (b) In initiating and pursuing an action against an individual for contempt of the Legislature, the plaintiff shall comply with the procedures and requirements of Utah Code Section 36-14-5.

Enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-2-305 Testimony and examination of witnesses -- Oath -- Procedure -- Contempt.**

- (1)
- (a) The chair shall ensure that each witness listed in the complaint and response is subpoenaed for appearance at the hearing unless:
    - (i) the witness is unable to be properly identified or located; or
    - (ii) service is otherwise determined to be impracticable.
  - (b) The chair shall determine the scheduling and order of witnesses and presentation of evidence.
  - (c) The commission or committee may, by majority vote:
    - (i) overrule the chair's decision not to subpoena a witness under Subsection (1)(a);
    - (ii) modify the chair's determination on the scheduling and order of witnesses under Subsection (1)(b);
    - (iii) decline to hear or call a witness that has been requested by the complainant or respondent;
    - (iv) decline to review or consider evidence submitted in relation to an ethics complaint; or
    - (v) request and subpoena witnesses or evidence according to the procedures of JR6-2-303.
- (2)
- (a) Each witness shall testify under oath.
  - (b) The chair or the chair's designee shall administer the oath to each witness.
- (3) After the oath has been administered to the witness, the chair shall direct testimony as follows:
- (a) allow the party that has called the witness, or that party's counsel, to question the witness;
  - (b) allow the opposing party, or that party's counsel, to cross-examine the witness;
  - (c) allow additional questioning by a party or a party's counsel as appropriate;
  - (d) give commission or committee members the opportunity to question the witness; and
  - (e) as appropriate, allow further examination of the witness by the commission or committee, or the parties or their counsel.
- (4)
- (a) If the witness, a party, or a party's counsel objects to a question, the chair shall:
    - (i) direct the witness to answer; or
    - (ii) rule that the witness is not required to answer the question.
  - (b) If the witness declines to answer a question after the chair or a majority of the commission or committee determines that the witness is required to answer the question, the witness may be held in contempt as provided in JR6-2-304.
- (5)
- (a) The chair or a majority of the members of the commission or committee may direct a witness to furnish any relevant evidence for consideration if the witness has brought the material voluntarily or has been required to bring it by subpoena.
  - (b) If the witness declines to provide evidence in response to a subpoena, the witness may be held in contempt as provided in JR6-2-304.

Enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-2-306 Communications of commission and committee members.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "third party" means:
  - (a) for a member of the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission, a person who is not a member of the commission or staff to the commission; or
  - (b) for a member of an ethics committee, a person who is not a member of the committee or staff to the committee.
- (2) While a complaint is under review by the commission or an ethics committee, a member of that commission or committee may not initiate or consider any communications concerning the complaint with a third party unless:
  - (a) the communication is expressly permitted under the procedures established by this title; or
  - (b) the communication is made by the third party, in writing, simultaneously to:
    - (i) all members of the commission or committee; and
    - (ii) a staff member of the commission or committee.
- (3)
  - (a) While the commission is reviewing a complaint under this title, a commission member may communicate outside of the meetings, hearing, or deliberations with another member of, or staff to, the commission, only if the member's communication does not materially compromise the member's responsibility to independently review and make decisions in relation to the complaint.
  - (b) While a committee is reviewing a complaint under this title, a committee member may communicate outside of the meeting, hearing, or deliberations with another member of, or staff to, the committee, only if the member's communication does not materially compromise the member's responsibility to independently review and make decisions in relation to the complaint.
- (4) While a complaint is under review by an ethics committee, a member of the commission may not comment publicly or privately about the commission's decision, reasoning, or other matters relating to the ethics complaint, but may provide or refer a questioner to the commission's written recommendation.

Amended by H.J.R. 5, 2021 General Session

**JR6-2-307 Attorney fees and costs.**

- (1) A person filing a complaint under this title:
  - (a) may, but is not required to, retain legal representation during the complaint review process; and
  - (b) is responsible for payment of complainants' attorney fees and costs incurred.
- (2)
  - (a) A legislator against whom a complaint is filed under this title:
    - (i) may, but is not required to, retain legal representation during the complaint review process; and
    - (ii) is responsible for that legislator's own attorney fees and costs involved, except as provided in Subsection (2)(b).
  - (b) The Senate, for a senator, or the House of Representatives, for a representative, shall pay the reasonable attorney fees and costs incurred by a legislator against whom a complaint is filed under this title if:
    - (i) the commission declines to recommend that any allegation in the complaint be reviewed by an ethics committee; or

- (ii) an ethics committee determines that none of the allegations in the complaint that were recommended for review by the commission have been proved.
- (3)
- (a) An attorney participating in a hearing before the commission or an ethics committee shall comply with:
    - (i) the rules of professional conduct established by the Utah Supreme Court;
    - (ii) the procedures and requirements of this title; and
    - (iii) the directions of the chairs, commission, and ethics committees.
  - (b) Violations of Subsection (3)(a) may constitute:
    - (i) contempt of the Legislature under JR6-2-304; or
    - (ii) a violation of the rules of professional conduct subject to enforcement by the Utah State Bar.

Enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

### **Chapter 3**

#### **Filing a Complaint Alleging a Violation of Legislative Ethics**

#### **JR6-3-101 Ethics complaints -- Filing -- Form.**

- (1)
- (a) The following individuals, who shall be referred to as the complainants, may file a complaint against an individual legislator if the complaint meets the requirements of JR6-2-201 and Subsection (1)(b):
    - (i) two or more members of the House of Representatives, for a complaint against a representative, provided that the complaint contains evidence or sworn testimony that:
      - (A) sets forth facts and circumstances supporting the alleged violation; and
      - (B) is evidence or sworn testimony of the type that would generally be admissible under the Utah Rules of Evidence;
    - (ii) two or more members of the Senate, for a complaint against a senator, provided that the complaint contains evidence or sworn testimony that:
      - (A) sets forth facts and circumstances supporting the alleged violation; and
      - (B) is evidence or sworn testimony of the type that would generally be admissible under the Utah Rules of Evidence; or
    - (iii) two or more registered voters currently residing within Utah, if, for each alleged violation pled in the complaint, at least one of those registered voters has personal knowledge of the facts and circumstances supporting the alleged violation.
  - (b) A complainant may file a complaint only against an individual who is serving as a member of the Legislature on the date that the complaint is filed.
- (2)
- (a) Complainants shall file a complaint with the chair of the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission.
  - (b) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(c), an individual may not file a complaint during the 60 calendar days immediately preceding:
    - (i) a regular primary election, if the accused legislator is a candidate in the primary election; or
    - (ii) a regular general election in which the accused legislator is a candidate, unless the accused legislator is unopposed in the election.

- (c) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(b), an individual may file a complaint within the time frame provided in that subsection if:
  - (i) the complaint includes evidence that the subject of the complaint has been convicted of, plead guilty to, entered a plea of no contest to, or entered a plea in abeyance to a crime of moral turpitude; and
  - (ii) the crime of moral turpitude is one of the allegations contained in the complaint.
- (3) The complainants shall ensure that each complaint filed under this rule is in writing and contains the following information:
  - (a) the name and position or title of the legislator alleged to be in violation, who shall be referred to as the respondent;
  - (b) the name, address, and telephone number of each individual who is filing the complaint;
  - (c) a description of each alleged violation, including for each alleged violation:
    - (i) a reference to:
      - (A) the section of the code of conduct alleged to have been violated; or
      - (B) the criminal provision violated and the docket number of the case involving the legislator;
    - (ii) the name of the complainant or complainants who have personal knowledge of the facts and circumstances supporting each allegation;
    - (iii) the facts and circumstances supporting each allegation, which shall be provided by:
      - (A) copies of official records or documentary evidence; or
      - (B) one or more affidavits, each of which shall comply with the following format:
        - (I) the name, address, and telephone number of the signer;
        - (II) a statement that the signer has personal knowledge of the facts and circumstances alleged in the affidavit;
        - (III) the facts and circumstances testified to by the signer;
        - (IV) a statement that the affidavit is believed to be true and correct and that false statements are subject to penalties of perjury; and
        - (V) the signature of the signer;
  - (d) a list of the witnesses that the complainants wish to have called, including for each witness:
    - (i) the name, address, and, if available, one or more telephone numbers of the witness;
    - (ii) a brief summary of the testimony to be provided by the witness; and
    - (iii) a specific description of any documents or evidence complainants desire the witness to produce;
  - (e) a statement that each complainant:
    - (i) has reviewed the allegations contained in the complaint and the sworn statements and documents attached to the complaint;
    - (ii) believes that the complaint is submitted in good faith and not for any improper purpose such as for the purpose of harassing the respondent, causing unwarranted harm to the respondent's reputation, or causing unnecessary expenditure of public funds; and
    - (iii) believes the allegations contained in the complaint to be true and accurate; and
  - (f) the signature of each complainant.

**JR6-3-102 Privacy of ethics complaints -- Contempt -- Enforcement of finding of contempt -- Dismissal.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a person, including the complainants, the respondent, commission members, a committee chair or vice chair, or staff to the commission

or a committee, may not disclose the existence of a complaint, a response, nor any information concerning any alleged violation that is the subject of a complaint.

- (b) The restrictions in Subsection (1)(a) do not apply to:
  - (i) a complaint or response that is publicly released by the commission and referred to an ethics committee for review under the procedures and requirements of JR6-4-204, and the allegations contained in the publicly released complaint or response;
  - (ii) the respondent's voluntary disclosure of a finding by the commission that no allegations in a complaint were proved, after that finding is issued by the commission under the procedures and requirements of JR6-4-204;
  - (iii) disclosing facts or allegations about potential criminal violations to law enforcement authorities;
  - (iv) a disclosure by a respondent that is made solely for the purpose of, and only to the extent necessary for, retaining counsel or conducting an interview, seeking evidence, or taking other action to prepare to defend against a complaint;
  - (v) a communication between a commission or committee member and the commission's or committee's attorneys or staff; or
  - (vi) a disclosure to a person that is determined necessary, by a majority vote of the commission or committee, to conduct the duties of the commission or committee.
- (2) When a person makes a disclosure under Subsection (1)(b)(iv) or (vi), the person making the disclosure shall inform the person to whom the disclosure is made of the nondisclosure requirements described in this section.
- (3) A person who violates the provisions of Subsection (1)(a) is in contempt of the Legislature and proceedings may be initiated to enforce the finding of contempt using the procedures provided in JR6-2-304 and Utah Code Section 36-14-5.
- (4) Except as provided in JR6-4-101(3), if the identity of the legislator who is the subject of an ethics complaint or the identity of the filer of an ethics complaint is publicly disclosed during the period that the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission is reviewing the complaint, the complaint shall be summarily dismissed without prejudice.

## Chapter 4

### Procedures for Reviewing Ethics Complaints

#### Part 1

#### Initial Review of Ethics Complaint and Response

##### **JR6-4-101 Review of ethics complaint for compliance with form requirements -- Independent requirements for complaint -- Notice.**

- (1) Within five business days after receipt of a complaint, the staff of the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission, in consultation with the chair of the commission, shall examine the complaint to determine if it is in compliance with JR6-2-201 or JR6-3-101.
- (2)
  - (a) If the chair determines that the complaint does not comply with JR6-2-201 or JR6-3-101, the chair shall:
    - (i) return the complaint to the first complainant named on the complaint with:
      - (A) a statement detailing the reason for the non-compliance; and

- (B) a copy of the applicable legislative rules; and
- (ii) notify the president of the Senate and the chair and vice-chair of the Senate Ethics Committee, if the legislator named in the complaint is a senator, or the speaker of the House of Representatives and the chair and vice-chair of the House Ethics Committee, if the legislator named in the complaint is a representative, that:
  - (A) a complaint was filed against a member of the Senate or House, respectively, but was returned for non-compliance with legislative rule; and
  - (B) the fact that a complaint was filed and returned shall be kept confidential until the commission submits its annual summary data report as required by JR6-2-104.
- (b) If a complaint is returned for non-compliance with the requirements of this title, the complainants may file another complaint if the new complaint independently meets the requirements of JR6-3-101, including any requirements for timely filing.
- (3) If the chair determines that the complaint complies with the requirements of this rule, the chair shall:
  - (a) accept the complaint;
  - (b) notify the president of the Senate and the chair and vice-chair of the Senate Ethics Committee, if the legislator named in the complaint is a senator, or the speaker of the House of Representatives and the chair and vice-chair of the House Ethics Committee, if the legislator named in the complaint is a representative:
    - (i) that a complaint has been filed against a member of the Senate or House, respectively;
    - (ii) of the identity of the legislator who is the subject of the complaint and the identity of the person or persons filing the complaint;
    - (iii) of the nature of the allegations contained in the complaint; and
    - (iv) that the fact that a complaint was filed, the nature of the allegations raised in the complaint, and the identity of the legislator and the complainants shall be kept confidential until the commission publicly discloses the existence of the complaint via:
      - (A) a recommendation that an allegation in the complaint be heard by a legislative ethics committee; or
      - (B) submission of the commission's annual summary data report as required by JR6-2-104;
  - (c) notify each member of the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission that the complaint has been filed and accepted and that the existence of and contents of the complaint and the identities of the parties shall be kept confidential; and
  - (d) promptly forward the complaint to the legislator who is the subject of the ethics complaint via personal delivery or a delivery method that provides verification of receipt, together with:
    - (i) notice that the existence of and contents of the complaint, and the identities of the parties, are confidential and should not be publicly disclosed;
    - (ii) a copy of the applicable legislative rules; and
    - (iii) notice of the legislator's deadline for filing a response to the complaint.

Amended by S.J.R. 16, 2015 General Session

**JR6-4-102 Meeting of the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission for review of complaint -- Procedures.**

By no later than 10 calendar days after the day on which the complaint is accepted under JR6-4-101, the commission chair shall:

- (1) schedule a commission meeting on a date no later than 60 calendar days after the date on which the committee chair and vice chair accept the complaint;
- (2) place the complaint on the agenda for consideration at that meeting;



- (3) provide notice of the date, time, and location of the meeting to:
  - (a) the members of the commission;
  - (b) the first complainant named in the complaint; and
  - (c) the respondent; and
- (4) provide a copy of the complaint to each member of the commission.

Amended by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-4-103 Response to ethics complaint -- Filing -- Form.**

- (1) The legislator that is the subject of the complaint may file a response to the complaint no later than 30 days after the day on which the legislator receives delivery of the complaint.
- (2) The respondent shall file the response with the commission and shall ensure that the response is in writing and contains the following information:
  - (a) the name, address, and telephone number of the respondent;
  - (b) for each alleged violation in the complaint:
    - (i) each affirmative defense asserted in response to the allegation, including a general description of each affirmative defense and the facts and circumstances supporting the defense to be provided by one or more affidavits, each of which shall comply with the following format:
      - (A) the name, address, and telephone number of the signer;
      - (B) a statement that the signer has personal knowledge of the facts and circumstances alleged in the affidavit;
      - (C) the facts and circumstances testified to by the signer;
      - (D) a statement that the affidavit is believed to be true and correct and that false statements are subject to penalties of perjury; and
      - (E) the signature of the signer;
    - (ii) the facts and circumstances refuting the allegation, which shall be provided by:
      - (A) copies of official records or documentary evidence; or
      - (B) one or more affidavits, each of which shall comply with the following format:
        - (I) the name, address, and telephone number of the signer;
        - (II) a statement that the signer has personal knowledge of the facts and circumstances alleged in the affidavit;
        - (III) the facts and circumstances testified to by the signer;
        - (IV) a statement that the affidavit is believed to be true and correct and that false statements are subject to penalties of perjury; and
        - (V) the signature of the signer;
  - (c) a list of the witnesses that the respondent wishes to have called, including for each witness:
    - (i) the name, address, and, if available, telephone number of the witness;
    - (ii) a brief summary of the testimony to be provided by the witness; and
    - (iii) a specific description of any documents or evidence the respondent desires the witness to produce;
  - (d) a statement that the respondent:
    - (i) has reviewed the allegations contained in the complaint and the sworn statements and documents attached to the response; and
    - (ii) believes the contents of the response to be true and accurate; and
  - (e) the signature of the respondent.
- (3) Promptly after receiving the response, the commission shall provide copies of the response to:
  - (a) each member of the commission; and

- (b) the first named complainant on the complaint.

## Part 2

### Review of Ethics Complaint by the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission

#### **JR6-4-201 Review of ethics complaint by the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission.**

- (1) The scope of the Independent Legislative Ethics Commission's review is limited to the alleged violations stated in the complaint.
- (2)
  - (a) Before holding the meeting for review of the complaint, the commission chair may schedule a separate meeting of the commission for the purposes of:
    - (i) hearing motions or arguments from the parties, including hearing motions or arguments relating to dismissal of a complaint, admission of evidence, or procedures;
    - (ii) holding a vote of the commission, with or without the attendance of the parties, on procedural or commission business matters relating to a complaint; or
    - (iii) reviewing a complaint, with or without the attendance of the parties, to determine if the complaint should be dismissed in whole or in part, by means of a majority vote of the commission, because it pleads facts or circumstances against a legislator that have already been reviewed by the commission or an ethics committee as provided in JR6-2-201.
  - (b) Notwithstanding JR6-4-102, the commission may, by a majority vote, change the date of the meeting for review of the complaint in order to accommodate:
    - (i) a meeting authorized under Subsection (2)(a); or
    - (ii) necessary scheduling requirements.
- (3)
  - (a) The commission shall comply with the Utah Rules of Evidence except where the commission determines, by majority vote, that a rule is not compatible with the requirements of this title.
  - (b) The chair shall make rulings on admissibility of evidence consistent with the provisions of JR6-2-302.
- (4)
  - (a) All meetings and hearings authorized in this part are closed to the public.
  - (b) The following individuals may be present during the presentation of testimony and evidence to the commission:
    - (i) the complainants, except that no more than three complainants may be present at one time;
    - (ii) complainants' counsel, if applicable;
    - (iii) the respondent;
    - (iv) the respondent's counsel, if applicable;
    - (v) members of the commission;
    - (vi) staff to the commission;
    - (vii) a witness, while testifying before the commission; and
    - (viii) necessary security personnel.
  - (c) The complainants, respondent, and their respective counsel may be excluded from a portion of the meeting when the commission discusses administrative, procedural, legal, or evidentiary issues by:
    - (i) the order of the chair, subject to override as provided in JR6-2-302; or
    - (ii) a majority vote of the commission.

- (d) When the commission deliberates at the conclusion of presentation of testimony and evidence, the commission shall ensure that those deliberations are closed to all persons except for the members of the commission and commission staff.
- (5) If a majority of the commission determines that a continuance is necessary to obtain further evidence and testimony, to accommodate administrative needs, or to accommodate the attendance of commission members, witnesses, or a party, the commission shall:
  - (a) adjourn and continue the meeting to a future date and time after notice to the parties; and
  - (b) establish that future date and time by majority vote.

Amended by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-4-202 Record -- Recording of meetings.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), an individual may not use a camera or other recording device in any meeting authorized by this part.
  - (b)
    - (i) The commission shall keep an audio or video recording of all portions of each meeting authorized by this part.
    - (ii) If the commission elects, by a majority vote, to release the commission's recommendation in a public meeting, the meeting may, upon a majority vote of the commission, be opened to cameras or other recording devices.
- (2) In addition to the recording required in Subsection (1), the chair shall ensure that a record of the meeting or hearing is made, which shall include:
  - (a) official minutes taken during the meeting or hearing, if any;
  - (b) copies of all documents or other items admitted into evidence by the commission;
  - (c) copies of any documents or written orders or rulings issued by the chair or the commission; and
  - (d) any other information that a majority of the commission or the chair directs.
- (3) Except for the recommendation prepared by the commission, which shall be either a private or public record as determined in JR6-4-204, any recording, testimony, evidence, or other record of a meeting authorized by this part is a private record under Utah Code Section 63G-2-302 and may not be disclosed.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-4-203 Process for making a decision -- Deliberations.**

- (1) After each party has presented a closing argument, the commission shall, at the direction of the chair, begin its private deliberations:
  - (a) immediately after conclusion of the closing arguments; or
  - (b) at a future meeting of the commission, on a date and time determined by a majority of the members of the commission.
- (2)
  - (a) The chair of the commission shall conduct the deliberations.
  - (b) Upon a motion made by a commission member, the commission may exclude commission staff from all or a portion of the deliberations by a majority vote of the commission.
- (3)
  - (a) During deliberations, for each allegation reviewed by the commission, each member shall determine and cast a vote stating whether the allegation is:

- (i) proven by a preponderance of the evidence; or
- (ii) not proven.
- (b) A verbal roll call vote shall be taken on each allegation and each member's vote shall be recorded.
- (4)
  - (a) A count is not considered to be proven unless four of the five members of the commission vote that the count is proven.
  - (b) A count that is not considered to be proven is dismissed.
  - (c)
    - (i) Before the commission issues its recommendation under JR6-4-204, the commission may, upon a majority vote, reconsider and hold a new vote on an allegation.
    - (ii) A motion to reconsider a vote may only be made by a member of the commission who voted that the allegation was not proved.
- (5) At the conclusion of deliberations, the commission shall prepare its recommendations as provided in JR6-4-204.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-4-204 Recommendations of commission.**

- (1) If the commission determines that no allegations in the complaint were proved, the commission shall:
  - (a) issue and enter into the record an order that the complaint is dismissed because no allegations in the complaint were found to have been proved;
  - (b) classify all recordings, testimony, evidence, orders, findings, and other records directly relating to the meetings authorized by this part as private records under Utah Code Section 63G-2-302;
  - (c) provide notice of the determination, in a manner determined by a majority vote of the commission, to:
    - (i) the respondent; and
    - (ii) the first complainant named on the complaint; and
  - (d) provide notice to each person named in Subsection (1)(c) that, under the provisions of JR6-3-102 and other provisions of this title, a person who discloses the findings of the commission in violation of any provision of this chapter is in contempt of the Legislature and is subject to penalties for contempt.
- (2) If the commission determines that one or more of the allegations in the complaint were proved, the commission shall:
  - (a) if one or more allegations were not found to have been proven, enter into the record an order dismissing those unproven allegations;
  - (b) prepare a written recommendation to the Senate Ethics Committee, if the respondent is a senator, or to the House Ethics Committee, if the respondent is a representative, that:
    - (i) lists the name of each complainant;
    - (ii) lists the name of the respondent;
    - (iii) states the date of the recommendation;
    - (iv) for each allegation that was found to be proven:
      - (A) provides a reference to the code of conduct or criminal provision allegedly violated;
      - (B) states the number and names of commission members voting that the allegation was proved and the number and names of commission members voting that the allegation was not proved;

- (C) at the option of those members voting that the allegation was proved, includes a statement by one or all of those members stating the reasons for voting that the allegation was proved, provided that the statement does not cite specific evidence, specific testimony, or specific witnesses; and
  - (D) at the option of those members voting that the allegation was not proved, includes a statement by one or all of those members stating the reasons for voting that the allegation was not proved, provided that the statement does not cite specific evidence, specific testimony, or specific witnesses;
  - (v) contains any general statement that is adopted for inclusion in the recommendation by a majority of the members of the commission;
  - (vi) contains a statement referring the allegations found to have been proved to the appropriate ethics committee for review;
  - (vii) states the name of each member of the commission; and
  - (viii) is signed by each commission member;
  - (c) direct staff to publicly release the recommendation, the complaint, and the response, subject to the redaction of any allegations that were dismissed by the commission; and
  - (d) classify all other recordings, testimony, evidence, orders, findings, and other records directly relating to the meetings and hearings authorized by this part as private records under Utah Code Section 63G-2-302.
- (3) The commission shall ensure that a copy of the recommendation is made publicly available and promptly provided to:
- (a) the respondent, together with notice that the respondent may amend the respondent's witness list as provided in JR6-4-301;
  - (b) the first complainant named on the complaint, together with notice that the complainants may amend their witness list as provided in JR6-4-301; and
  - (c) the chair and vice chair of the Senate Ethics Committee, if the respondent is a senator, or the chair and vice chair of the House Ethics Committee, if the respondent is a representative.
- (4) The commission shall ensure that, within five business days of the date of issuance of the recommendation:
- (a) the complaint and the response are redacted to remove references to those allegations found not to have been proven by the commission, if one or more allegations were found not to have been proven; and
  - (b) the following documents are made publicly available and are provided to the chair and vice chair of the Senate Ethics Committee, if the respondent is a senator, or the chair and vice chair of the House Ethics Committee, if the respondent is a representative:
    - (i) a cover letter referring the allegations contained in the edited complaint to the ethics committee for the committee's review;
    - (ii) a copy of the edited complaint;
    - (iii) a copy of the edited response; and
    - (iv) a copy of the recommendation.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

### **Part 3**

## **Review of Ethics Complaint by Ethics Committee**

**JR6-4-301 Receipt of recommendation from Independent Legislative Ethics Commission -- Scheduling of Ethics Committee hearing -- Amendments.**

- (1) Within five calendar days of the date that the chair of the Senate Ethics or House Ethics Committee receives the commission's recommendation as provided under JR6-4-204, the chair and vice chair of the committee shall:
  - (a) schedule a committee hearing to review the complaint on a date no later than 30 days after the day on which the committee receives the recommendation; and
  - (b) place the ethics complaint on the agenda for consideration at that hearing.
- (2)
  - (a) The complainants may not amend the complaint.
  - (b) The respondent may not amend the response.
  - (c) The complainant and respondent may file with the committee, within 10 days of the date of issuance of the commission's recommendations, an amended list of witnesses and evidence that they wish to have subpoenaed by the committee.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-4-302 Review of ethics complaint by Ethics Committee.**

- (1) The scope of the committee's review is limited to the alleged violations found to have been proven by the commission, as pled in the edited complaint and the edited response provided by the commission.
- (2)
  - (a) Before holding the hearing for review of the complaint as scheduled in JR6-4-301, the chair may schedule a separate meeting of the committee to:
    - (i) hear motions or arguments from the parties, including hearing motions or arguments relating to dismissal of a complaint, admission of evidence, or procedures; or
    - (ii) hold a vote of the committee, with or without the attendance of the parties, on procedural or committee business matters relating to a complaint.
  - (b) Notwithstanding JR6-4-301, the committee may, by a majority vote, change the date of the hearing scheduled in JR6-4-301 in order to accommodate:
    - (i) a meeting authorized under Subsection (2)(a); or
    - (ii) necessary scheduling requirements.
- (3)
  - (a) The committee shall comply with the Utah Rules of Evidence, except where the committee determines, by majority vote, that a rule is not compatible with the requirements of this title.
  - (b) The chair shall make rulings on admissibility of evidence consistent with the provisions of JR6-4-202.
- (4)
  - (a) A meeting or hearing held under this Chapter 4, Part 3, Review of Ethics Complaint by Ethics Committee:
    - (i) is subject to the requirements of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act; and
    - (ii) may be closed by a majority vote of the committee, held in the public portion of the meeting, for:
      - (A) any purpose permitted under Utah Code Section 52-4-205;
      - (B) the purpose of discussing legal, evidentiary, or procedural matters with the committee or staff; or
      - (C) deliberations, as provided in JR6-4-304.

- (b) Only committee members, committee staff, and necessary security personnel may attend a closed meeting.
- (5) If a majority of the committee determines that a continuance of a meeting or hearing is necessary to obtain further evidence and testimony, to accommodate administrative needs, or to accommodate the attendance of committee members, witnesses, or a party, the chair or committee shall:
  - (a) adjourn and continue the hearing or meeting to a future date and time; and
  - (b) establish that future date and time by majority vote.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-4-303 Record -- Recording of meetings.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), an individual may not use a camera or other recording device in any meeting authorized by this part.
  - (b)
    - (i) The committee shall keep an audio or video recording of all portions of each meeting authorized by this part.
    - (ii) If the committee elects, by a majority vote, to release the committee's finding and order in a public meeting, that meeting may, upon a majority vote of the committee, be opened to cameras or other recording devices.
- (2) In addition to the recording required in Subsection (1), the chair shall ensure that a record of each hearing or meeting is made, which shall include:
  - (a) official minutes taken during the meeting or hearing, if any;
  - (b) copies of all documents or other items admitted into evidence;
  - (c) copies of any documents, written orders, or written rulings issued by the chair or the committee; and
  - (d) any other information that a majority of the committee or the chair directs.
- (3)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), all recordings, testimony, evidence, and other records of meetings and hearings authorized by this part are public records.
  - (b) All recordings, minutes, and other records produced during a closed meeting authorized under this part are classified as private records under Utah Code Section 63G-2-302.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-4-304 Process for making a decision -- Deliberations -- Voting in public meeting.**

- (1) After each party has presented a closing argument, the committee shall deliberate in a closed meeting:
  - (a) immediately after conclusion of the closing arguments; or
  - (b) at a future meeting of the committee, on a date and time determined by a majority of the members of the committee.
- (2) The chair of the committee shall conduct the deliberations.
- (3) During the deliberations, committee members may:
  - (a) discuss evidence and testimony;
  - (b) discuss and debate whether an allegation was proven or not proven;
  - (c) discuss and debate what actions should be taken or not taken against the respondent in relation to each allegation;

- (d) discuss and debate any other matter related to the allegations in the complaint that is before the committee; and
  - (e) conduct, at the call of the chair or a majority of the members of the committee, a non-binding straw poll on any matter related to the complaint.
- (4)
- (a) Notwithstanding JR6-2-306, and except as provided in Subsection (4)(b), from the time of completion of closing arguments through the time that the written finding and order are publicly issued, a committee member may not discuss any of the following matters with any other person outside of official committee deliberations:
    - (i) the substance or specifics of the allegations, testimony, or evidence of the complaint under review;
    - (ii) a committee member's intended vote;
    - (iii) a committee member's recommendation for actions to be taken or not taken against the respondent in relation to the complaint; or
    - (iv) any other non-administrative matter related to the complaint.
  - (b) During deliberations, committee members may privately consult with staff for the purpose of discussing legal, evidentiary, or procedural matters.
- (5) Deliberations shall continue until they are concluded or continued to another date and time:
- (a) at the direction of the chair, subject to JR6-2-302; or
  - (b) upon a motion approved by a majority of the committee members.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

**JR6-4-305 Vote on allegations and recommendations -- Public meeting -- Standards -- Reconsideration.**

- (1) After conclusion of the deliberations, the committee shall meet in public and, for each allegation reviewed by the committee, vote on whether the allegation is:
  - (a) proven by clear and convincing evidence; or
  - (b) not proven.
- (2) For any count that has been voted as proven, the committee shall, by a motion approved by a majority of the members of the committee, recommend one or more of the following actions:
  - (a) censure;
  - (b) expulsion;
  - (c) denial or limitation of any right, power, or privilege of the respondent, if, under the Utah Constitution, the Senate or House may impose that denial or limitation, and if the violation bears upon the exercise or holding of any right, power, or privilege; or
  - (d) any other action that the committee determines is appropriate.
- (3) Votes shall be taken by verbal roll call and each member's vote shall be recorded.
- (4) A count is not considered to be proven unless a majority of the committee votes that the count is proven.
- (5) The committee, by a motion for reconsideration that is approved by a majority of the committee, may reconsider and hold a new vote provided that:
  - (a) a motion to reconsider a vote on whether an allegation was proven or not proven may only be made by a member of the committee who voted that the allegation was not proven; and
  - (b) a motion to reconsider a vote recommending an action against the respondent may only be made by a member of the committee who voted against the recommendation.
- (6) A count that is not voted as "proven" by a majority of the members of the committee is dismissed.



- (7) The committee may close the meeting for the purposes of further deliberations, subject to the requirements of JR6-4-304:
  - (a) at the direction of the chair, subject to being overruled by the committee as provided in JR6-2-302; or
  - (b) upon a motion approved by a majority of the members of the committee.
- (8) After a final vote has been cast on each allegation and recommendation, the committee shall prepare the finding and order as provided in JR6-4-306.

**JR6-4-306 Finding and order.**

- (1)
  - (a) If the committee determines that no allegations in the complaint were proved, the committee shall prepare a finding and order that:
    - (i) lists the name of each complainant;
    - (ii) lists the name of the respondent;
    - (iii) states the date of the finding and order;
    - (iv) for each allegation contained in the complaint:
      - (A) provides a reference to the code of conduct or criminal provision alleged to have been violated; and
      - (B) states the number and names of committee members voting that the allegation was proved and the number and names of committee members voting that the allegation was not proved;
    - (v) order that the complaint is dismissed because no allegations in the complaint were found to have been proved;
    - (vi) provide any general statement that is adopted for inclusion in the recommendation by a majority of the committee members; and
    - (vii) states the name of each committee member.
  - (b) Each committee member shall sign the finding and order.
- (2)
  - (a) If the committee determines that one or more allegations in the complaint were proved, the committee shall issue a finding and order that:
    - (i) lists the name of each complainant;
    - (ii) lists the name of the respondent;
    - (iii) states the date of the finding and order;
    - (iv) for each allegation contained in the complaint:
      - (A) provides a reference to the code of conduct or criminal provision alleged to have been violated;
      - (B) states the number and names of committee members voting that the allegation was proved and the number and names of committee members voting that the allegation was not proved;
      - (C) if the allegation was not found to have been proven, orders that the allegation be dismissed; and
      - (D) if the allegation was found to have been proven, contains:
        - (I) a description of any actions that the committee recommended be taken;
        - (II) the number and names of committee members voting in favor of each recommendation and the number and names of committee members voting against each recommendation;

- (III) at the option of those members voting in favor of a recommendation, a statement by one or all of those members stating the reasons for making the recommendation; and
- (IV) at the option of those members against a recommendation, a statement by one or all of those members stating the reasons for opposing the recommendation;
- (v) contains any general statement that is adopted for inclusion in the finding and order by a majority of the committee members;
- (vi) contains a statement directing that the finding be delivered to:
  - (A) for the Senate Ethics Committee, to the president of the Senate, the Senate majority leader, and the Senate minority leader; or
  - (B) for the House Ethics Committee, to the speaker of the House of Representatives, the House majority leader, and the House minority leader; and
- (vii) states the name of each committee member.
- (b) Each committee member shall sign the finding and order.
- (3) A copy of the finding and order shall be made publicly available.
- (4) A written copy of the finding and order shall be provided to:
  - (a) the respondent;
  - (b) the first complainant named on the complaint; and
  - (c) any individuals required to receive a copy as stated in the finding and order.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.J.R. 3, 2010 General Session

## **Chapter 5**

### **Action by Senate or House on Ethics Committee Recommendation**

#### **JR6-5-101 Senate and House action.**

- (1) The Senate or House shall:
  - (a) consider the recommendations of the ethics committee; and
  - (b) by a majority vote of that chamber, either accept, dismiss, or alter these recommendations.
- (2) If the committee recommends expulsion of a senator or representative, acceptance of this recommendation requires a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the Senate or to the House.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

## **Chapter 6**

### **Communications with Other Branches of Government**

#### **JR6-6-101 Communications with the judiciary.**

- (1) As used in this section, "final decision or order" means a decision or order that determines the rights of the parties and concerning which appellate remedies have been exhausted or the time for appeal has expired.
- (2)

- (a) A legislator may not communicate, either verbally or in writing, with a judge in reference to a particular judicial case or proceeding until a final decision or order has been made on the matter.
- (b) Inquiries to the judiciary that are merely technical or logistical in nature should be made with the Administrative Office of the Courts or a clerk of the court.

Enacted by S.J.R. 6, 2009 General Session

**JR6-6-102 Exceptions -- Acting in normal course of private employment.**

The restrictions in this chapter shall not apply to a communication that a legislator makes with the judiciary in the normal course of the legislator's private employment, provided that the legislator does not use his or her status as a legislator in an attempt to unduly influence the judiciary.

Enacted by S.J.R. 6, 2009 General Session

**Title JR7. Interim**

**Chapter 1  
Interim and Special Committees**

**Part 1  
General Provisions**

**JR7-1-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Anchor location" means the physical location from which:
  - (a) an electronic meeting originates; or
  - (b) the participants are connected.
- (2) "Authorized legislative committee" means:
  - (a) an interim committee;
  - (b) the Legislative Management Committee;
  - (c) the Legislative Process Committee;
  - (d) when functioning as an interim committee:
    - (i) the Senate Rules Committee created in SR3-1-101; or
    - (ii) the House Rules Committee created in HR3-1-101; or
  - (e) a special committee:
    - (i) that is not a mixed special committee; and
    - (ii) to the extent the special committee has statutory authority to open a committee bill file or create a committee bill.
- (3) "Bill" means the same as that term is defined in JR4-1-101.
- (4) "Chair" except as otherwise expressly provided, means:
  - (a) the member of the Senate appointed as chair of an interim committee by the president of the Senate under JR7-1-202;
  - (b) the member of the House of Representatives appointed as chair of an interim committee by the speaker of the House of Representatives under JR7-1-202;

- (c) a member of a special committee appointed as chair of the special committee; or
  - (d) a member of a legislative committee designated by the chair of the legislative committee under Subsection (4)(a), (b), or (c) to act as chair under JR7-1-202.
- (5) "Committee bill" means draft legislation that receives a favorable recommendation from an authorized legislative committee.
- (6) "Committee bill file" means a request for legislation made by:
- (a) a majority vote of an authorized legislative committee; or
  - (b) the chairs of an interim committee, if the interim committee authorizes the chairs to open one or more committee bill files in accordance with JR7-1-602.
- (7) "Committee note" means a note that the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel places on legislation in accordance with JR4-2-401.
- (8) "Draft legislation" means a draft of a bill or resolution before it is numbered by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.
- (9) "Electronic meeting" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 52-4-103.
- (10) "Favorable recommendation" means an action of an authorized legislative committee by majority vote to favorably recommend legislation for consideration by the Legislature in an upcoming legislative session.
- (11) "Legislative committee" means:
- (a) an interim committee; or
  - (b) a special committee.
- (12) "Interim committee" means a committee that:
- (a) is comprised of members from both chambers;
  - (b) meets between annual general sessions of the Legislature to perform duties described in rule; and
  - (c) is created under JR7-1-201.
- (13) "Legislative sponsor" means:
- (a) for a committee bill file, the chairs of the authorized legislative committee that opened the committee bill file or the chairs' designee; or
  - (b) for a request for legislation that is not a committee bill file, the legislator who requested the request for legislation or the legislator's designee.
- (14) "Majority vote" means:
- (a) with respect to an interim committee, an affirmative vote of at least 50% of a quorum of members of the interim committee from one chamber and more than 50% of a quorum of members of the interim committee from the other chamber; or
  - (b) with respect to a special committee, an affirmative vote of more than 50% of a quorum.
- (15) "Mixed special committee" means a special committee that is composed of one or more voting members who are legislators and one or more voting members who are not legislators.
- (16) "Original motion" means a nonprivileged motion that is accepted by the chair when no other motion is pending.
- (17) "Pending motion" means a motion described in JR7-1-307.
- (18) "Privileged motion" means a motion to adjourn, set a time to adjourn, recess, end debate, extend debate, or limit debate.
- (19) "Public statement" means a statement made in the ordinary course of business of a legislative committee with the intent that all other members of the legislative committee receive it.
- (20) "Request for legislation" means the same as that term is defined in JR4-1-101.
- (21) "Resolution" means the same as that term is defined in JR4-1-101.
- (22)
- (a) "Special committee" means a committee, commission, task force, or other similar body that is:

- (i) created by legislation; and
- (ii) staffed by:
  - (A) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel; or
  - (B) the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.
- (b) "Special committee" does not include:
  - (i) an interim committee;
  - (ii) a standing committee created under SR3-2-201 or HR3-2-201; or
  - (iii) a Senate confirmation committee described in SR3-3-101 or SR3-3-201.
- (23) "Subcommittee" means a subsidiary unit of a legislative committee formed in accordance with JR7-1-411.
- (24) "Substitute motion" means a nonprivileged motion that a member of a legislative committee makes when there is a nonprivileged motion pending.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

### **JR7-1-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Anchor location" means the physical location from which:
  - (a) an electronic meeting originates; or
  - (b) the participants are connected.
- (2) "Authorized legislative committee" means:
  - (a) an interim committee;
  - (b) the Legislative Management Committee;
  - (c) the Legislative Process Committee;
  - (d) when functioning as an interim committee:
    - (i) the Senate Rules Committee created in SR3-1-101; or
    - (ii) the House Rules Committee created in HR3-1-101; or
  - (e) a special committee:
    - (i) that is not a mixed special committee; and
    - (ii) to the extent the special committee has statutory authority to open a committee bill file or create a committee bill.
- (3) "Bill" means the same as that term is defined in JR4-1-101.
- (4) "Chair" except as otherwise expressly provided, means:
  - (a) the member of the Senate appointed as chair of an interim committee by the president of the Senate under JR7-1-202;
  - (b) the member of the House of Representatives appointed as chair of an interim committee by the speaker of the House of Representatives under JR7-1-202;
  - (c) a member of a special committee appointed as chair of the special committee; or
  - (d) a member of a legislative committee designated by the chair of the legislative committee under Subsection (4)(a), (b), or (c) to act as chair under JR7-1-202.
- (5) "Committee bill" means draft legislation that receives a favorable recommendation from an authorized legislative committee.
- (6) "Committee bill file" means a request for legislation made by:
  - (a) a majority vote of an authorized legislative committee; or
  - (b) the chairs of an authorized legislative committee, if the authorized legislative committee authorizes the chairs to open one or more committee bill files in accordance with JR7-1-602.
- (7) "Committee note" means a note that the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel places on legislation in accordance with JR4-2-401.

- (8)"Draft legislation" means a draft of a bill or resolution before it is numbered by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.
- (9)"Electronic meeting" means the same as that term is defined in Utah Code Section 52-4-103.
- (10)"Favorable recommendation" means an action of an authorized legislative committee by majority vote to favorably recommend legislation for consideration by the Legislature in an upcoming legislative session.
- (11)"Legislative committee" means:
  - (a)an interim committee; or
  - (b)a special committee.
- (12)"Interim committee" means a committee that:
  - (a)is comprised of members from both chambers;
  - (b)meets between annual general sessions of the Legislature to perform duties described in rule; and
  - (c)is created under JR7-1-201.
- (13)"Legislative sponsor" means:
  - (a)for a committee bill file, the chairs of the authorized legislative committee that opened the committee bill file or the chairs' designee; or
  - (b)for a request for legislation that is not a committee bill file, the legislator who requested the request for legislation or the legislator's designee.
- (14)"Majority vote" means:
  - (a)with respect to an interim committee, an affirmative vote of at least 50% of a quorum of members of the interim committee from one chamber and more than 50% of a quorum of members of the interim committee from the other chamber; or
  - (b)with respect to a special committee, an affirmative vote of more than 50% of a quorum.
- (15)"Mixed special committee" means a special committee that is composed of one or more voting members who are legislators and one or more voting members who are not legislators.
- (16)"Original motion" means a nonprivileged motion that is accepted by the chair when no other motion is pending.
- (17)"Pending motion" means a motion described in JR7-1-307.
- (18)"Privileged motion" means a motion to adjourn, set a time to adjourn, recess, end debate, extend debate, or limit debate.
- (19)"Public statement" means a statement made in the ordinary course of business of a legislative committee with the intent that all other members of the legislative committee receive it.
- (20)"Request for legislation" means the same as that term is defined in JR4-1-101.
- (21)"Resolution" means the same as that term is defined in JR4-1-101.
- (22)
  - (a)"Special committee" means a committee, commission, task force, or other similar body that is:
    - (i)created by legislation; and
    - (ii)staffed by:
      - (A)the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel; or
      - (B)the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.
  - (b)"Special committee" does not include:
    - (i)an interim committee;
    - (ii)a standing committee created under SR3-2-201 or HR3-2-201; or
    - (iii)a Senate confirmation committee described in SR3-3-101 or SR3-3-201.
- (23)"Subcommittee" means a subsidiary unit of a legislative committee formed in accordance with JR7-1-411.

(24)"Substitute motion" means a nonprivileged motion that a member of a legislative committee makes when there is a nonprivileged motion pending.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR7-1-102 Application of rules for special committees -- Priority in the event of conflict.**

If a provision of this chapter conflicts with a provision in legislation or rule that is specific to a special committee, the provision in the legislation or rule that is specific to the special committee controls.

**JR7-1-103 News media.**

When present for a meeting of a legislative committee, news media may not enter the area behind the dais without the permission of the chair.

**JR7-1-104 Prohibited items and activities in legislative committee meetings.**

(1)A member of the public attending a meeting of a legislative committee may not:

(a)bring into the meeting room, or possess while in the meeting room, any of the following:

- (i)a sign, poster, banner, or placard;
- (ii)glitter or confetti;
- (iii)a laser pointer;
- (iv)paint;
- (v)an open flame;
- (vi)an incendiary device;
- (vii)a noise maker;
- (viii)flammable liquid; or
- (ix)any harmful or hazardous substance; or

(b)engage in any of the following while in the meeting room:

- (i)commercial solicitation;
- (ii)leafletting;
- (iii)throwing an item; or
- (iv)adhering any item to a furnishing, a wall, or other state property.

(2)To the extent reasonably applicable, any action by a chair under this rule applies to a member of the public participating in the meeting via video conference.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

## **Part 2 Creation and Organization of Legislative Committees**

**JR7-1-201 Interim committees -- Creation.**

There are created the following interim committees:

- (1) Business and Labor Interim Committee;
- (2) Economic Development and Workforce Services Interim Committee;
- (3) Education Interim Committee;

- (4) Government Operations Interim Committee;
- (5) Health and Human Services Interim Committee;
- (6) Judiciary Interim Committee;
- (7) Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee;
- (8) Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim Committee;
- (9) Political Subdivisions Interim Committee;
- (10) Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Interim Committee;
- (11) Retirement and Independent Entities Interim Committee;
- (12) Revenue and Taxation Interim Committee; and
- (13) Transportation Interim Committee.

**JR7-1-202 President and speaker to appoint legislative committee members and chairs.**

- (1)The president of the Senate shall appoint:
  - (a)one or more senators to each legislative committee, including one senator to serve as chair of the legislative committee; or
  - (b)if the legislative committee is a special committee, senators as provided by the special committee's enacting legislation.
- (2)The speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint:
  - (a)one or more representatives to each legislative committee, including one representative to serve as chair of the legislative committee; or
  - (b)if the legislative committee is a special committee, representatives as provided by the special committee's enacting legislation.
- (3)
  - (a)A chair may designate a member of the legislative committee to act as chair for all or part of a legislative committee meeting if neither chair is present at the meeting.
  - (b)If neither chair is present at the meeting and neither chair designates a member of the legislative committee to act as chair, the most senior member from the majority party who is present at the meeting shall act as chair.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR7-1-203 Quorum requirements.**

- (1)Except as provided in Subsection (2) and subject to the other provisions of this rule, a quorum of a legislative committee:
  - (a)is at least 50% of the members of the legislative committee from one chamber and more than 50% of the members of the legislative committee from the other chamber; and
  - (b)notwithstanding Subsection (2) or (3), shall include at least one member of the legislative committee from the Senate.
- (2)A quorum of a mixed special committee is:
  - (a)at least 50% of the legislator members of the mixed special committee from one chamber and more than 50% of the legislator members of the mixed special committee from the other chamber; and
  - (b)more than 50% of the nonlegislator members of the mixed special committee.
- (3)If a member of a legislative committee does not attend two consecutive meetings of the legislative committee in a calendar year, the member is not counted for purposes of determining a quorum for the remainder of the calendar year, unless the member is present at the meeting when the action requiring a quorum occurs.



(4)The following individuals are not counted for purposes of determining a quorum, unless the member is present at the legislative committee meeting when the action requiring a quorum occurs:

- (a)a member of the Legislative Management Committee;
- (b)the Senate chair and vice chair of the Executive Appropriations Committee;
- (c)the House chair and vice chair of the Executive Appropriations Committee;
- (d)the chair and vice chair of the Senate Rules Committee;
- (e)the chair and vice chair of the House Rules Committee;
- (f)the fourth member of leadership from the minority party in the Senate; and
- (g)the fourth member of leadership from the minority party in the House of Representatives.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR7-1-204 Committee order of business.**

Unless a chair, or the legislative committee by majority vote, determines otherwise, the order of business for a legislative committee is:

- (1) call to order;
- (2) approval of the minutes of the immediately preceding meeting;
- (3) brief description of each item on the agenda;
- (4) announcement of any time restrictions, subject to JR7-1-305;
- (5) consideration of legislative committee business for the meeting; and
- (6) adjournment.

**Part 3**  
**Duties of Legislative Committee Chairs**

**JR7-1-301 Chairs to enforce legislative rules and procedures.**

Each chair is responsible for ensuring the integrity of the committee process by enforcing legislative rules and parliamentary procedure without delay.

**JR7-1-302 Chair to preserve order and decorum.**

- (1)The chair shall preserve order and decorum during a legislative committee meeting by:
  - (a)ensuring nothing obstructs a walkway or the view of a meeting attendee;
  - (b)ensuring that nothing disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the orderly course of the meeting;
  - (c)protecting state property from damage or disarray;
  - (d)prohibiting speech likely to incite or produce imminent lawless action, fighting words, or obscenity; and
  - (e)prohibiting any activity or item that poses a danger to the safety of a meeting attendee.
- (2)To preserve order and decorum in accordance with Subsection (1), the chair may:
  - (a)prohibit the following:
    - (i)standing, waving, yelling, cheering, whistling, or clapping;
    - (ii)loud noises;
    - (iii)food or drink, other than water in a closed container;

- (iv) musical instruments;
- (v) any item that may require excessive cleanup; or
- (vi) to the extent necessary to preserve order and decorum, any other item or activity the chair determines necessary;
- (b) clear the meeting room of one or more individuals;
- (c) recess the meeting without a motion; or
- (d) request assistance from:
  - (i) the sergeant-at-arms; or
  - (ii) the Utah Highway Patrol.
- (3) A member of the public participating in a legislative committee meeting via video conference may not:
  - (a) use a virtual background other than one that is simple and free from distracting visuals; or
  - (b) engage in any behavior that if performed in the meeting room would violate Subsection (1).

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR7-1-303 Chairs to set agenda.**

Subject to the other provisions of this chapter, including JR7-1-401 and JR7-1-402, the agenda for a legislative committee meeting shall be set by the chairs of the legislative committee.

**JR7-1-304 Chairs to post notice and agenda.**

The chairs of each legislative committee shall cause a public notice and agenda for each meeting of the legislative committee to be posted at least 24 hours before the meeting as required by Utah Code, Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

**JR7-1-305 Chairs may direct order of agenda -- Time restrictions.**

A chair, or a legislative committee by majority vote, may adopt one or more committee procedures or time restrictions related to the manner in which the legislative committee hears the items on an agenda, including:

- (1) directing the order of the agenda;
- (2) directing the order in which the legislative committee hears a witness or presenter;
- (3) directing the number of witnesses or presenters that the legislative committee hears; or
- (4) limiting the time the legislative committee spends:
  - (a) on an item on an agenda; or
  - (b) hearing from a witness or presenter.

**JR7-1-306 Chairs to recognize committee members.**

A chair shall recognize any member of the legislative committee who desires to speak on a subject that is under consideration by the legislative committee.

**JR7-1-307 Chairs to accept all motions that are in order.**

- (1) A chair shall accept any motion made by a member of the legislative committee who the chair has recognized, unless the motion is prohibited by this chapter.
- (2) To accept a motion, the chair shall restate the motion.

(3) If a chair accepts a motion, the motion is pending.

**JR7-1-308 Chairs to allow response to motions before placing motions for a vote.**

After a chair accepts a motion and before the chair places the motion for a vote, the chair shall allow:

- (1) any member of the legislative committee to ask one or more questions about the motion of the member who made the motion;
- (2) members of the legislative committee to debate the motion;
- (3) if the legislative committee is considering draft legislation, the legislative sponsor to respond to the motion; and
- (4) the member of the legislative committee who made the motion to provide a summation on the motion.

**JR7-1-309 Chairs to place motions for vote.**

Unless withdrawn in accordance with JR7-1-508, the chair shall place a pending motion for a vote after the member of the legislative committee who made the motion provides a summation on the motion or waives the opportunity to provide a summation on the motion.

**JR7-1-310 Chairs to verbally announce vote on motions -- Motions pass with majority vote.**

- (1) After a legislative committee votes on a motion, the chair shall:
  - (a) determine and verbally announce whether the motion passed or failed; and
  - (b) unless the vote on the motion is unanimous, verbally identify by name each committee member who voted "yes" or each committee member who voted "no."
- (2) Unless otherwise specified, a motion passes with a majority vote.

Amended by H.J.R. 5, 2021 General Session

**JR7-1-311 Chairs may direct a roll call vote.**

A chair, or the legislative committee by majority vote, may require a roll call vote.

**JR7-1-312 Chairs to ensure integrity of minutes -- Retention of minutes -- Content requirements.**

- (1) Each chair shall:
  - (a) cause a draft of the minutes of the chair's legislative committee to be available for each member of the legislative committee to review before the legislative committee approves the minutes; and
  - (b) ensure that the minutes of each meeting of the legislative committee include:
    - (i) each item required by Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act; and
    - (ii) each motion, point of order, or appeal of a decision on a point of order.
- (2) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall retain a physical or electronic copy of the minutes for each meeting of a legislative committee for three years.

## Part 4 Powers and Duties of Legislative Committees

### **JR7-1-401 Interim committees to receive study assignments -- Adoption of study items.**

- (1) Each interim committee shall:
  - (a) study issues assigned to the committee by:
    - (i) passed legislation; or
    - (ii) the Legislative Management Committee; and
  - (b) review programs and hear reports as required by statute.
- (2) Each interim committee may:
  - (a) investigate and study possibilities for improvement in government services within the interim committee's subject area;
  - (b) request and receive research reports from interim committee staff that relate to the interim committee's subject area;
  - (c) request testimony from government officials, private organizations, or members of the public on issues being studied by the interim committee;
  - (d) make recommendations to the Legislature for legislative action; or
  - (e) prepare one or more committee bills based on the interim committee's studies.
- (3) Each interim committee shall adopt a list of interim study items during the interim committee's first meeting of each calendar year as follows:
  - (a) the interim committee shall review the study items provided by the Legislative Management Committee under Subsection (1)(a)(ii);
  - (b) the interim committee may, by majority vote, modify or add to the list of study items described in Subsection (3)(a), provided that any additional item adopted by the committee is consistent with the interim committee's duties as described in Subsection (1) or (2); and
  - (c) the interim committee shall adopt the original or amended list of study items by majority vote.
- (4)
  - (a) An interim committee may add an item to the committee's adopted list of study items described in Subsection (3) if:
    - (i) the interim committee chairs request and receive approval from the Legislative Management Committee; and
    - (ii) the item is consistent with the interim committee's duties as described in Subsection (1) or (2).
  - (b) A request under Subsection (4)(a) is deemed approved, unless the Legislative Management Committee denies the request within 30 days after the day on which the committee chairs submit the request.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

### **JR7-1-402 Review of audit reports.**

If a legislative committee receives an audit report from the Audit Subcommittee of the Legislative Management Committee for review, the legislative committee shall:

- (1) review the audit report and make an affirmative decision whether each recommendation in the audit report should be implemented;
- (2) if necessary, open a committee bill file to implement any recommendation the legislative committee recommends the Legislature implement; and
- (3) recommend an appropriation to the Executive Appropriations Committee, if appropriate.

**JR7-1-403 Review rules referred by Administrative Rules Review Committee.**

If a legislative committee receives an administrative rule for review from the Administrative Rules Review Committee, the legislative committee may:

- (1) review the administrative rule; and
- (2)
  - (a) recommend to the Administrative Rules Review Committee whether the Legislature should reauthorize the administrative rule; or
  - (b) decide whether to recommend any related statutory change to the Legislature.

**JR7-1-403 Review rules referred by Rules Review and General Oversight Committee.**

If a legislative committee receives an administrative rule for review from the Rules Review and General Oversight Committee, the legislative committee may:

- (1) review the administrative rule; and
- (2)
  - (a) recommend to the Rules Review and General Oversight Committee whether the Legislature should reauthorize the administrative rule; or
  - (b) decide whether to recommend any related statutory change to the Legislature.

Amended by H.J.R. 4, 2025 General Session

**JR7-1-404 Location of interim committee meetings.**

- (1) Unless approved by the Legislative Management Committee, an interim committee shall meet at the time and in the room assigned by the Legislative Management Committee.
- (2) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), a chair of an interim committee may start a meeting of the interim committee earlier or end a meeting of the interim committee later than the time assigned by the Legislative Management Committee if:
  - (a) the chair complies with:
    - (i) Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act; and
    - (ii) JR7-1-405; and
  - (b) the meeting does not interfere with a caucus meeting.

**JR7-1-405 Prohibited meeting times -- Exceptions.**

- (1) Except as provided in this rule, a legislative committee may not meet:
  - (a) while the Senate or the House of Representatives is in session; or
  - (b) during the period that begins on the first Thursday in December and ends the day after the day on which the Legislature adjourns the following calendar year's general session sine die.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to:
  - (a) the Legislative Management Committee and its subcommittees;
  - (b) the Senate or House Management Committee;
  - (c) the Senate or House Rules Committee;
  - (d) the Senate or House Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee;
  - (e) a senate confirmation committee;
  - (f) a meeting of the Administrative Rules Review Committee for the purpose of considering draft legislation reauthorizing agency rules in accordance with Utah Code Section 63G-3-502; or

- (g) the Legislative Process Committee.
- (3) A meeting otherwise prohibited by this rule may be held if approved by:
  - (a) the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives; or
  - (b) a majority vote of the Senate and a majority vote of the House of Representatives.
- (4) Any action of a legislative committee that occurs during a meeting that violates this rule is invalid.

**JR7-1-405 Prohibited meeting times -- Exceptions.**

- (1) Except as provided in this rule, a legislative committee may not meet:
  - (a) while the Senate or the House of Representatives is in session; or
  - (b) during the period that begins on the first Thursday in December and ends the day after the day on which the Legislature adjourns the following calendar year's general session sine die.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to:
  - (a) the Legislative Management Committee and its subcommittees;
  - (b) the Senate or House Management Committee;
  - (c) the Senate or House Rules Committee;
  - (d) the Senate or House Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee;
  - (e) a senate confirmation committee;
  - (f) a meeting of the Rules Review and General Oversight Committee for the purpose of considering draft legislation reauthorizing agency rules in accordance with Utah Code Section 63G-3-502; or
  - (g) the Legislative Process Committee.
- (3) A meeting otherwise prohibited by this rule may be held if approved by:
  - (a) the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives; or
  - (b) a majority vote of the Senate and a majority vote of the House of Representatives.
- (4) Any action of a legislative committee that occurs during a meeting that violates this rule is invalid.

Amended by H.J.R. 4, 2025 General Session

**JR7-1-406 Closed legislative committee meetings.**

A meeting of a legislative committee is open to the public unless closed in accordance with Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

**JR7-1-408 Testimony may be taken under oath.**

- (1) At the direction of a chair of the legislative committee, or upon majority vote of the legislative committee, a legislative committee may take the testimony of a witness, presenter, or visitor under oath.
- (2) A chair of the legislative committee or committee staff shall administer the oath.

**JR7-1-409 Subpoena powers.**

A chair may subpoena testimony or documents in accordance with Utah Code Title 36, Chapter 14, Legislative Subpoena Powers.

**JR7-1-410 Right of legislators to attend legislative committee meetings.**

- (1) Any member of the Legislature may:
  - (a) attend any meeting of a legislative committee or a subcommittee, unless the meeting is closed in accordance with Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act; and
  - (b) if recognized by the chair, present the legislator's views on the subject under consideration.
- (2) A legislator who attends a meeting of a legislative committee of which the legislator is not a member or a meeting of a subcommittee of which the legislator is not a member may not:
  - (a) make a motion;
  - (b) vote; or
  - (c) receive compensation for attending the meeting, unless approved by the Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee for the chamber of which the legislator is a member.

**JR7-1-410 Right of legislators to attend legislative committee meetings.**

- (1) Any member of the Legislature may:
  - (a) attend any meeting of a legislative committee or a subcommittee, unless the meeting is closed in accordance with Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act; and
  - (b) if recognized by the chair during the public comment phase, present the legislator's views on the subject under consideration.
- (2) A legislator who attends a meeting of a legislative committee of which the legislator is not a member or a meeting of a subcommittee of which the legislator is not a member may not:
  - (a) make a motion;
  - (b) vote; or
  - (c) receive compensation for attending the meeting, unless approved by the Legislative Expenses Oversight Committee for the chamber of which the legislator is a member.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR7-1-411 Creation and organization of subcommittees.**

- (1) A legislative committee may establish one or more subcommittees if approved by:
  - (a) a majority vote of the legislative committee; and
  - (b) the Legislative Management Committee.
- (2) The legislative committee shall establish each study assignment of a subcommittee by majority vote.
- (3) After a legislative committee establishes a subcommittee, the chairs of the legislative committee shall:
  - (a) appoint at least four members of the legislative committee to serve on the subcommittee;
  - (b) appoint at least one and no more than two additional members of the legislative committee as chair or cochairs of the subcommittee; and
  - (c) establish the subcommittee's powers, duties, and reporting requirements.
- (4) Each member of a subcommittee shall receive:
  - (a) compensation for attendance of a meeting of the subcommittee that is an authorized legislative day as defined in JR5-1-101; and
  - (b) reimbursement for expenses in accordance with Title 5, Legislative Compensation and Expenses.

**JR7-1-411 Creation and organization of subcommittees.**

- (1) A legislative committee may establish one or more subcommittees if approved by:
  - (a) a majority vote of the legislative committee; and
  - (b) the Legislative Management Committee.
- (2) The legislative committee shall establish each study assignment of a subcommittee by majority vote.
- (3)
  - (a) After a legislative committee establishes a subcommittee, the chairs of the legislative committee shall:
    - (i) appoint at least four members of the legislative committee to serve on the subcommittee;
    - (ii) appoint at least one and no more than two additional members of the legislative committee as chair or cochairs of the subcommittee; and
    - (iii) establish the subcommittee's powers, duties, and reporting requirements.
  - (b) The chairs of the legislative committee shall ensure that the subcommittee membership includes at least one senator and one representative.
- (4) Each member of a subcommittee shall receive:
  - (a) compensation for attendance of a meeting of the subcommittee that is an authorized legislative day as defined in JR5-1-101; and
  - (b) reimbursement for expenses in accordance with Title 5, Legislative Compensation and Expenses.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

## **Part 5**

### **Legislative Committee Parliamentary Procedures**

#### **JR7-1-501 Obtaining the floor in legislative committee meeting -- Remarks to be germane.**

- (1) An individual may not speak to a legislative committee unless recognized by the chair.
- (2) In accordance with JR7-1-306, the chair shall recognize a member of a legislative committee who requests to speak to the legislative committee.
- (3) After the chair recognizes a member of a legislative committee, the member:
  - (a) shall ensure that the member's remarks are germane to the subject under consideration; and
  - (b) may make a motion consistent with the requirements of this chapter.

#### **JR7-1-502 Members shall vote when present.**

Each member of a legislative committee who is present when the legislative committee votes on a motion shall vote on the motion.

#### **JR7-1-503 Privileged motions -- General requirements, procedures, and priority.**

- (1) A privileged motion:
  - (a) is nondebateable; and
  - (b) takes precedence over a nonprivileged motion.
- (2) If a member of a legislative committee makes a privileged motion while another privileged motion is pending, the chair shall place the motions in the following order:
  - (a) adjourn;



- (b) set a time to adjourn;
  - (c) recess;
  - (d) end debate or call the question;
  - (e) extend debate; and
  - (f) limit debate.
- (3) Except for a motion to adjourn, a privileged motion, if approved, does not dispose of any other pending motion.

**JR7-1-504 Original motions -- General requirements and procedures.**

- (1) An original motion:
- (a) is debatable; and
  - (b) may be replaced with a substitute motion.
- (2) A member of a legislative committee may not make an original motion if:
- (a) a privileged motion is pending; or
  - (b) a substitute motion is pending.

**JR7-1-505 Substitute motions -- General requirements and procedures.**

- (1) A substitute motion:
- (a) is debatable; and
  - (b) takes precedence over an original motion.
- (2) A member of a legislative committee may not make a substitute motion if:
- (a) a privileged motion is pending; or
  - (b) another substitute motion is pending.
- (3) If a substitute motion is adopted, the adoption disposes of the original motion.
- (4) If a substitute motion is not adopted, the original motion is pending.

**JR7-1-506 Reconsideration of action.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a member of a legislative committee may make a motion to reconsider an action of the legislative committee if:
- (a) the issue or draft legislation that is the subject of the action being reconsidered is on the legislative committee's agenda as required by Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act; and
  - (b) the legislative committee considered other business after the legislative committee voted to take the action that is being reconsidered.
- (2) A legislative committee may not reconsider an action more than once.

**JR7-1-507 Repeating a defeated motion.**

If a legislative committee defeats a motion made by a member of the legislative committee, a member of the legislative committee may not make the motion again until the legislative committee considers other committee business.

**JR7-1-508 Withdrawing a motion.**

A member of a legislative committee who makes a motion may withdraw the motion at any time before the motion is placed for a vote.

**JR7-1-509 Point of order -- Appeal of chair's decision.**

- (1)
  - (a) If a member of a legislative committee is concerned that the chair is not following or enforcing legislative rule or procedure, the member may make a point of order.
  - (b) A point of order is not a motion.
- (2) Except during a vote, a member of a legislative committee may make a point of order at any time during a meeting of the legislative committee without recognition by the chair.
- (3) If a member of a legislative committee makes a point of order, the chair shall:
  - (a) immediately allow the member to state the member's point of order; and
  - (b) rule on the point of order without discussion or debate.
- (4)
  - (a) A member of the legislative committee may appeal the chair's ruling on a point of order.
  - (b) An appeal of the chair's ruling on a point of order is not a motion.
- (5) Except during a vote, a member of a legislative committee may appeal the chair's ruling on a point of order at any time during a meeting of the legislative committee without recognition by the chair.
- (6)
  - (a) If a member of the legislative committee appeals the chair's ruling on a point of order, the chair shall place a vote asking the members of the legislative committee whether to overrule the chair's ruling on the point of order.
  - (b) The legislative committee may overrule the chair's ruling by a majority vote.
- (7)
  - (a) If the legislative committee overrules the chair's ruling, the ruling of the legislative committee is final.
  - (b) If the legislative committee does not overrule the chair's ruling, the ruling of the chair is final.

**JR7-1-510 Point of information.**

- (1)
  - (a) If a member of a legislative committee desires clarification on any aspect of a legislative committee meeting, the member may make a point of information.
  - (b) A point of information is not a motion.
- (2) Except during a vote, a member of a legislative committee may make a point of information at any time during a meeting of the legislative committee.
- (3) If a member of a legislative committee makes a point of information, the chair shall immediately allow the member to state the member's point of information.

**JR7-1-511 Division of a motion.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except during a vote, a member of a legislative committee may request division of a motion at any time during a meeting of the legislative committee without being recognized by the chair.
  - (b) A request for division is not a motion.
- (2) If a member of a legislative committee requests division of a motion:

- (a) the member shall clearly state how the motion is to be divided; and
- (b) the chair shall:
  - (i) restate how the motion is to be divided; and
  - (ii) place each motion that results from the divided motion.
- (3) A member of a legislative committee may not divide a motion to amend draft legislation if the division could create an unintelligible or ambiguous result.

**JR7-1-512 Prohibited motions and requests.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except a motion to adjourn, a member of a legislative committee may not make a motion unless a quorum of the legislative committee is present.
  - (b) If a member of a legislative committee makes a motion to adjourn when a quorum of the legislative committee is not present, the motion passes by an affirmative vote of a majority of the legislative committee members present.
- (2) The following are not in order during a vote:
  - (a) a motion;
  - (b) a point of order;
  - (c) a point of information; or
  - (d) a request for division.
- (3) A member of a legislative committee may not make a motion to favorably recommend draft legislation unless the legislation is drafted and distributed to the members of the legislative committee.

**Part 6  
Draft Legislation**

**JR7-1-601.1 Applicability of part -- Limitations on authority.**

- (1) The provisions of Part 6, Draft Legislation, only apply to an authorized legislative committee.
- (2) Notwithstanding any rule to the contrary:
  - (a) a legislative committee other than an authorized legislative committee may not open a committee bill file;
  - (b) a legislative committee's favorable recommendation creates a committee bill only if the legislative committee is an authorized legislative committee; and
  - (c) an authorized legislative committee that is not an interim committee or a rules committee acting as an interim committee may not open a committee bill file or create a committee bill except to the extent authorized by statute.

**JR7-1-601.5 Opening committee bill files.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (3), a member of an authorized legislative committee may make a motion to open a committee bill file if:
  - (a) the member describes the general subject matter of the legislation;
  - (b) the subject matter is germane to the subject matter over which the authorized legislative committee has jurisdiction; and

- (c) the member intends that the authorized legislative committee take action on the resulting draft legislation before the next general session in a meeting of the authorized legislative committee.
- (2) Except as provided in JR7-1-602, an authorized legislative committee may not authorize any individual or group of individuals to open a committee bill file.
- (3) An authorized legislative committee may not open a committee bill file during the period that begins January 1 and ends the day after the day on which the Legislature adjourns that year's general session sine die.

**JR7-1-601.5 Opening committee bill files.**

- (1) Subject to Subsection (3), a member of an authorized legislative committee may make a motion to open a committee bill file if:
  - (a) the member describes the general subject matter of the legislation;
  - (b) the subject matter is germane to the subject matter over which the authorized legislative committee has jurisdiction; and
  - (c) the member intends that the authorized legislative committee take action on the resulting draft legislation before the next general session in a meeting of the authorized legislative committee.
- (2) Except as provided in JR7-1-602, an authorized legislative committee may not authorize any individual or group of individuals to open a committee bill file.
- (3) An authorized legislative committee may not open a committee bill file during the period that begins January 1 and ends the day after the day on which the Legislature adjourns that year's general session sine die.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR7-1-602 Interim committee chairs' authority to open committee bill files.**

- (1) An interim committee may authorize the committee chairs to independently open one or more committee bill files throughout the interim period if:
  - (a) that authority is granted by the interim committee to the chairs by means of a motion and majority vote;
  - (b) the motion and vote occur during the interim committee's first meeting of the calendar year;
  - (c) the subject matter of each committee bill file opened by the chairs is directly related to:
    - (i) a study item on the list adopted by the interim committee under JR7-1-401(3); or
    - (ii) a subject or issue that is expressly stated in the motion made under this rule; and
  - (d) the decision to open each committee bill file is made jointly by the chairs.
- (2) No committee other than an interim committee may delegate the authority to independently open a committee bill file to the chair or chairs of a committee.
- (3) In the next interim committee meeting after opening a bill file, the chairs shall give the committee members notice:
  - (a) that the chairs have opened the committee bill file; and
  - (b) of the short title and subject matter of the committee bill file.

**JR7-1-602 Chairs' authority to open committee bill files.**

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this rule, the following authorized legislative committees may delegate the authority to open a committee bill file to the chairs of the committee:

- (a) an interim committee;
  - (b) the Legislative Process Committee; or
  - (c) the Rules Review and General Oversight Committee.
- (2) An authorized legislative committee described in Subsection (1) may authorize the committee chairs to independently open one or more committee bill files throughout the interim period if:
- (a) that authority is granted by the committee to the chairs by means of a motion and majority vote;
  - (b) the motion and vote occur during the committee's first meeting after the Legislature adjourns that year's general session sine die;
  - (c) the subject matter of each committee bill file opened by the chairs is directly related to:
    - (i) for an interim committee, a study item on the list adopted by the interim committee under JR7-1-401(3); or
    - (ii) a subject or issue that is expressly stated in the motion made under this rule; and
  - (d) the decision to open each committee bill file is made jointly by the chairs.
- (3) No committee other than an authorized legislative committee described in Subsection (1) may delegate the authority to independently open a committee bill file to the chairs of a committee.
- (4) In the next committee meeting after opening a bill file under Subsection (2), the chairs shall give the committee members notice:
- (a) that the chairs have opened the committee bill file; and
  - (b) of the short title and subject matter of the committee bill file.

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR7-1-602.5 Draft legislation presented to authorized legislative committees during the interim.**

- (1) Draft legislation that is presented to an authorized legislative committee for the committee's review shall be:
- (a) listed on the agenda of the committee's meeting in accordance with Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act; and
  - (b) publicly posted on the Legislature's website at least 24 hours in advance of the time of commencement of the committee meeting.
- (2)
- (a) A legislator seeking to present draft legislation to an authorized legislative committee for review shall provide the drafting attorney with clear and final instructions for completing the draft legislation no later than three full working days before the commencement time of the committee meeting where the legislation will be reviewed, or at an earlier time if significant drafting time is required.
  - (b) Draft legislation will be drafted in the priority and order set forth under JR4-2-102.
- (3)
- (a) Draft legislation that is recommended by an authorized legislative committee but did not meet the posting requirements of Subsection (1)(b) may not be placed directly on a reading calendar by a rules committee under SR3-1-102 or HR3-1-102.
  - (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (3)(a), a rules committee may refer a committee bill that was posted in accordance with Subsection (1)(b) directly to a reading calendar regardless of whether the committee bill was modified after posting and before the authorized legislative committee's vote to recommend.

**JR7-1-603 Four phases when considering draft legislation -- Exception.**

- (1) Subject to Subsection (2), an authorized legislative committee shall consider draft legislation in the following four phases:
  - (a) the presentation phase as described in JR7-1-604;
  - (b) the clarifying questions phase as described in JR7-1-605;
  - (c) the public comment phase as described in JR7-1-606; and
  - (d) the committee action phase as described in JR7-1-607.
- (2) The chair, or the authorized legislative committee by majority vote, may elect to have the authorized legislative committee consider draft legislation in a manner different from the four phases described in this part.

**JR7-1-604 Presentation phase.**

- (1) During the presentation phase:
  - (a) the chair shall permit the legislative sponsor of the draft legislation to present the draft legislation to the authorized legislative committee; and
  - (b) a member of the authorized legislative committee may not make a motion to amend the draft legislation or dispose of the draft legislation.
- (2) At the election of the legislative sponsor, the chair shall allow another individual to assist with the legislative sponsor's presentation if the individual has expertise related to the draft legislation.

**JR7-1-605 Clarifying questions phase.**

- (1) During the clarifying questions phase:
  - (a) the chair shall allow members of the authorized legislative committee to ask the legislative sponsor questions to help clarify:
    - (i) the intent or purpose of the draft legislation; or
    - (ii) the meaning of the language of the draft legislation; and
  - (b) a member of the authorized legislative committee may not make a motion to amend the draft legislation or dispose of the draft legislation.
- (2) The chair shall allow the legislative sponsor to respond to any clarifying question from a member of the authorized legislative committee.

**JR7-1-606 Public comment phase.**

- (1) Except as otherwise provided in this rule, during the public comment phase:
  - (a) the chair shall, subject to Subsection (1)(c), take comment from one or more members of the public;
  - (b) a member of the authorized legislative committee may not make a motion to amend the draft legislation or dispose of the draft legislation; and
  - (c) the chair may not take comment from a member of the public unless:
    - (i) the individual provides the individual's legal name and the entity that the individual represents, if any; and
    - (ii) if the individual is participating via video conference:
      - (A) the individual provides the individual's place of residence; and
      - (B) the individual's video is enabled.

- (2) The chair, or the authorized legislative committee by majority vote, may preclude or terminate the public comment phase.

**JR7-1-607 Committee action phase.**

During the committee action phase, a member of the authorized legislative committee may make a motion authorized by this chapter, including a motion to amend the draft legislation or favorably recommend the draft legislation.

**JR7-1-608 Motions related to draft legislation.**

An authorized legislative committee may approve one or more of the following motions with respect to draft legislation it considers:

- (1) move to the next item on the agenda;
- (2) amend the draft legislation, subject to the requirements of JR7-1-609; or
- (3) favorably recommend the draft legislation as a committee bill.

**JR7-1-609 Amending draft legislation -- Verbal amendments -- Amendments must be germane and clear.**

- (1) Subject to Subsection (2), when timely and when recognized by the chair, a member of an authorized legislative committee may make a motion to amend the draft legislation under consideration.
- (2)
  - (a) A member of the authorized legislative committee may make a motion to amend the draft legislation only if the subject of the proposed amendment is germane to the subject of the draft legislation.
  - (b) If a member of the authorized legislative committee believes a proposed amendment is not germane to the subject of the draft legislation, the member may make a point of order in accordance with JR7-1-509.
- (3) A member of the authorized legislative committee may make a motion for a verbal amendment only if the verbal amendment is sufficiently clear to allow the members of the authorized legislative committee to know how the draft legislation will read when the verbal amendment is incorporated into the draft legislation.

**JR7-1-610 Committee bill files -- Effect of favorable recommendation -- Committee bill files without recommendation abandoned.**

- (1) After an authorized legislative committee reviews draft legislation the authorized legislative committee may give the draft legislation a favorable recommendation.
- (2) If an authorized legislative committee gives draft legislation a favorable recommendation, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:
  - (a) attach a committee note to the committee bill, as required under JR4-2-401; and
  - (b) assign the committee bill a bill number in accordance with JR4-2-501.
- (3)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), a committee bill file that does not receive a favorable recommendation at the committee's last scheduled meeting of the calendar year in which the committee bill file was opened is abandoned.

- (b) Subsection (3)(a) does not apply to a committee bill file opened by:
  - (i) the Administrative Rules Review Committee for the purpose of reauthorizing agency rules in accordance with Utah Code Section 63G-3-502; or
  - (ii) the Legislative Process Committee.
- (4)
  - (a) Nothing in this rule prohibits a legislator from making a request for legislation in the legislator's name to sponsor legislation that was abandoned in accordance with Subsection (3).
  - (b) A request for legislation described in Subsection (4)(a) is subject to the drafting priority described in JR4-2-102.

**JR7-1-610 Committee bill files -- Effect of favorable recommendation -- Committee bill files without recommendation abandoned.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "technical correction" means the same as that term is defined in JR4-2-401.
- (2) After an authorized legislative committee reviews draft legislation the authorized legislative committee may give the draft legislation a favorable recommendation.
- (3) If an authorized legislative committee gives draft legislation a favorable recommendation, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:
  - (a) attach a committee note to the committee bill, as required under JR4-2-401; and
  - (b) assign the committee bill a bill number in accordance with JR4-2-501.
- (4)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(b), a committee bill file that does not receive a favorable recommendation at the committee's last scheduled meeting of the calendar year in which the committee bill file was opened is abandoned.
  - (b) Subsection (4)(a) does not apply to a committee bill file opened by:
    - (i) the Rules Review and General Oversight Committee for the purpose of reauthorizing agency rules in accordance with Utah Code Section 63G-3-502; or
    - (ii) the Legislative Process Committee created in Utah Code Section 36-17-1.
- (5)
  - (a) Nothing in this rule prohibits a legislator from making a request for legislation in the legislator's name to sponsor legislation that was abandoned in accordance with Subsection (4).
  - (b) A request for legislation described in Subsection (5)(a) is subject to the drafting priority described in JR4-2-102.
- (6) Between an authorized legislative committee's last scheduled meeting of the calendar year and the day on which the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel numbers the committee's committee bill, a sponsor assigned to the committee bill in accordance with JR7-1-611 may not alter the committee bill, except to make a technical correction.

Amended by H.J.R. 4, 2025 General Session

Amended by 2nd Sub. H.J.R. 6, 2025 General Session

**JR7-1-611 Assignment of committee bills -- Report on committee bills and study items.**

- (1) The chairs of each authorized legislative committee shall:
  - (a) no later than November 30, assign each of the authorized legislative committee's committee bills a chief sponsor and, at the chairs' election, a floor sponsor from the opposite chamber; and
  - (b) deliver to the Senate Rules Committee and the House Rules Committee a report that includes, for each of the authorized legislative committee's committee bills:



- (i)the short title;
  - (ii)the chief sponsor;
  - (iii)the floor sponsor, if applicable; and
  - (iv)how each member of the authorized legislative committee voted when the authorized legislative committee gave the committee bill a favorable recommendation, including whether a member was absent at the time of the vote.
- (2)Notwithstanding Subsection (1), for a committee bill that was not a committee bill file, the sponsor of the request for legislation is the chief sponsor of the committee bill file unless the sponsor transfers the committee bill to another legislator.
- (3)
- (a)In addition to the items described in Subsection (1), the chairs of each interim committee shall deliver to the Legislative Management Committee:
    - (i)a copy of the report described in Subsection (1)(b); and
    - (ii)the disposition of each issue assigned to or studied by the interim committee during the preceding calendar year.
  - (b)
    - (i)The chairs of an interim committee shall comply with Subsection (3)(a) before the day on which the Legislative Management Committee meets in December.
    - (ii)The chairs of an authorized legislative committee that is not an interim committee shall comply with Subsection (3)(a) as soon as practicable.

Amended by H.J.R. 23, 2024 General Session

**JR7-1-611 Assignment of committee bills -- Report on committee bills and study items.**

- (1)The chairs of each authorized legislative committee shall:
- (a)no later than November 30, assign each of the authorized legislative committee's committee bills a chief sponsor and, at the chairs' election, a floor sponsor from the opposite chamber; and
  - (b)deliver to the Senate Rules Committee and the House Rules Committee a report that includes, for each of the authorized legislative committee's committee bills:
    - (i)the short title;
    - (ii)the chief sponsor;
    - (iii)the floor sponsor, if applicable; and
    - (iv)how each member of the authorized legislative committee voted when the authorized legislative committee gave the committee bill a favorable recommendation, including whether a member was absent at the time of the vote.
- (2)Notwithstanding Subsection (1), for a committee bill that was not a committee bill file, the sponsor of the request for legislation is the chief sponsor of the committee bill unless the sponsor transfers the committee bill to another legislator.
- (3)
- (a)In addition to the items described in Subsection (1), the chairs of each interim committee shall deliver to the Legislative Management Committee:
    - (i)a copy of the report described in Subsection (1)(b); and
    - (ii)the disposition of each issue assigned to or studied by the interim committee during the preceding calendar year.
  - (b)
    - (i)The chairs of an interim committee shall comply with Subsection (3)(a) before the day on which the Legislative Management Committee meets in December.

(ii) The chairs of an authorized legislative committee that is not an interim committee shall comply with Subsection (3)(a) as soon as practicable.

Amended by H.J.R. 4, 2025 General Session

## Senate Rules

### Title SR1. Rules Governing Organization and Management of the Senate

#### Chapter 7 Citations

#### Chapter 1 Adoption of Rules and Practices

##### **SR1-1-101 Adoption, amendment, or suspension of Senate rules.**

- (1)
  - (a) The Senate shall adopt Senate rules, by a constitutional two-thirds vote, at the beginning of each new Legislature convening in an odd-numbered year.
  - (b) If a motion to adopt the rules under Subsection (1)(a) meets or exceeds a majority vote but fails to reach a constitutional two-thirds vote:
    - (i) rules adopted by the Senate during the immediately preceding annual general session, as amended during that general session and any intervening session, apply to the conduct of the Senate; and
    - (ii) the presiding officer shall announce to the Senate that the previously adopted rules apply to the newly convened Legislature.
- (2)
  - (a) Except as provided in this rule:
    - (i) during an annual general session held in an even-numbered year, rules adopted by the Senate during the immediately preceding general session, as amended during that general session and any intervening session, apply to the conduct of the Senate; and
    - (ii) during any special session, Senate rules apply as provided in JR2-1-101.
  - (b) For a session described in Subsection (2)(a), the presiding officer shall announce to the Senate that the previously adopted rules apply to the newly convened session.
- (3) Except as provided in Subsection (4), additional rules may be adopted and existing rules may be suspended, amended, or repealed by a majority vote, except for those rules that require a two-thirds vote to adopt, suspend, amend, or repeal, including:
  - (a) rules governing motions for lifting tabled legislation from committee under SR4-3-104; and
  - (b) rules governing consideration of legislation during the last three days of a session.
- (4)
  - (a) A rule that includes a voting requirement of more than a constitutional majority must be adopted and may only be amended, suspended, or repealed by a constitutional two-thirds vote.
  - (b) If the suspension of any Senate Rule is governed by the Utah Constitution or Utah statutes, the Senate may suspend that rule only as provided by that constitutional or statutory provision.

##### **SR1-1-102 Constitutional motion.**

At the beginning of each annual general or special session of the Senate, before the reading of any piece of legislation, the Senate Rules Committee chair shall make the following motion:

"Mr. (Madam) President, as allowed by the Utah Constitution and the Joint Rules of the Legislature, I move that the Senate continue its practice of reading only the short title of bills and resolutions as they are introduced or considered on a Senate calendar and not read the long title of the bills and resolutions unless a majority of the Senate directs the reading of the long title, short title, or both of any House or Senate bill or resolution."

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR1-1-103 Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure -- Reference.**

In addition to Senate Rules and other applicable legislative rules, the presiding officer may use Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure as a reference when a question arises about parliamentary practice, legislative process, or legislative procedure that is not resolved by reference to legislative rules.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

## **Chapter 2 Initial Organization**

**SR1-2-101 Calling the Senate to order.**

On the first day of each annual general session of the Legislature during odd-numbered years, the president-elect shall designate a person to call the Senate to order and preside until the senators have taken the oath of office and elected a president.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

## **Chapter 3 President of the Senate**

**SR1-3-101 Election of president.**

- (1) The Senate shall elect a president to perform the duties established by this chapter.
- (2)
  - (a) Following a regular general election and before January 1 of odd-numbered years, the Senate majority caucus shall select a president-elect.
  - (b) Beginning January 1 of odd-numbered years, the senator elected by the majority caucus shall serve as president-elect and perform the duties of the president until the Senate elects a president as required by Subsection (1).

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR1-3-102 Duties of the president.**

- (1) The general duties of the president are to:
  - (a) assign responsibilities to and supervise the officers and employees of the Senate;
  - (b) assign places and determine access for news media representatives;

- (c) call the Senate to order at the time scheduled for convening, and proceed with the daily order of business;
  - (d) announce the business before the Senate in the order that it is to be acted upon;
  - (e) receive and submit all motions and proposals presented by senators;
  - (f) put to a vote all questions that arise in the course of proceedings, and announce the results of the vote;
  - (g) enforce the Senate Rules governing debates;
  - (h) enforce observance of order and decorum;
  - (i) inform the Senate on any point of order or practice;
  - (j) receive and announce to the Senate any official messages and communications;
  - (k) sign all acts, orders, and proceedings of the Senate;
  - (l) appoint the members of committees; and
  - (m) represent the Senate, declaring its will and obeying its commands.
- (2) The president shall:
- (a) sign, or authorize a designee to sign, all requisitions on the Division of Finance to pay Senate expenses; and
  - (b) give final approval of all expenditure requests as authorized by the majority and minority leaders of the Senate, including compensation and reimbursement for expenses for in-state and out-of-state travel on legislative business.

Amended by S.R. 2, 2014 General Session

**SR1-3-103 Temporary presiding officer in president's absence.**

- (1)
- (a) The president may call a senator to the chair as president pro tempore.
  - (b) The president pro tempore's appointment terminates when directed by the president or when the Senate adjourns, whichever comes first.
- (2) The president pro tempore, and each senator authorized to preside by the president, has all the powers of the president while presiding.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**Chapter 4  
Other Senate Officers**

**Part 1  
Senate Chief of Staff**

**SR1-4-101 Appointment of the Senate chief of staff.**

The president or president-elect of the Senate shall appoint an individual to serve as chief of staff of the Senate.

**SR1-4-102 Duties of the Senate chief of staff.**

The chief of staff shall:

- (1) appoint the Senate sergeant-at-arms and the secretary of the Senate; and

- (2) perform other duties as assigned by the president or president-elect.

## **Part 2 Sergeant-at-Arms**

### **SR1-4-201 Appointment of sergeant-at-arms.**

The chief of staff shall appoint an individual to serve as sergeant-at-arms of the Senate.

### **SR1-4-202 Duties of the sergeant-at-arms.**

Subject to the chief of staff's direction, the sergeant-at-arms and the employees under the sergeant's direction shall:

- (1) maintain security;
- (2) enforce the Senate Rules and other legislative rules; and
- (3) provide other service as requested by the chief of staff or the president.

## **Part 3 Secretary of the Senate**

### **SR1-4-301 Appointment of the secretary of the Senate.**

The chief of staff shall appoint an individual to serve as secretary of the Senate.

### **SR1-4-302 Duties of the secretary of the Senate.**

Subject to the chief of staff's direction, the secretary of the Senate shall perform the following duties:

- (1) certify and transmit legislation to the House and inform the House of all Senate action;
- (2) assist in the preparation of the Senate journal and certify it as an accurate reflection of Senate action;
- (3) make the following technical corrections to legislation either before or following final passage:
  - (a) correct the spelling of words;
  - (b) correct the erroneous division and hyphenation of words;
  - (c) correct mistakes in numbering sections and their references;
  - (d) capitalize words or change capitalized words to lower case;
  - (e) change numbers from words to figures or from figures to words;
  - (f) underscore or remove underscoring in legislation without a motion to amend; or
  - (g) any combination of Subsections (3)(a) through (f);
- (4) modify the long title of a piece of legislation to ensure that the long title accurately reflects any changes to the legislation made by amendment or substitute;
- (5) act as custodian of all official documents related to legislation;
- (6) receive all numbered legislation from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel;
- (7) record the number, title, sponsor, each action, and final disposition of each piece of legislation on the back of the legislation;
- (8) prepare and distribute the daily order of business each day;

- (9)advise the president on parliamentary procedure, Joint Rules, and Senate Rules;
- (10)read, or cause to be read, the title of all bills and other materials as requested by the president;
- (11)receive committee reports and present them to the Senate;
- (12)assist with amendments to legislation;
- (13)record votes and present the results to the president;
- (14)transmit all enrolled Senate bills and Senate concurrent resolutions to the governor;
- (15)maintain all calendars for the Senate floor; and
- (16)other duties as assigned by the chief of staff.

Amended by S.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**SR1-4-302 Duties of the secretary of the Senate.**

Subject to the chief of staff's direction, the secretary of the Senate shall perform the following duties:

- (1)certify and transmit legislation to the House and inform the House of all Senate action;
- (2)assist in the preparation of the Senate journal and certify it as an accurate reflection of Senate action;
- (3)notify the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel of any necessary technical corrections to legislation either before or following final passage, including:
  - (a)correcting the spelling of words;
  - (b)correcting the erroneous division and hyphenation of words;
  - (c)correcting mistakes in numbering sections and their references;
  - (d)capitalizing words or changing capitalized words to lower case;
  - (e)changing numbers from words to figures or from figures to words;
  - (f)underscoring or removing underscoring in legislation without a motion to amend;
  - (g)modifying the long title of legislation to ensure that the long title accurately reflects any changes to the legislation made by amendment or substitute; or
  - (h)any combination of Subsections (3)(a) through (g);;
- (4)act as custodian of all official documents related to legislation;
- (5)receive all numbered legislation from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel;
- (6)record the number, title, sponsor, each action, and final disposition of each legislation on the back of the legislation;
- (7)prepare and distribute the daily order of business each day;
- (8)advise the president on parliamentary procedure, Joint Rules, and Senate Rules;
- (9)read, or cause to be read, the title of all bills and other materials as requested by the president;
- (10)receive committee reports and present them to the Senate;
- (11)assist with verbal amendments to legislation;
- (12)record votes and present the results to the president;
- (13)transmit all enrolled Senate bills and Senate concurrent resolutions to the governor;
- (14)maintain all calendars for the Senate floor; and
- (15)other duties as assigned by the chief of staff.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**Chapter 5**  
**Schedule for the Senate**

## **Part 1**

### **Convening and Daily Schedule**

#### **SR1-5-101 Hour of meeting.**

The Senate shall meet at 10 a.m. daily except Saturdays and Sundays, unless otherwise announced by the presiding officer.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

#### **SR1-5-102 Roll call -- Quorum.**

- (1) The presiding officer or the presiding officer's designee shall:
  - (a) take a roll call of senators at the beginning of each day's session; and
  - (b) ensure that the names of those present and absent are recorded in the journal.
- (2)
  - (a) The Senate may not begin Senate business until a constitutional majority of senators are present as a quorum.
  - (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a), less than a majority of senators may:
    - (i) convene each day; and
    - (ii) compel the attendance of absent members.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

#### **SR1-5-103 Daily order of business.**

- (1) The daily order of business is:
  - (a) call to order by the president or the president's designee;
  - (b) prayer and pledge of allegiance;
  - (c) roll call;
  - (d) announcement of excused absences and whether or not a quorum is present;
  - (e) communications from the governor;
  - (f) communications from the House:
    - (i) bills for signature of the president;
    - (ii) bills for consideration; and
    - (iii) bills for reconsideration of House amendments;
  - (g) reference of bills from the president:
    - (i) bills assigned to standing committees; and
    - (ii) bills placed on second reading calendar;
  - (h) reports from standing committees:
    - (i) bills placed on the second reading calendar;
    - (ii) bills placed on the consent calendar; and
    - (iii) bills sent back to the secretary of the Senate;
  - (i) reports of special committees, including conference committees;
  - (j) introduction of legislation given to the secretary of the Senate:
    - (i) bills referred by the Senate Rules Committee for assignment by the president; and
    - (ii) bills placed on second reading calendar;
  - (k) unfinished business;
  - (l) consideration of legislation on consent calendar;



- (m) special orders of business;
  - (n) consideration of legislation on the third reading calendar;
  - (o) consideration of bills on second reading calendar; and
  - (p) miscellaneous business.
- (2) With the approval of a constitutional majority of senators, the Senate may, at any time, proceed out of order to any business.
- (3) The presiding officer shall decide all questions of priority of Senate business without debate.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR1-5-103 Daily order of business.**

- (1)The daily order of business is:
- (a)call to order by the president or the president's designee;
  - (b)prayer and pledge of allegiance;
  - (c)roll call;
  - (d)announcement of excused absences and whether or not a quorum is present;
  - (e)communications from the governor;
  - (f)communications from the House:
    - (i)bills for signature of the president;
    - (ii)bills for consideration; and
    - (iii)bills for reconsideration of House amendments;
  - (g)reports from standing committees:
    - (i)bills placed on the second reading calendar;
    - (ii)bills placed on the consent calendar; and
    - (iii)bills sent back to the secretary of the Senate;
  - (h)reports of special committees, including conference committees;
  - (i)introduction of legislation given to the secretary of the Senate:
    - (i)bills referred by the Senate Rules Committee for assignment by the president; and
    - (ii)bills placed on second reading calendar;
  - (j)unfinished business;
  - (k)consideration of legislation on consent calendar;
  - (l)special orders of business;
  - (m)consideration of legislation on the third reading calendar;
  - (n)consideration of bills on second reading calendar; and
  - (o)miscellaneous business.
- (2)With the approval of a constitutional majority of senators, the Senate may, at any time, proceed out of order to any business.
- (3)The presiding officer shall decide all questions of priority of Senate business without debate.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**Part 2**  
**Time Certain and Unfinished Business**

**SR1-5-201 Special order of business -- Time certain.**

- (1)

- (a) A senator, on the senator's own initiative or upon recommendation from the president, may make a motion that a piece of legislation become a special order of business on the time certain calendar.
  - (b) If the motion is approved by a majority of the members present, the secretary of the Senate shall place the legislation on the time certain calendar.
- (2) At the time set for consideration of the legislation, the presiding officer shall place the legislation before the Senate.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR1-5-202 Unfinished business.**

When the Senate has unfinished business at the time of recess or adjournment, that unfinished business has priority on the daily order of business for the next legislative day.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

## **Chapter 6 Impeachment**

**SR1-6-101 Impeachment.**

If the House of Representatives submits articles of impeachment to the Senate to begin an impeachment trial, the Senate shall adopt, by majority vote, policies establishing procedures for, and governing the conduct of, the impeachment process.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

## **Chapter 7 Commending or Expressing Condolences to Utah Citizen**

**SR1-7-101 Commendation or condolence citations -- Types of citations -- Use of citations.**

(1) As used in this chapter:

(a)

(i) "Citation" means a certificate issued to honor or commend an individual or group, or to express condolences to the family of a deceased individual.

(ii) "Citation" includes a legislator citation, a Senate citation, and a Utah Legislature citation.

(b) "Legislator citation" means a citation issued on behalf of an individual senator.

(c) "Senate citation" means a citation issued on behalf of the Senate.

(d) "Utah Legislature citation" means a citation issued on behalf of both chambers of the Legislature.

(2) A senator wishing to express the commendation or condolence of a senator, the Senate, or the Legislature shall use a citation to make that expression.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR1-7-102 Obtaining a legislator citation.**

(1) A legislator citation does not require any floor action by the Senate.

- (2)
- (a) During any legislative session and with the approval of the presiding officer, a senator may request that the secretary of the Senate prepare a citation for the senator's own signature.
  - (b) When the Legislature is not in session, a senator may request that the secretary of the Senate prepare a citation for the senator's own signature and, at the president's discretion, the president's signature.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR1-7-103 Obtaining a Senate citation.**

(1) During any legislative session, a senator may:

- (a) request that the secretary of the Senate prepare a citation for the senator's signature; and
  - (b) request a personal privilege on the floor of the Senate to:
    - (i) present the citation; and
    - (ii) request that the president signs the citation on behalf of the Senate.
- (2) When the Legislature is not in session, a senator may request that the secretary of the Senate prepare a citation for the senator's own signature and, at the president's discretion, the president's signature.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR1-7-104 Obtaining a Utah Legislature citation.**

(1) During any legislative session, a senator may:

- (a) request that the secretary of the Senate prepare a citation for the senator's signature; and
  - (b) request a personal privilege on the floor of the Senate to:
    - (i) present the citation;
    - (ii) request that the president signs the citation on behalf of the Senate; and
    - (iii) present the proposed citation to the House for the House's consideration.
- (2) When the Legislature is not in session, a senator may request that the secretary of the Senate prepare a citation for the senator's own signature and, at the president's and speaker's discretion, the president's and the speaker's signatures.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR1-7-101 Commendation or condolence citations -- Types of citations -- Use of citations.**

(1) As used in this chapter:

- (a)
    - (i) "Citation" means a certificate issued to honor or commend an individual or group, or to express condolences to the family of a deceased individual.
    - (ii) "Citation" includes a legislator citation, a Senate citation, and a Utah Legislature citation.
  - (b) "Legislator citation" means a citation issued on behalf of an individual senator.
  - (c) "Senate citation" means a citation issued on behalf of the Senate.
  - (d) "Utah Legislature citation" means a citation issued on behalf of both chambers of the Legislature.
- (2) Senators shall use a citation to express the commendation or condolence of a senator, the Senate, or the Legislature.

Amended by S.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**SR1-7-102 Obtaining a legislator citation.**

- (1) With the approval of the presiding officer, a senator may request that the secretary of the Senate prepare a citation for the senator's own signature.
- (2) A legislator citation does not require any floor action by the Senate.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR1-7-103 Obtaining a Senate citation.**

- (1) During any legislative session, a senator may:
  - (a) request that the secretary of the Senate prepare a citation for the senator's signature; and
  - (b) after making and receiving permission for personal privilege, make a motion on the floor of the Senate to:
    - (i) approve the citation; and
    - (ii) authorize the president to sign the citation on behalf of the Senate.
- (2) When the Legislature is not in session, a senator may request a citation for the sponsor's and the president's signature.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR1-7-104 Obtaining a Utah Legislature citation.**

- (1) During any legislative session, a senator may:
  - (a) request that the secretary of the Senate prepare a citation for the senator's signature; and
  - (b) after making and receiving permission for personal privilege, make a motion of the floor of the Senate to:
    - (i) approve the citation;
    - (ii) authorize the president to sign the citation on behalf of the Senate; and
    - (iii) present the proposed citation to the House for its approval.
- (2) When the Legislature is not in session, a senator may request a citation for the sponsor's, the president's, and the speaker's signature.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**Chapter 9**  
**Informal Poll on United States Senate Candidates**

**SR1-9-101 Informal poll on United States Senate candidates.**

- (1) In a year where there is an election for a seat in the United States Senate, the Senate shall conduct an informal poll of their members to determine each member's preferred candidate for each seat that is up for election.
- (2) The poll required by this rule shall:
  - (a) be conducted and completed within 30 days of the last day for filing for the office of United States Senator, as provided in Utah Code Section 20A-9-202;
  - (b) be voluntary on the part of each senator;

- (c) be administered by the legislative auditor general, who shall:
    - (i) establish procedures and conduct the poll in a manner that assures that the poll is conducted fairly and accurately; and
    - (ii) act subject to the direction of the Audit Subcommittee;
  - (d) have a ballot containing the name of each person who has declared candidacy for the seat as of the conclusion of the last day for filing plus an option to select "none of the above"; and
  - (e) be conducted by secret ballot.
- (3) Immediately after conducting the poll, the legislative auditor general shall make the results of the poll public by listing, for each seat that is up for election, the total number of votes cast for each candidate.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2021 General Session

## **Chapter 10 News Media**

### **SR1-10-101 News media access -- Senate chamber and designated Senate areas.**

- (1) News media may access non-public areas of the Senate, including the chamber, floor, halls, lounge, and committee rooms, if the news media:
- (a) have permission from the Senate media designee;
  - (b) hold a Utah Capitol media credential; and
  - (c) comply with the Senate's media access and credentialing policy, SR2-4-102, and SR2-4-103.
- (2) When, with permission of the Senate media designee, news media enter a designated, non-public area of the Senate for the purpose of conducting a specific interview, a senator or the Senate media designee shall:
- (a) accompany the news media while in the designated area; and
  - (b) after the news media complete the specific interview, ensure that the news media promptly exit the designated area.
- (3) News media that do not hold a Utah Capitol media credential may not access non-public areas of the Senate, except under extraordinary circumstances and with the permission of the Senate media designee.

### **SR1-10-102 News media access -- Senate committees.**

When present for a meeting of a Senate standing committee, a Senate confirmation committee meeting, or any other special committee of the Senate, news media may not enter the area behind the dais without the permission of the committee chair.

## **Title SR2. Rules Governing Attendance, Behavior, and Decorum in the Senate**

### **Chapter 1 Attendance**

**SR2-1-101 Senators shall be present.**

A senator shall be present within the Senate chamber during a session of the Senate, unless excused or unavoidably absent.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR2-1-102 Absent senators.**

If a quorum of the Senate is not present at the time the Senate is scheduled to convene, the presiding officer shall direct the sergeant-at-arms to:

- (1) find sufficient absent senators to make a quorum for the transaction of business; and
- (2) escort them to the chamber.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**Chapter 2  
Decorum**

**SR2-2-201 President to maintain order.**

The president or presiding officer shall maintain order and decorum during sessions of the Senate.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR2-2-202 Disorderly conduct in Senate.**

The president or presiding officer may order the Senate areas or gallery cleared if a disturbance occurs.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR2-2-203 Smoking not permitted.**

- (1) As provided in Utah Code Title 26, Chapter 38, Utah Indoor Clean Air Act, a person may not smoke in a building on capitol hill.
- (2) The sergeant-at-arms shall enforce this rule in the areas controlled by the Senate.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR2-2-204 Impugning motives of a senator.**

- (1) A senator may not impugn the motives of any other senator either on the floor of the Senate or in committee.
- (2) A senator who believes that the motives of any senator has been impugned by another senator may raise a point of order.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR2-2-204 Impugning motives of a senator or a senator's guest.**

- (1) A senator may not impugn the motives of any other senator or a senator's guest on the floor of the Senate or in committee.
- (2) A senator who believes that the motives of any senator or a senator's guest has been impugned by another senator may raise a point of order.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR2-2-205 Movement out of and within the Senate chamber.**

- (1) When the president or presiding officer is presenting a question, a senator may not leave the Senate chamber.
- (2) When a senator is speaking, no person may walk between the senator and the president or presiding officer.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

### **Chapter 3 Conflicts of Interest**

**SR2-3-101 Conflicts of interest.**

- (1) A Senator shall comply with the conflict of interest requirements provided in:
  - (a) Utah Code Title 20A, Chapter 11, Part 16, Conflict of Interest Disclosures; and
  - (b) JR6-1-201.
- (2) When on the Senate floor, a senator may make a brief statement explaining any conflict of interest during debate on legislation or immediately preceding or during the roll call.

### **Chapter 4 General Rules Governing the Senate Floor**

**SR2-4-101 Admittance to the Senate chamber.**

- (1)
  - (a) While the Senate is convened in annual general session or special session and except as specifically provided elsewhere in this rule, only legislators, legislative officers and employees, professional staff, former legislators who are not registered as lobbyists, legal spouses of legislators, interns, and persons invited by senators are allowed in the Senate chamber, halls, and lounge.
  - (b) The president of the Senate may deny access to the Senate chamber, halls, and lounge to any person, other than a legislator, if the person uses that access to influence legislative decisions.
- (2)
  - (a) A senator or the senator's intern shall accompany each visitor in the chamber, lounge, or hallways and is responsible for that visitor.
  - (b) After the visit, the senator or the senator's intern shall ensure that the visitor leaves the chamber, lounge, or hallway.
- (3)

- (a) A senator may invite a guest to accompany the senator on the Senate floor, provided that:
  - (i) the senator ensures that the guest does not encroach on a neighboring senator's desk space, impede staff work, or distract from the work of the Senate, and no neighboring senator makes such an objection;
  - (ii) the guest complies with the requirements of SR2-4-102, SR2-4-103, and Senate Handbook policies on decorum and access; and
  - (iii) if the guest is an adult, the guest complies with rules and Senate Handbook policies that relate to dress requirements.
- (b) A senator who believes that a guest is intruding on desk space, is impeding staff work, or is distracting from the work of the Senate may communicate the senator's objection to the senator who has invited the guest, or through the majority leader, the minority leader, or the president of the Senate.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2021 General Session

**SR2-4-101 Admittance to the Senate chamber.**

- (1)
  - (a) While the Senate is convened in annual general session or special session and except as specifically provided elsewhere in this rule, only legislators, legislative officers and employees, professional staff, former legislators who are not registered as lobbyists, legal spouses of legislators, legislative interns, and individuals invited by senators are allowed in the Senate chamber, halls, and lounge.
  - (b) The president of the Senate may deny access to the Senate chamber, halls, and lounge to any individual, other than a legislator, if the individual uses that access to influence legislative decisions.
- (2)
  - (a) A senator or the senator's legislative intern shall accompany each visitor in the chamber, lounge, or hallways and is responsible for that visitor.
  - (b) After the visit, the senator or the senator's legislative intern shall ensure that the visitor leaves the chamber, lounge, or hallway.
- (3)
  - (a) A senator may invite a guest to accompany the senator on the Senate floor, provided that:
    - (i) the senator ensures that the guest does not encroach on a neighboring senator's desk space, impede staff work, or distract from the work of the Senate, and no neighboring senator makes such an objection; and
    - (ii) the guest complies with the requirements of SR2-4-102 and SR2-4-103
  - (b) A senator who believes that a guest is intruding on desk space, is impeding staff work, or is distracting from the work of the Senate may communicate the senator's objection to the senator who has invited the guest, or through the majority leader, the minority leader, or the president of the Senate.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR2-4-102 Senator's chairs not to be occupied by others.**

When the Senate is convened in session, no one other than the president or a senator may occupy the chair or use the desk of the president or any senator.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session



**SR2-4-103 Lobbying prohibited.**

Lobbying by non-legislators is not permitted in the Senate chamber.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR2-4-104 Recognition of visiting groups and individuals.**

- (1) The presiding officer may recognize visiting groups and individuals.
- (2) A senator who requests and receives personal privilege may introduce visiting groups or individuals.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR2-4-106 Executive sessions.**

- (1) A senator may make a motion to convene the Senate in executive session.
- (2) When a motion for executive session is adopted, the presiding officer shall direct the sergeant-at-arms to close the Senate chamber doors.
- (3) The president may require all individuals, except the senators and specified staff, to leave the Senate chamber.
- (4) During the discussion, every person present shall remain within the Senate chamber.
- (5) During and after conclusion of the executive session, each person who was present in the executive session shall keep all matters discussed in executive session confidential.

**SR2-4-107 Prohibited items and activity in Senate gallery.**

A member of the public attending Senate floor time may not:

- (1) bring into the gallery or possess while in the gallery, any of the following:
  - (a) a sign, poster, banner, or placard;
  - (b) glitter or confetti;
  - (c) a laser pointer;
  - (d) paint;
  - (e) an open flame;
  - (f) an incendiary device;
  - (g) a noise maker;
  - (h) flammable liquid; or
  - (i) any harmful or hazardous substance; or
- (2) engage in any of the following while in the Senate gallery:
  - (a) commercial solicitation;
  - (b) leafleting;
  - (c) throwing an item; or
  - (d) adhering any item to a furnishing, a wall, or other state property.

Enacted by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**Chapter 5  
Rules Governing Sponsoring Legislation**

**SR2-5-101 Senators may request and sponsor legislation -- Substituting a sponsor --  
Withdrawing as a cosponsor.**

- (1) A senator may request and sponsor legislation as provided in Joint Rules Title 4, Bills and Resolutions.
- (2)
  - (a) After a piece of legislation has been introduced, the chief Senate sponsor of the legislation may withdraw from sponsoring the legislation by:
    - (i) finding another senator to act as chief sponsor of the legislation; and
    - (ii) filing a substitution of sponsorship form with the secretary of the Senate before final passage of the legislation in the Senate.
  - (b) A senator seeking to withdraw as the chief sponsor need not obtain permission from the Senate to withdraw.
- (3)
  - (a) During a general session, before final passage of a piece of legislation in the Senate, a senator cosponsor of the legislation may withdraw as a cosponsor .
  - (b) A senator seeking to withdraw as a cosponsor need not:
    - (i) obtain permission from the Senate to withdraw; or
    - (ii) provide a substitute cosponsor for the legislation.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2021 General Session

**SR2-5-101 Senators may request and sponsor legislation -- Substituting a sponsor --  
Withdrawing as a cosponsor.**

- (1) A senator may request and sponsor legislation as provided in Joint Rules Title 4, Bills and Resolutions.
- (2)
  - (a) After legislation has been introduced, the chief Senate sponsor of the legislation may withdraw from sponsoring the legislation by:
    - (i) finding another senator to act as chief sponsor of the legislation; and
    - (ii) filing a substitution of sponsorship form with the secretary of the Senate before final passage of the legislation in the Senate.
  - (b) A senator seeking to withdraw as the chief sponsor need not obtain permission from the Senate to withdraw.
- (3)
  - (a) A senator seeking to cosponsor Senate legislation shall obtain permission from the legislation's chief sponsor.
  - (b) During a general session, before final passage of legislation in the Senate, a senator cosponsor of the legislation may withdraw as a cosponsor.
  - (c) A senator seeking to withdraw as a cosponsor need not:
    - (i) obtain permission from the Senate to withdraw; or
    - (ii) provide a substitute cosponsor for the legislation.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**Title SR3. Rules Governing the Rules Committee  
and the Standing Committees of the Senate**

**Chapter 1  
Senate Rules Committee and Other Special Committees**

**Part 1  
Senate Rules Committee**

**SR3-1-101 Senate Rules Committee -- Appointment -- General responsibilities.**

- (1) The president shall appoint members of the Senate to serve on the Senate Rules Committee.
- (2) The Senate Rules Committee shall perform the following functions as further elaborated in this part:
  - (a) when assigned by the president, receive introduced legislation from the Senate and recommend that they be assigned to a Senate standing committee or to the Senate second or third reading calendar;
  - (b) after the Senate has sifted -- sent legislation on the second and third reading calendars back to the Senate Rules Committee -- make recommendations to the Senate about which legislation should be assigned to the third reading calendar and the order in which it should be heard; and
  - (c) function as a standing committee or interim committee when reviewing Joint Rules or Senate Rules.

**SR3-1-101 Senate Rules Committee -- Appointment -- General responsibilities.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "sift" means to remove legislation from the second and third reading calendars and assign the legislation to the Senate Rules Committee.
- (2) The president shall appoint members of the Senate to serve on the Senate Rules Committee.
- (3) The Senate Rules Committee shall perform the following functions as provided in this part:
  - (a) when assigned by the president, receive introduced legislation from the Senate and recommend that the legislation be assigned to a Senate standing committee or to the Senate second or third reading calendar;
  - (b) after the Senate sifts legislation, make recommendations to the Senate about which legislation should be assigned to the second reading calendar and the order in which it should be heard; and
  - (c) function as a standing committee or interim committee when reviewing Joint Rules or Senate Rules.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR3-1-102 Senate Rules Committee -- Assignment duties.**

- (1)
  - (a) Subject to Subsection (1)(b), the presiding officer shall submit all legislation introduced in the Senate to the Senate Rules Committee.
  - (b) The president may direct legislation to be sent directly to a standing committee or to one of the Senate floor calendars.
- (2) The Senate Rules Committee shall:

- (a) examine the legislation referred to it for proper form, including fiscal note and committee note, if any; and
- (b)
  - (i) refer the legislation to the Senate with a recommendation that the legislation be:
    - (A) referred to a standing committee for consideration;
    - (B) subject to Subsection (3), placed directly onto the second reading calendar;
    - (C) subject to Subsection (3), read the second time and placed onto the consent calendar; or
    - (D) if during the last week of the legislative session, read the second time and placed on the third reading calendar; or
  - (ii) hold the legislation.
- (3) During an annual general session, the Senate Rules Committee may not refer legislation to the Senate with a recommendation under Subsection (2)(b)(i)(B) or (2)(b)(i)(C) unless:
  - (a) a Senate standing committee has given the legislation a favorable recommendation; or
  - (b) the legislation is described in SR3-2-401(2).
- (4) In carrying out its functions and responsibilities under this rule, the Senate Rules Committee may not amend, substitute, or table legislation without the written consent of the sponsor.

**SR3-1-103 Senate Rules Committee -- Prioritization duties.**

- (1) The Senate Rules Committee shall:
  - (a) make recommendations that prioritize each piece of legislation for committee and floor action and review; and
  - (b) update the priority in Subsection (1)(a) as necessary for the calendar.
- (2) The Senate Rules Committee may recommend a time certain for floor consideration of any legislation when it is reported out of the Senate Rules Committee, or at any other time.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR3-1-104 Request to require committee review.**

- (1) If the Senate Rules Committee recommends that legislation be placed on the second or third reading calendar without standing committee review, any three senators may request that the legislation be reviewed by a standing committee before the legislation's consideration on the floor.
- (2) If a request by three senators is received, the presiding officer may assign the bill to a standing committee.

**SR3-1-105 Notice of rules committee meetings.**

When the Senate Rules Committee holds a meeting during a legislative session, the president shall ensure that:

- (1) an oral, public announcement is made from the floor of the Senate identifying the time and place that the rules committee will meet; and
- (2) an electronic notice is made that identifies the time and place of the rules committee meeting.

Enacted by S.R. 2, 2016 General Session

## **Part 2**

### **Special Committees and Task Forces**

#### **SR3-1-201 Special committees.**

- (1) The Senate may form special committees, including task forces, by motion or resolution.
- (2) The president shall appoint the members of those special committees.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

## **Chapter 2**

### **Senate Standing Committees**

#### **Part 1**

#### **General Provisions**

#### **SR3-2-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Chair" means:
  - (a) the chair of a standing committee; or
  - (b) a standing committee member who is authorized to act as chair under SR3-2-202.
- (2) "Committee" means a standing committee created under SR3-2-201.
- (3) "Dispose of legislation" refers to a committee action that transfers ownership of legislation to the Senate Rules Committee, to another standing committee, or to the Senate floor.
- (4) "Favorable recommendation" refers to a committee action that transfers ownership of legislation to the Senate second reading calendar.
- (5) "Legislation" means a Senate bill, House bill, Senate resolution, House resolution, joint resolution, or concurrent resolution.
- (6) "Majority vote" means a majority of a quorum as described in SR3-2-203.
- (7) "Original motion" means a non-privileged motion that is accepted by the chair when no other motion is pending.
- (8) "Pending motion" refers to a motion starting when a chair accepts a motion and ending when the motion is withdrawn or until the chair calls for a vote on the motion.
- (9)
  - (a) "Privileged motion" means a procedural motion to adjourn, set a time to adjourn, recess, end debate, extend debate, or limit debate.
  - (b) Privileged motions are not substitute motions.
- (10) "Substitute motion" means a non-privileged motion that is made when a non-privileged motion is pending.
- (11) "Under consideration" means the time starting when a chair opens a discussion on a subject or piece of legislation that is listed on a committee agenda and ending when the committee disposes of the legislation, moves on to another item on the agenda, or adjourns.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

## Part 2

### Creation and Organization of Senate Standing Committees

#### **SR3-2-201 Standing committees -- Creation.**

There are created the following standing committees to consider legislation during an annual general or special session:

- (1) Business and Labor;
- (2) Economic Development and Workforce Services;
- (3) Education;
- (4) Government Operations and Political Subdivisions;
- (5) Health and Human Services;
- (6) Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and Criminal Justice;
- (7) Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment;
- (8) Revenue and Taxation;
- (9) Rules; and
- (10) Transportation, Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology.

Amended by S.R. 2, 2024 General Session

#### **SR3-2-202 President to appoint committee members, chairs, and vice chairs.**

- (1) The president of the Senate shall appoint members of the Senate to each standing committee.
- (2) The president shall appoint a chair to each standing committee.
- (3) The president may appoint a vice chair to each standing committee.
- (4) If the president does not appoint a vice chair to a standing committee, the chair may appoint a vice chair.
- (5) A vice chair may perform the duties of a chair:
  - (a) as requested by a chair; or
  - (b) in the absence of the chair.
- (6) The chair, or the vice chair as authorized under Subsection (3), may designate a member of the committee to conduct a standing committee meeting when neither the chair nor the vice chair is able to attend a meeting.
- (7) A committee member designated under Subsection (6) may conduct a committee meeting but may not perform the duties of a chair described in SR3-2-302 and SR3-2-303.
- (8) If a chair, vice chair, or the chair's designee are not present at a committee meeting, the most senior member of the majority party who is a member of the committee may chair a standing committee meeting, but that person may not perform the duties described in SR3-2-302 and SR3-2-303.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

#### **SR3-2-203 Quorum requirements.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a majority of a standing committee is a quorum.
- (2) In determining whether a quorum is present, the president, majority leader, majority whip, assistant majority whip, Senate Rules Committee chair, Executive Appropriations Committee chair, Executive Appropriations Committee vice chair, minority leader, minority whip, assistant minority whip, and the fourth member of leadership from the minority party are not counted

in determining a quorum for a standing committee, except during the time that the senator is present at the meeting.

**SR3-2-204 Committee order of business.**

Unless a standing committee chair, or a committee by majority vote, determines otherwise, the order of business for a standing committee is:

- (1) call to order by the chair;
- (2) approval of the minutes of previous meetings;
- (3) announcement of the agenda;
- (4) announcement of time restrictions, if any, subject to the requirements of SR3-2-304; and
- (5) consideration of standing committee business as provided in SR3-2-302(2).

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**Part 3**  
**Duties of the Senate Standing Committee Chair**

**SR3-2-301 Chair to enforce legislative rules and procedures.**

The chair shall ensure the integrity of the standing committee process by enforcing legislative rules and parliamentary procedure without delay.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-302 Chair to set agenda -- Requirements.**

The chair shall:

- (1) set the agenda for a standing committee meeting;
- (2) ensure that legislation tabled by a standing committee is listed on a standing committee agenda as required by SR3-2-408; and
- (3) ensure that legislation placed on the time certain calendar in the Senate is listed on a standing committee agenda before it is scheduled to be heard by the Senate.

Amended by S.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**SR3-2-303 Chair to post notice and agenda -- Notification to sponsors.**

- (1) The chair shall cause a public notice and agenda to be posted at least 24 hours before each standing committee meeting as required under Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.
- (2) The chair shall notify the chief Senate sponsor or chief House sponsor of legislation listed on an agenda of the time and place of the committee meeting in which the legislation will be considered not less than 24 hours before the committee meeting.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-304 Chair may direct order of agenda -- Time restrictions.**

The chair, or a committee by majority vote, may adopt committee procedures and time restrictions, including:

- (1) directing the order of the agenda;
- (2) directing the order in which a witness or presenter will be heard;
- (3) directing the number of witnesses or presenters that will be heard; and
- (4) limiting the time the committee will spend on:
  - (a) an item on the agenda; or
  - (b) an individual witness or presenter.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-305 Four phases when considering legislation.**

Legislation under consideration by a standing committee is subject to four distinct phases during a committee meeting:

- (1) the sponsor's presentation as provided in SR3-2-306;
- (2) clarifying questions as provided in SR3-2-307;
- (3) public comment as provided in SR3-2-308; and
- (4) committee action as provided in SR3-2-309.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-306 Sponsor presentation.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), during the presentation phase, a committee member may not amend legislation, substitute legislation, or dispose of legislation. All other motions are in order during the presentation phase.
- (2) During the presentation phase of a committee meeting, the chair may accept a motion to amend or substitute legislation if the chair permits:
  - (a) committee questions and debate;
  - (b) public comment as provided in SR3-2-308;
  - (c) the sponsor of the legislation affected by the amendment to respond to the motion to amend; and
  - (d) the committee member who made the motion to amend to have the final word on the motion as required under SR3-2-313.
- (3) During the presentation phase of a standing committee meeting, the chair shall:
  - (a) permit the chief sponsor or another legislator designated by the chief sponsor to present the chief sponsor's legislation; and
  - (b) except as provided in Subsection (4), and at the election of the chief sponsor or the chief sponsor's designee, permit persons who have expertise on the legislation to assist with the presentation as provided in SR3-2-304.
- (4) The chair may not permit:
  - (a) legislation to be presented if the chief sponsor or another legislator designated by the chief sponsor is not present; or
  - (b) legislative interns or legislative aides to present legislation.

**SR3-2-307 Clarifying questions.**



- (1) During the clarifying question phase, a committee member may not amend legislation, substitute legislation, or dispose of legislation. All other motions are in order during the clarifying questions phase.
- (2) A chair shall allow members of the committee to ask the legislative sponsor questions, provided that the questions help to clarify the intent or purpose of the legislation or the meaning of the language of the legislation.
- (3) The chair shall allow the legislative sponsor to respond to clarifying questions.
- (4) The chair may allow, with the legislative sponsor's approval, a person authorized under SR3-2-306 to respond to clarifying questions from members of the committee.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-308 Public comment.**

- (1) During the public comment phase, a committee member may not amend legislation, substitute legislation, or dispose of legislation. All other motions are in order during the public comment phase.
- (2) During the public comment phase of a committee meeting:
  - (a) the chair, or a committee by majority vote, may limit the time an individual witness or presenter speaks to a committee as authorized under SR3-2-304;
  - (b) the chair, or the committee by majority vote, may terminate the public comment phase at any time; and
  - (c) the chair may not take comment from an individual witness unless:
    - (i) the individual provides the individual's legal name and the entity that the individual represents, if any; and
    - (ii) if the individual is participating via video conference:
      - (A) the individual provides the individual's place of residence; and
      - (B) the individual's video is enabled.
- (3) Unless the chair, or a committee by majority vote, permits additional public comment, once the public comment phase has ended only committee members, legislative sponsors, staff, and those authorized under SR3-2-306 may address the committee.

**SR3-2-309 Committee action.**

During the committee action phase, a committee member may make motions to amend the legislation, to substitute the legislation, and to dispose of the legislation. All other motions authorized by this chapter are in order during the committee action phase of a committee meeting.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-310 Chair to preserve order and decorum.**

In accordance with SR3-4-101, the chair shall preserve order and decorum during a standing committee meeting.

**SR3-2-311 Chair to recognize committee members -- Remarks to be germane -- Committee members may make motions when recognized -- Permission to address committee.**

- (1) The chair shall recognize a committee member who desires to speak to a subject that is under consideration by a standing committee.

- (2) It is within the discretion of a chair to recognize a committee member who desires to speak to the same subject more than twice.
- (3) Upon recognition by the chair, a committee member:
  - (a) shall ensure that the member's remarks are germane to the subject under consideration; and
  - (b) may make a motion that is authorized by this chapter.
- (4) Presenters, witnesses, visitors, staff, and committee members may not speak to a standing committee unless recognized by the chair.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-312 Chair to accept all motions that are in order -- Once accepted, the motion is pending.**

- (1) The chair shall accept a motion requested by a member of a standing committee who has been properly recognized unless the motion is prohibited by this chapter or by parliamentary procedure.
- (2) To properly accept a motion, the chair shall:
  - (a) restate each verbal motion;
  - (b) identify the number of each written motion to amend or substitute legislation; and
  - (c) ensure a copy of each written amendment or substitute is available online.
- (3) When a chair properly accepts a motion under Subsection (2), the motion is pending.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2021 General Session

**SR3-2-313 Chair to allow response to motions before placing motions for a vote.**

After a motion has been accepted, and before the chair places a motion for a vote, the chair shall permit:

- (1) members of the committee to ask the committee member who placed the motion questions about the motion;
- (2) members of the committee to debate the motion;
- (3) the chief sponsor of the legislation that is affected by the motion to respond to the motion; and
- (4) the committee member who placed the motion to have the final word on the motion.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-314 Chair to place motion for vote.**

After the chair has permitted a committee member to sum on a motion as required under SR3-2-313(4), the chair shall place the motion for a vote unless the motion is withdrawn subject to the requirements of SR3-2-511.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-315 Chair to verbally announce vote on motions -- Motions pass with majority vote of a quorum -- Exceptions.**

- (1) After a standing committee votes on a motion, the chair shall:
  - (a) determine whether the motion passed or failed;
  - (b) verbally announce that the motion passed or that the motion failed; and
  - (c) if the vote on the motion is not unanimous, verbally identify by name either the committee members who voted "yes" or the committee members who voted "no."

- (2) Unless otherwise specifically indicated in this chapter, motions pass with a majority vote of a quorum as described in SR3-2-203.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-316 Chair may direct a roll call vote.**

Although most motions will be determined by a voice vote, the chair, or a committee by majority vote, may direct a roll call vote.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-317 Chair to decide points of order -- Committee may appeal chair's decision.**

- (1) A chair shall rule on a point of order without committee discussion or debate.  
(2) As provided in SR3-2-506, a committee member may:
- (a) make a point of order; or
  - (b) appeal the decision of the chair.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-318 Chair to send standing committee reports to the Senate.**

- (1) When a standing committee approves a motion to dispose of legislation under the requirements of SR3-2-408 or SR3-2-403, the chair shall, no later than the next legislative day, submit to the secretary of the Senate:
- (a) the official version of the legislation; and
  - (b) a committee report, signed by the chair, describing the committee's action.
- (2) If, for any reason, the chair does not submit a committee report to the secretary of the Senate as required in Subsection (1), the secretary of the Senate shall ensure that the official version of the legislation and the committee report are submitted before the end of the second legislative day after the committee disposed of the legislation.

**SR3-2-319 Chair to ensure integrity of minutes -- Retention of minutes.**

- (1) The chair shall:
- (a) ensure that a secretary takes minutes of standing committee meetings;
  - (b) present the minutes to the committee for approval; and
  - (c) send the approved minutes to the Senate.
- (2) The chair shall ensure that committee minutes comply with the requirements of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

**Part 4  
Duties of the Senate Standing Committee**

**SR3-2-401 Standing committee review required -- Exceptions.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), the Senate may not pass a bill, joint resolution, or concurrent resolution during the annual general session unless a Senate standing committee has given a favorable recommendation to the legislation.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to:
  - (a) a resolution regarding legislative rules or legislative personnel;
  - (b) legislation that is a committee bill as defined in JR7-1-101 that:
    - (i) received its favorable recommendation by a unanimous vote of the members present at the authorized legislative committee meeting; and
    - (ii) satisfied the posting requirements described in JR7-1-602.5;
  - (c) legislation placed on a reading calendar in accordance with SR3-1-102(1)(b);
  - (d) the revisor's statute; or
  - (e) if the legislation was reviewed and approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee, legislation that:
    - (i) exclusively appropriates money;
    - (ii) amends Utah Code Title 53F, Chapter 2, State Funding -- Minimum School Program;
    - (iii) amends Utah Code Title 67, Chapter 22, State Officer Compensation; or
    - (iv) authorizes the issuance of general obligation or revenue bonds.

**SR3-2-401 Standing committee review required -- Exceptions.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), the Senate may not pass a bill, joint resolution, or concurrent resolution during the annual general session unless a Senate standing committee has given a favorable recommendation to the legislation.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to:
  - (a) a resolution regarding legislative rules or legislative personnel;
  - (b) Senate legislation that is a committee bill as defined in JR7-1-101 that:
    - (i) received its favorable recommendation by a unanimous vote of the members present at the authorized legislative committee meeting; and
    - (ii) satisfied the posting requirements described in JR7-1-602.5;
  - (c) legislation placed on a reading calendar in accordance with SR3-1-102(1)(b);
  - (d) the revisor's statute; or
  - (e) if the legislation was reviewed and approved by the Executive Appropriations Committee, legislation that:
    - (i) exclusively appropriates money;
    - (ii) amends Utah Code Title 53F, Chapter 2, State Funding -- Minimum School Program;
    - (iii) amends Utah Code Title 67, Chapter 22, State Officer Compensation; or
    - (iv) authorizes the issuance of general obligation or revenue bonds.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR3-2-402 Standing committee review of legislation with a fiscal impact.**

Except as provided in SR3-2-401, a standing committee in one or both chambers shall review legislation before the legislation is held in the opposite chamber because of the legislation's fiscal impact.

Amended by S.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**SR3-2-403 Standing committee actions to dispose of legislation.**

A standing committee shall dispose of the legislation by:

- (1) returning the legislation to the Senate Rules Committee;
- (2) tabling the legislation, subject to the requirements of SR3-2-408;
- (3) recommending the legislation to the second reading calendar; or
- (4) referring the legislation to a different standing committee.

Amended by S.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**SR3-2-404 Motions to lift from the table, hold, amend, or substitute legislation.**

In addition to the actions listed in SR3-2-403(2), a standing committee may approve one or more of the following motions on a single piece of legislation:

- (1) hold the legislation;
- (2) move to the next item on an agenda;
- (3) amend the legislation, subject to the requirements of SR3-2-406;
- (4) substitute the legislation, subject to the requirements of SR3-2-407; or
- (5) lift legislation from the table, subject to the requirements of SR3-2-408.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-405 Consent calendar.**

A standing committee may recommend that legislation in the standing committee's possession be placed on the consent calendar if:

- (1) the committee approves a motion, by a unanimous vote, to send the legislation to the second reading calendar;
- (2) immediately subsequent to that action, the chief sponsor or the chief sponsor's designee under SR3-2-306(3) requests that the legislation be placed on the consent calendar; and
- (3) in a separate motion and vote, the committee unanimously approves the sponsor's request to place the legislation on the consent calendar instead of the second reading calendar.

Amended by S.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**SR3-2-405 Consent calendar.**

On or before the 41st day of an annual general session, a standing committee may recommend that legislation in the standing committee's possession be placed on the consent calendar if:

- (1) the committee approves a motion, by a unanimous vote, to send the legislation to the second reading calendar;
- (2) immediately subsequent to that action, the chief sponsor or the chief sponsor's designee under SR3-2-306(3) requests that the legislation be placed on the consent calendar;
- (3) in a separate motion and vote, the committee unanimously approves the sponsor's request to place the legislation on the consent calendar instead of the second reading calendar; and
- (4) for House legislation, the House legislation is not a fiscal note bill, as that term is defined in JR4-4-101.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR3-2-406 Amending legislation -- Amendments must be germane.**

- (1)

- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2), and if recognized by the chair during the presentation phase or the committee action phase, a committee member may make a motion to amend the legislation that is under consideration.
- (b)
  - (i) A committee member may propose a verbal amendment to the legislation under consideration if the amendment contains 25 or fewer words.
  - (ii) Unless an amendment contains 25 or fewer words, before proposing a motion to amend, a committee member shall ensure that a copy of the proposed amendment is available online.
- (2)
  - (a) A committee member may only make a motion to amend that is germane to the subject of the legislation under consideration.
  - (b) A committee member who believes that an amendment is not germane to the subject of the legislation may make a point of order or appeal as described in SR3-2-506.

**SR3-2-406 Amending legislation -- Amendments must be germane.**

- (1)
  - (a) Subject to the provisions of this rule, and if recognized by the chair during the presentation phase or the committee action phase, a committee member may make a motion to amend the legislation that is under consideration.
  - (b)
    - (i) A committee member may propose a verbal amendment to the legislation under consideration if the amendment contains 25 or fewer words.
    - (ii) Unless an amendment contains 25 or fewer words, before proposing a motion to amend, a committee member shall ensure that a copy of the proposed amendment is available online.
- (2)
  - (a) A committee member may only make a motion to amend that is germane to the subject of the legislation under consideration.
  - (b) A committee member who believes that an amendment is not germane to the subject of the legislation may make a point of order or appeal as described in SR3-2-506.
- (3)
  - (a) A committee member may not propose an amendment to legislation that:
    - (i) adds or removes an entire section from the legislation; or
    - (ii) modifies the legislation's effective date.
  - (b) To change legislation as described in Subsection (3)(a), a committee member may, subject to SR3-2-407, make a motion to substitute the legislation.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2025 General Session

**SR3-2-407 Substitute legislation -- Substitutes must be germane.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), and if recognized by the chair during the committee action phase, a committee member may make a motion to substitute legislation that is under consideration.
- (2)
  - (a) A committee member may only make a motion to substitute that is germane to the subject of the legislation under consideration.
  - (b) A committee member who believes that an amendment is not germane to the subject of the legislation may make a point of order or appeal as described in SR3-2-506.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-408 Legislation tabled in a standing committee -- Requirements.**

- (1) If legislation is tabled, the chair shall list the tabled legislation on the committee agenda for the next committee meeting.
- (2) At the next committee meeting, the committee may, by a two-thirds vote, lift the tabled legislation from the table.
- (3) If a motion to lift tabled legislation is successful, the standing committee may make any motion on the legislation that is authorized under this chapter.
- (4)
  - (a) If legislation is tabled by a committee and the legislation is not lifted from the table at the committee's next meeting, the committee chair shall submit a committee report to the secretary of the Senate informing the Senate that the legislation was tabled.
  - (b) After reading the committee report on the tabled legislation, the secretary of the Senate shall send the tabled legislation to the Senate Rules Committee.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-409 Reconsideration of action.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), and if recognized by the chair, a committee member may make a motion to reconsider the committee's action on legislation if the legislation is:
  - (a) in the possession of the standing committee; and
  - (b) listed on the committee agenda as required by Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.
- (2) A standing committee may not reconsider its action on a piece of legislation:
  - (a) more than once; and
  - (b) until the committee has considered other committee business.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-410 Testimony may be taken under oath.**

- (1) At the direction of the chair, or upon a majority vote of the committee, the testimony of a witness, presenter, or visitor who speaks to a committee may be taken under oath.
- (2) The chair or committee staff shall administer the oath.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-411 Additional standing committee meetings.**

With the president of the Senate's permission, a chair may hold a committee meeting independent of regularly scheduled committee meetings on:

- (1) a single piece of legislation; or
- (2) the subject of two or more pieces of legislation.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-412 Closed standing committee meetings.**

A standing committee may close a committee meeting in accordance with the procedures and requirements of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-413 Prohibited from meeting while Senate is in session -- Exceptions.**

- (1) A standing committee may not meet while the Senate is in session unless:
  - (a) the chair receives permission from the president to meet; or
  - (b) a majority of the Senate approves a motion for the committee to meet while the Senate is in session.
- (2) Unless a committee is authorized to meet as provided in Subsection (1), any action taken by a committee while the Senate is in session is invalid.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**Part 5**  
**Standing Committee Parliamentary Procedures**

**SR3-2-501 Obtaining the floor in committee -- Remarks to be germane.**

- (1) As required in SR3-2-311, a chair shall recognize a committee member who desires to speak to the committee.
- (2) A committee member who is recognized by the chair may make a motion consistent with the requirements of this chapter.
- (3) A second to a motion is not required.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-502 Committee members shall vote.**

A committee member shall vote on every motion placed for a vote while the committee member is present at a meeting.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-503 Privileged motions in committee -- General requirements, procedure, and priority.**

- (1) Privileged motions:
  - (a) are non-debatable; and
  - (b) take precedence over non-privileged motions.
- (2) If a privileged motion is requested while another privileged motion is pending, the chair shall grant priority to the privileged motions in the following order:
  - (a) adjourn;
  - (b) set time to adjourn;
  - (c) recess;
  - (d) end debate or call the question;
  - (e) extend debate; and
  - (f) limit debate.



- (3) Except for a motion to adjourn, a privileged motion, if adopted, does not dispose of other pending motions.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-504 Original motions in committee -- General requirements, procedure, and priority.**

- (1) Original motions:
  - (a) are debatable; and
  - (b) may be replaced with a substitute motion.
- (2) A committee member may not make an original motion if:
  - (a) a privileged motion is pending; or
  - (b) a substitute motion is pending.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-505 Substitute motions in committee -- General requirements, procedure, and priority.**

- (1) Substitute motions:
  - (a) are debatable; and
  - (b) take precedence over original motions.
- (2)
  - (a) A committee member may make a substitute motion if an original motion is pending.
  - (b) A committee member may not make a substitute motion if:
    - (i) a privileged motion is pending; or
    - (ii) another substitute motion is pending.
  - (c) If a substitute motion is adopted, a substitute motion disposes of the original motion.
  - (d) If a substitute motion is not adopted, the original motion is pending.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-506 Point of order -- Appeal of chair's decision.**

- (1) A point of order is not a motion and, except during a vote, may be made by a member of a standing committee at any time during a committee meeting.
- (2) If a member of a standing committee is concerned that legislative rules or procedures are not being followed, the committee member may make a point of order.
- (3) When a point of order is made, the chair shall immediately allow the committee member to state the member's point.
- (4) A chair shall rule on the point of order without committee discussion or debate as provided in SR3-2-315.
- (5) An appeal of the decision of the chair is not a motion and may be made by a committee member after the chair has ruled on a point of order.
- (6) A standing committee may, by majority vote, override the decision of the chair on a point of order.
  - (a) If the committee overrides the decision of the chair, the ruling of a committee is final.
  - (b) If a committee does not override the decision of the chair, the ruling of a chair is final.

Repealed and Re-enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-507 Point of information.**

- (1) A point of information is not a motion and, except during a vote, may be made by a member of a standing committee at any time during a committee meeting.
- (2) If a member of a standing committee desires clarification on any aspect of a committee meeting, the committee member may make a point of information.
- (3) When a point of information is made, the chair shall immediately allow the committee member to state the point.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-508 Division of a motion.**

- (1) A division is not a motion and, except during a vote, may be made by a member of a standing committee at any time during a committee meeting without being recognized by the chair.
- (2) The committee member who divides a motion shall clearly state how the motion is to be divided.
- (3) A committee member may not divide a motion to amend legislation in such a manner that could create an unintelligible or ambiguous result.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-509 Prohibited motions.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except for a motion to adjourn or a motion to recess, a committee member may not make a motion unless a quorum of the standing committee is present.
  - (b) When a quorum is not present, a motion to adjourn or a motion to recess is passed with a majority vote of those present.
- (2) No motion is in order during a vote.
- (3) A point of order is not in order during a vote.
- (4) A committee member may not make a motion to:
  - (a) strike the enacting clause of legislation; or
  - (b) circle legislation.

**SR3-2-510 Repeating defeated motion.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a motion that is defeated may not be made by a committee member until the committee has considered other committee business.
- (2) A motion to postpone legislation to a day certain, to postpone legislation indefinitely, or to return legislation to the Senate Rules Committee, if defeated, may not be made again by any committee member during the same committee meeting.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR3-2-511 A motion may be withdrawn.**

A committee member who makes a motion may withdraw that motion at any time before the motion is placed for a vote.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

## **Chapter 3 Confirmation Committees**

### **Part 1 Executive Office Confirmation Committees**

#### **SR3-3-101 Senate confirmation committees.**

- (1) The president shall:
  - (a) appoint one or more Senate executive confirmation committees composed of no more than seven senators, no more than five of whom are from the same political party;
  - (b) appoint as members of the confirmation committee the Senate appropriations subcommittee chair and the Senate standing committee chair having jurisdiction over the agency or entity to which the nominee is appointed; and
  - (c) designate one senator to act as chair of the committee.
- (2) If called by the chair, the committee shall, before any Senate confirmation session:
  - (a) meet to review gubernatorial nominations to fill an executive branch position; and
  - (b) make a recommendation to the Senate to either confirm or not confirm the nominee.
- (3)
  - (a) The confirmation committee shall review the resume and qualifications of any full-time gubernatorial executive branch appointee and may interview appointees.
  - (b) If a meeting is held, the committee shall submit a committee report to the Senate in a form that identifies to the Senate the votes "for" and votes "against" confirmation.
- (4) A standing committee may close a committee meeting only by following the procedures and requirements of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

### **Part 2 Judicial Confirmation Committee**

#### **SR3-3-201 Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee -- Membership.**

- (1) The president shall:
  - (a) appoint a Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee of no more than seven senators, no more than five of whom are from the same political party; and
  - (b) designate one senator to act as chair of the committee.
- (2) The president may not convene the Senate to consider confirmation of a judicial appointee until the Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee has submitted its recommendation.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

#### **SR3-3-202 Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee -- Confirmation process.**

- (1)
  - (a) The Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee shall comply with the procedures established in this rule.

- (b) Each committee member shall ensure that records received by them that are classified "private," "protected," or "controlled" under Utah Code Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act, are released only if the requirements of that act are met.
- (2) After a Judicial Nominating Commission announces the nominees and forwards those names to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel as required by Utah Code Section 78A-10a-203, that office shall provide the resume of each nominee to each member of the Senate.
- (3) After the governor announces the appointee and provides the information required by Utah Code Section 67-1-2:
  - (a) the chair of the Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee shall direct the preparation of a news release which shall include:
    - (i) a brief description of the judicial position to be filled;
    - (ii) the name of the appointee;
    - (iii) a brief description of the functions of the Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee;
    - (iv) a request that members of the Senate wanting to make comments contact the chair or the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel by the deadline specified in the news release, which may not be less than 10 business days after publication of the news release;
    - (v) a request that members of the public wanting to make comments contact the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel by the deadline specified in the news release, which may not be less than 10 business days after publication of the news release; and
    - (vi) a notice that any person wanting to comment submit a written statement detailing the substance of their testimony, including the person's name, telephone number, and mailing address, to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel; and
  - (b) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide:
    - (i) the appointee's resume and the news release described in this Subsection (3) to each senator;
    - (ii) the news release described in this Subsection (3) to the news media, including television, radio, and the major circulation newspapers in Salt Lake City and the geographical area served by the judicial office to be filled by the appointee; and
    - (iii) the materials described in Utah Code Subsection 67-1-2(4)(b) to each member of the Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee.
- (4)
  - (a) The chair of the Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee may direct its staff to investigate:
    - (i) the background, qualifications, and fitness for judicial office of the appointee generally; and
    - (ii) specific issues raised or revealed by any member of the committee, any senator, or any member of the public, or that may arise at any time during the Senate confirmation process.
  - (b) In conducting the investigation, committee staff may contact any person or organization that might have information about the nominee's fitness for judicial office.
  - (c) The chair may direct staff to ask the governor, the chair of the Judicial Nominating Commission, or both, whether or not certain facts revealed by the investigation were known to the governor or the nominating commission at the time the candidate was considered by either of them.
- (5)
  - (a) The chair of the Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee shall provide public notice of each committee meeting.
  - (b) The public notice shall include an explanation that:

- (i) any person wanting to testify regarding the appointee shall submit a written request to testify to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel at least 24 hours before the meeting is scheduled to begin; and
  - (ii) portions of the meeting may be closed under Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.
- (6) Before convening a meeting of the Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee, the chair shall:
- (a) review all written statements from persons desiring to address the committee regarding the governor's appointee;
  - (b) review all records to be distributed to the committee and classify each record as "public" or "private" by applying the standard contained in Subsection 63G-2-302(1)(f)(i);
  - (c) determine which persons making a timely request to testify under Subsection (5) may address the committee; and
  - (d) if necessary, establish reasonable time limits for public comment.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2024 General Session

**SR3-3-203 Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee -- Meeting process.**

- (1) In conducting the Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee meeting:
- (a) the chair shall allow the appointee to address the committee before the committee hears any other testimony, after the last witness testifies before the committee, and before the committee makes its decision;
  - (b) the chair may hold committee meetings in the geographic area to be served by the judicial office; and
  - (c) the chair may allow testimony from any person wishing to testify, whether the person has submitted a written request to testify or not.
- (2) Before opening comments by the nominee, or at any other time during the meeting, the committee may close the committee meeting for any of the purposes outlined in Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act.
- (3) In determining whether to recommend that the nominee be confirmed or rejected by the Senate, the Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee shall:
- (a) review the appointee's resume, application materials, and any other documents or information related to the nominee's fitness for judicial office;
  - (b) review each written statement submitted to the committee;
  - (c) interview, under oath or affirmation, each judicial appointee;
  - (d) consider the oral testimony of persons testifying to the committee;
  - (e) base its decision regarding confirmation solely upon a consideration of the nominee's fitness for judicial office without regard to any partisan political consideration;
  - (f) vote on whether or not to recommend confirmation of the appointee to the Senate; and
  - (g) transmit its recommendation to the Senate in a form that identifies to the Senate the votes "for" and the votes "against" confirmation.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR3-3-204 Copy to judicial nominee.**

The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide a copy of this rule to each judicial appointee seeking Senate confirmation.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR3-3-205 Constitution takes precedence over these rules.**

Nothing contained in SR3-3-201 through SR3-3-204 may be construed to limit the authority of the Senate as provided in Utah Constitution Article VIII, Section 8.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**Chapter 4**  
**Provisions Applicable to All Senate Committees**

**SR3-4-101 Chair to preserve order and decorum.**

- (1) The chair shall preserve order and decorum during a Senate committee meeting by:
  - (a) ensuring nothing obstructs a walkway or the view of a meeting attendee;
  - (b) ensuring the meeting is free from any audible or visual disturbance;
  - (c) protecting state property from damage or disarray;
  - (d) prohibiting speech likely to incite or produce imminent lawless action, fighting words, or obscenity; and
  - (e) prohibiting any activity or item that poses a danger to the safety of a meeting attendee.
- (2) To preserve order and decorum in accordance with Subsection (1), the chair may:
  - (a) prohibit the following:
    - (i) standing, waving, yelling, or clapping;
    - (ii) loud noises;
    - (iii) food or drink, other than water in a closed container;
    - (iv) musical instruments;
    - (v) any item that may require excessive cleanup; or
    - (vi) to the extent necessary to preserve order and decorum, any other item or activity the chair determines necessary;
  - (b) clear the meeting room of one or more individuals;
  - (c) recess the meeting without a motion; or
  - (d) request assistance from:
    - (i) the sergeant-at-arms; or
    - (ii) the Utah Highway Patrol.
- (3) To the extent reasonably applicable, any action by a chair under this rule applies to a member of the public participating in the meeting via video conference.

Amended by S.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**SR3-4-102 Prohibited items and activities in Senate committee meetings.**

- (1) A member of the public attending a meeting of a Senate committee may not:
  - (a) bring into the meeting room, or possess while in the meeting room, any of the following:
    - (i) a sign, poster, banner, or placard;
    - (ii) glitter or confetti;
    - (iii) a laser pointer;
    - (iv) paint;
    - (v) an open flame;

- (vi)an incendiary device;
- (vii)a noise maker;
- (viii)flammable liquid; or
- (ix)any harmful or hazardous substance; or
- (b)engage in any of the following while in the meeting room:
  - (i)commercial solicitation;
  - (ii)leafletting;
  - (iii)throwing an item; or
  - (iv)adhering any item to a furnishing, wall, or other state property.
- (2)A member of the public participating in a Senate committee meeting via video conference may not:
  - (a)use a virtual background other than one that is simple and free from distracting visuals; or
  - (b)engage in any behavior that if performed in the meeting room would violate Subsection (1).

Amended by S.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**SR3-4-103 Right of legislators to attend Senate committee meetings.**

- (1)Any member of the Legislature may:
  - (a)attend any meeting of a Senate committee or subcommittee, unless the meeting is closed in accordance with Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act; and
  - (b)if recognized by the chair during the public comment phase, present the legislator's views on the subject under consideration.
- (2)A legislator who attends a meeting of a Senate committee or subcommittee of which the legislator is not a member may not:
  - (a)make a motion; or
  - (b)vote.

Enacted by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**Title SR4. Senate Floor Procedures**

**Chapter 1  
General Provisions**

**SR4-1-101 Definitions.**

As used in this title:

- (1)
  - (a)"Appropriations bill" means a bill that appropriates money and makes no change to statute.
  - (b)Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(a), "appropriations bill" includes the public education budget bills.
- (2)"Constitutional majority vote" means that the matter requires 15 votes to pass on the Senate floor.
- (3)"Constitutional two-thirds vote" means that the matter requires 20 votes to pass on the Senate floor.

- (4) "Majority vote" means that the matter requires the votes of a majority of those present to pass on the Senate floor.
- (5) "Point of order" means a question raised by a senator about whether or not there has been a breach of order, a breach of rules, or a breach of established parliamentary practice.
- (6) "Presiding officer" means the person presiding over the Senate and includes:
  - (a) the president;
  - (b) the president pro tempore; and
  - (c) any senator presiding under SR1-3-103.
- (7) "Two-thirds vote" means that the matter requires the vote of two-thirds of those present to pass on the Senate floor.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2021 General Session

## **Chapter 2 General Floor Procedures for the Senate**

### **Part 1 General Guidelines**

#### **SR4-2-101 Duties of presiding officer.**

The presiding officer may:

- (1) call the Senate to order at the time scheduled for convening and proceed with the daily order of business;
- (2) announce the business before the Senate in the order that it is to be acted upon;
- (3) receive each motion and proposal presented by a senator and submit it to the Senate;
- (4) put to a vote all questions that arise in the course of proceedings and announce the results of the vote;
- (5) enforce the Senate Rules governing debates;
- (6) enforce observance of order and decorum;
- (7) inform the Senate on any point of order or practice;
- (8) receive and announce to the Senate any official messages and communications; and
- (9) sign all bills, resolutions, orders, and proceedings of the Senate.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

#### **SR4-2-102 Obtaining the floor.**

- (1) When a senator wishes to be recognized to speak, the senator shall rise and address the presiding officer as:
  - (a) "Mr. (Madam) President"; or
  - (b) "Mr. (Madam) President pro temp.
- (2) If two or more senators rise at the same time to speak, the presiding officer shall decide which senator is to speak first.
- (3) After being recognized, the senator shall confine the senator's remarks to the issue under consideration.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session



**SR4-2-103 Calling a senator to order for violation of a rule.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "censure" means an official reprimand or condemnation, which, if approved by the majority of the Senate, is printed in the journal.
- (2)
  - (a) The presiding officer may call a senator to order for violating any Senate Rule or Joint Rule.
  - (b) A senator may call a senator to order for violating any Senate Rule or Joint Rule by raising a point of order under SR4-2-201.
- (3) If a senator appeals the ruling of the presiding officer, the Senate shall decide the issue after debate.
- (4)
  - (a) If the decision is favorable to the senator who has been called to order, the senator may proceed.
  - (b) If the decision is unfavorable, the senator is subject to censure by the Senate.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-2-104 Calling a senator to order for conduct in debate.**

- (1)
  - (a) If a senator raises a point of order for words spoken in debate, the senator raising the point of order shall repeat the words to which exception is taken.
  - (b) The secretary of the Senate shall ensure that the words to which exception is taken are recorded in the journal.
- (2) When a point of order for words spoken in debate is made, the senator who spoke the words may not continue to speak until a ruling on the point of order is made, unless the presiding officer grants that senator permission to explain the senator's words.
- (3) A senator may not be called to order or censured for words spoken in debate if there has been intervening business.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-2-105 Motions in writing.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), if a senator requests that a motion be presented in writing, the presiding officer shall require that the maker of the motion prepare and submit a written motion.
- (2) The presiding officer may not require that the following motions be presented in writing:
  - (a) a motion to adjourn;
  - (b) a motion to circle;
  - (c) a motion to table; or
  - (d) a motion to refer to committee.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**Part 2**  
**Point of Order and Appeals of the Decision of the Chair**

**SR4-2-201 Point of order.**

- (1)
  - (a) If a senator believes that there has been a breach of order, a breach of rules, or a breach of established parliamentary practice, the senator may rise and, without being recognized, state: "point of order."
  - (b) When a senator raises a point of order:
    - (i) the presiding officer shall interrupt the proceedings;
    - (ii) the senator who has the floor shall yield the floor; and
    - (iii) the presiding officer shall ask the senator raising the point of order to "state your point."
  - (c) When the presiding officer responds "state your point," the senator shall briefly explain the alleged breach to the body, citing to appropriate authority if possible.
- (2)
  - (a) The presiding officer may speak to points of order in preference to other senators rising for that purpose.
  - (b) The presiding officer may:
    - (i) rule on the point of order immediately;
    - (ii) consult with the secretary of the Senate, other staff, or another senator before ruling on the point of order; or
    - (iii) defer the point of order until the presiding officer can research and rule on the point of order.
  - (c)
    - (i) Although points of order are generally decided without debate, the presiding officer may submit the point of order to the Senate for decision in doubtful cases.
    - (ii) If submitted to the Senate for decision, a presiding officer shall allow debate or discussion on the point of order by recognizing members of the Senate who wish to speak to the point of order.
    - (iii) A decision by the Senate deciding a point of order is not subject to appeal.
- (3) When the presiding officer rules on the point of order, any senator who disagrees with the presiding officer's decision may appeal that decision to the Senate by following the procedures and requirements of SR4-2-202.

**SR4-2-202 Appeals from the decision of the chair.**

- (1) Although the tradition in the Senate is to give great weight to the rulings of the presiding officer and to not make appeals lightly, a senator who disagrees with a ruling of the presiding officer may appeal that decision to the Senate by rising and, without waiting to be recognized, saying "I appeal the decision of the chair."
- (2) When a senator appeals the decision of the chair, the presiding officer shall clearly state the decision appealed from and may state the reasons for the decision.
- (3)
  - (a) An appeal is debatable.
  - (b) A senator may not speak more than once on the appeal without leave of the Senate.
- (4) The question on appeal is: "Shall the decision of the chair stand as the judgment of the Senate?"
- (5) When a decision of the presiding officer is appealed, a majority vote of the senators present is required to override that decision.
- (6) The secretary of the Senate shall ensure that the appeal and the action of the Senate on the appeal are entered in the journal.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

### **Chapter 3 Special Senate Floor Procedures**

#### **Part 1 Bills and Resolutions**

##### **SR4-3-101 Bills placed on calendars.**

- (1) The secretary of the Senate shall cause legislation to be placed on a Senate calendar described in Title 4, Part 4, Senate Calendars, as provided in Senate Rules and directed by the presiding officer.
- (2) The presiding officer shall ensure that each bill that is placed on the third reading calendar without a fiscal note is circled until the fiscal note is received.
- (3) The secretary of the Senate shall ensure that legislation on the second reading calendar that is passed by a constitutional majority vote is placed at the bottom of the third reading calendar.

##### **SR4-3-102 Consideration of bills.**

- (1) Except for the 1st, 43rd, 44th, and 45th day of the annual general session, legislation may not be read for the third time until at least the day after it is placed on the third reading calendar.
- (2) Legislation on the third reading calendar shall be considered in the order that it appears on the calendar unless a constitutional majority vote of the members of the Senate directs other action.

Amended by S.R. 2, 2024 General Session

##### **SR4-3-102 Consideration of bills.**

- (1) Except for the 1st, 43rd, 44th, and 45th day of the annual general session, or any day during a special session, legislation may not be read for the third time until at least the day after it is placed on the third reading calendar.
- (2) Legislation on the third reading calendar shall be considered in the order that it appears on the calendar unless a constitutional majority vote of the members of the Senate directs other action.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

##### **SR4-3-103 Reassigning legislation assigned to a standing committee.**

Legislation that has been assigned to a standing committee may be assigned to the Senate Rules Committee or a different standing committee by:

- (1) the presiding officer;
- (2) the Senate by majority vote upon motion from the floor; or
- (3) the Senate by majority vote if the committee to which the legislation was assigned recommends in its committee report that the legislation be returned to the Senate Rules Committee.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-3-104 Action of bills tabled in committee.**

- (1)
  - (a) A senator may make a motion to lift legislation tabled in a standing committee.
  - (b) If the motion passes by a two-thirds vote of those senators present on the floor of the Senate, the legislation is placed on the Senate second reading calendar.
- (2) The president of the Senate may reassign legislation tabled in a standing committee to another standing committee.

**SR4-3-105 Action on House legislation.**

- (1) When a piece of House legislation is received by the Senate with a transmittal letter informing the Senate that it has passed the House, the presiding officer shall:
  - (a) have the legislation read for the first time; and
  - (b) refer it to the Senate Rules Committee.
- (2) Action on House legislation is the same as for Senate legislation.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-3-106 Time limit for Senate legislation.**

Except for an appropriations bill, the Senate may not consider a piece of legislation introduced by a senator after the 42nd day of the annual general session of the Legislature.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

## **Part 2 Substitute Legislation**

**SR4-3-201 Substitute legislation.**

- (1) A motion to adopt a substitute piece of legislation is in order on second or third reading.
- (2) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall number each substitute for recordkeeping and tracking purposes before the substitute is officially printed.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-3-202 Substitute must be germane.**

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), a senator may, if recognized by the presiding officer while the senator is debating a piece of legislation, make a motion to substitute the legislation.
- (2)
  - (a) The senator making the motion to substitute shall ensure that the substitute is germane to the subject of the original legislation under consideration.
  - (b) If a senator believes that a substitute is not germane to the subject of the original legislation, the senator may raise a point of order alleging that the substitute is not germane.

- (c) The presiding officer shall rule on the point of order by determining whether or not the substitute is germane to the subject of the original legislation.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

### **Part 3 Floor Amendments**

#### **SR4-3-301 Amendments in order on second or third reading -- 10 word rule -- Passage of amendments by a majority vote.**

- (1) A motion to amend a piece of legislation is in order on second or third reading.
- (2)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3) or (4), a senator may, if recognized by the presiding officer while the Senate is debating a piece of legislation, make a motion to amend the legislation.
  - (b)
    - (i) A senator may verbally propose an amendment to a piece of legislation if the amendment contains 10 or fewer words.
    - (ii) Unless the amendment contains 10 or fewer words, before a senator makes a motion to amend, the senator shall ensure that a copy of the proposed amendment is available online.
- (3)
  - (a) The senator making the motion to amend shall ensure that the amendment is germane to the subject of the original legislation under consideration.
  - (b) If a senator believes that an amendment is not germane to the subject of the original legislation, the senator may raise a point of order alleging that the amendment is not germane.
  - (c) The presiding officer shall rule on the point of order by determining whether or not the amendment is germane to the subject of the original legislation.
- (4) A constitutional amendment, resolution, or bill requiring a constitutional two-thirds vote for final passage may be amended by a majority vote.
- (5) When legislation is amended by the Senate, the secretary of the Senate shall:
  - (a) for each page of the legislation modified by a Senate amendment, cause a new page to be printed that clearly identifies each Senate amendment to that page; and
  - (b) print that new page on tan paper on the second reading and on goldenrod-colored paper on the third reading.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2021 General Session

#### **SR4-3-301 Amendments in order on second or third reading -- 10 word rule -- Passage of amendments by a majority vote.**

- (1) Subject to Subsections (2) through (4), a motion to amend a piece of legislation is in order on second or third reading.
- (2)
  - (a) A senator may, if recognized by the presiding officer while the Senate is debating a piece of legislation, make a motion to amend the legislation.
  - (b)

- (i) A senator may verbally propose an amendment to a piece of legislation if the amendment contains 10 or fewer words.
  - (ii) Unless the amendment contains 10 or fewer words, before a senator makes a motion to amend, the senator shall ensure that a copy of the proposed amendment is available online.
- (3)
- (a) The senator making the motion to amend shall ensure that the amendment is germane to the subject of the original legislation under consideration.
  - (b) If a senator believes that an amendment is not germane to the subject of the original legislation, the senator may raise a point of order alleging that the amendment is not germane.
  - (c) The presiding officer shall rule on the point of order by determining whether or not the amendment is germane to the subject of the original legislation.
- (4)
- (a) A senator may not propose an amendment to legislation that:
    - (i) adds or removes an entire section from the legislation; or
    - (ii) modifies the legislation's effective date.
  - (b) To change legislation as described in Subsection (4)(a), a senator may, subject to Part 2, Substitute Legislation, make a motion to substitute the legislation.
- (5) A constitutional amendment, resolution, or bill requiring a constitutional two-thirds vote for final passage may be amended by a majority vote.
- (6) When legislation is amended by the Senate, the secretary of the Senate shall:
- (a) for each page of the legislation modified by a Senate amendment, cause a new page to be printed that clearly identifies each Senate amendment to that page; and
  - (b) print that new page on tan paper on the second reading and on goldenrod-colored paper on the third reading.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2025 General Session

## **Chapter 4 Senate Calendars**

### **Part 1 Standing Committee Reports**

#### **Part 1 Second Reading Calendar**

##### **SR4-4-101 Standing committee reports.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "favorable committee report" means a report produced by a Senate standing committee for legislation that the committee voted to favorably recommend.
- (2) The secretary of the Senate shall read each standing committee report.
- (3) If the Senate adopts a favorable committee report, the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee shall:

- (a) place the legislation, including any substitute or amendment recommended by the standing committee, on the second reading calendar; or
- (b) if the favorable committee report recommends that the legislation be placed on the consent calendar:
  - (i) read the legislation for the second time; and
  - (ii) place the legislation on the consent calendar.
- (4) If the Senate adopts a standing committee report that is not a favorable committee report, the legislation is placed in accordance with the standing committee report's recommendation.
- (5) If the Senate fails to adopt a standing committee report, the legislation is returned to the Senate Rules Committee.

Enacted by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR4-4-101 Second reading calendar.**

- (1)
  - (a) After the Senate considers all legislation on the third reading calendar that is not circled or tabled, the Senate shall consider legislation on the second reading calendar as follows:
    - (i) the presiding officer shall cause each piece of legislation on the second reading calendar to be read by title before debate begins, unless the Senate suspends this requirement by a two-thirds vote;
    - (ii) the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee shall read the committee report, noting for the Senate those instances when the legislation did not receive a Senate standing committee review or an interim committee review;
    - (iii) if the Senate passes a motion to adopt a "favorable" committee report, the legislation, including any substitute or amendment adopted by the standing committee that is identified in the committee report, is before the Senate; and
    - (iv) the presiding officer shall allow debate on the legislation.
  - (b) If the Senate fails to pass a motion to adopt a "favorable" committee report, the legislation will be returned to the Senate Rules Committee.
- (2)
  - (a) The final question on second reading is: "Shall the bill (resolution) be read a third time?"
  - (b) The presiding officer shall place the question as a roll call vote.
  - (c) If a constitutional majority of the Senate votes in favor of the motion, the legislation is passed to the third reading calendar.

**Part 2  
Third Reading Calendar**

**Part 2  
Second Reading Calendar**

**SR4-4-201 Third reading calendar -- Procedures.**

- (1)

- (a) For the third reading on a piece of legislation, the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee shall read the legislation by title, unless the Senate suspends this requirement by a two-thirds vote.
- (2) When the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee has completed the third reading of the legislation, the legislation is before the Senate for debate.
- (3) When debate on the legislation is complete, the presiding officer shall:
  - (a) pose the final question: "This bill (resolution) has been read three times. The question is: Shall the bill (resolution) pass?"; and
  - (b) place the question as a roll call vote.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-4-202 Disposition of legislation voted on third reading.**

The secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee shall:

- (1)for Senate legislation passed by the Senate on third reading but not yet acted upon by the House, transmit the Senate legislation to the House for its further action;
- (2)for Senate legislation that fails to pass the Senate on third reading, file the legislation;
- (3)for Senate legislation that has passed both chambers in the same form, follow the procedures and requirements of JR4-5-101;
- (4)for House legislation passed by the Senate on third reading and not amended or substituted in the Senate, transmit the House legislation to the presiding officer of the House for the presiding officer's signature;
- (5)for House legislation passed by the Senate on third reading that was amended or substituted in the Senate, transmit the legislation to the House with the amendment or substitute for further action by the House; and
- (6)for House legislation that fails to pass the Senate on third reading, transmit the legislation to the House with notice of the Senate's action.

Amended by S.R. 2, 2024 General Session

**SR4-4-201 Second reading calendar.**

- (1)After the Senate considers all legislation on the third reading calendar that is not circled or tabled, the presiding officer shall:
  - (a)cause each legislation on the second reading calendar to be read by title before debate begins, unless the Senate suspends this requirement by a two-thirds vote; and
  - (b)allow debate on the legislation.
- (2)
  - (a)The final question on second reading is: "Shall the bill (resolution) be read a third time?"
  - (b)The presiding officer shall place the question as a roll call vote.
  - (c)If a constitutional majority of the Senate votes in favor of the motion, the legislation is placed on the third reading calendar.

**Part 3  
Consent Calendar**



### Part 3 Third Reading Calendar

#### **SR4-4-301 Consent calendar.**

- (1) If a standing committee report recommends that legislation be placed on the consent calendar and the standing committee report is adopted by the Senate, the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee shall:
  - (a) read the legislation for the second time; and
  - (b) place the legislation on the consent calendar.
- (2)
  - (a) Whenever the consent calendar contains legislation, the presiding officer shall inform the Senate each day that:
    - (i) there are items on the consent calendar; and
    - (ii) if any senator objects to any legislation on the consent calendar, three or more senators may move the legislation to the second reading calendar by notifying the presiding officer verbally or in writing.
  - (b) If the presiding officer receives requests to move legislation from the consent calendar to the second reading calendar from three or more senators, the secretary shall:
    - (i) remove the legislation from the consent calendar; and
    - (ii) place the legislation at the bottom of the second reading calendar.
- (3) If, after three days during which the Senate has floor time, no more than two members have registered objections to the legislation, the legislation shall be:
  - (a) read the third time;
  - (b) placed before the Senate; and
  - (c) considered for final passage.
- (4)
  - (a) The presiding officer shall pose the question on each consent calendar bill in the following form:

"The presiding officer has determined that a quorum is present.  
Those who favor the question say, 'aye.'  
Does the chair hear a single dissenting nay to the question?"
  - (b) If the presiding officer hears no nays to the question, a unanimous vote of the senators present shall be recorded in favor of the legislation.
  - (c) If the presiding officer hears any nays to the question, a roll call vote shall be taken immediately.
- (5) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (4), any senator may, before the roll call vote is taken, make a motion to remove the bill from the consent calendar and place it on the bottom of the third reading calendar.
- (6) Nothing in this rule prevents a senator from challenging the ruling of the chair or asking for a vote on any question.

#### **SR4-4-301 Third reading calendar -- Procedures.**

- (1) For the third reading on legislation, the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee shall read the legislation by title, unless the Senate suspends this requirement by a two-thirds vote.

- (2)When the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee has completed the third reading of the legislation, the legislation is before the Senate for debate.
- (3)When debate on the legislation is complete, the presiding officer shall:
  - (a)pose the final question: "This bill (resolution) has been read three times. The question is: Shall the bill (resolution) pass?"; and
  - (b)place the question as a roll call vote.

Renumbered and Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR4-4-302 Disposition of legislation voted on third reading.**

The secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee shall:

- (1)for Senate legislation passed by the Senate on third reading but not yet acted upon by the House, transmit the Senate legislation to the House for its further action;
- (2)for Senate legislation that fails to pass the Senate on third reading, file the legislation;
- (3)for Senate legislation that has passed both chambers in the same form, follow the procedures and requirements of JR4-5-101;
- (4)for House legislation passed by the Senate on third reading and not amended or substituted in the Senate, after the presiding officer of the Senate signs the House legislation, transmit the House legislation to the presiding officer of the House for the presiding officer's signature;
- (5)for House legislation passed by the Senate on third reading that was amended or substituted in the Senate, transmit the legislation to the House with the amendment or substitute for further action by the House; and
- (6)for House legislation that fails to pass the Senate on third reading, transmit the legislation to the House with notice of the Senate's action.

Renumbered and Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**Part 4  
Concurrence Calendar**

**Part 4  
Consent Calendar**

**SR4-4-401 Concurrence calendar.**

- (1) After the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee reads the transmittal letter from the House informing the Senate that the House has amended or substituted a piece of Senate legislation, the presiding officer shall place the legislation on the concurrence calendar.
- (2)
  - (a) During the first 43 days of the annual general session, the legislation shall remain on the concurrence calendar over at least one night before the Senate may consider the question of concurrence.
  - (b) During the last two days of the annual general session and during any special session, the Senate may consider legislation for concurrence after the Senate has been given a reasonable time to review the House changes.
- (3)

- (a) When presenting legislation to the Senate for concurrence, the presiding officer shall ask the sponsor of the legislation for a motion.
- (b) The sponsor of the legislation may move to either:
  - (i) concur with the House amendments; or
  - (ii) refuse to concur with the House amendments and ask the House to recede from their amendments.
- (c) If a motion to concur with the House amendments passes by majority vote, the presiding officer shall:
  - (i) pose the question: "This bill (resolution) has been read three times. The question is: Shall this bill (resolution) pass?"; and
  - (ii) take the final roll call vote on the legislation.
- (d) If a motion to refuse to concur with the House amendments and ask the House to recede from their amendments passes by a majority vote, the secretary of the Senate shall return the legislation to the House for its further action.
- (e) If the House refuses to recede, the Senate and House shall follow the procedures and requirements of JR3-2-601 relating to the appointment of a conference committee.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**SR4-4-401 Consent calendar.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "legislative day" means the same as that term is defined in SR4-9-101.
- (2) Subject to Subsection (3)(b), legislation shall remain on the consent calendar for two legislative days after the day on which the legislation is placed on the consent calendar under SR4-4-201.
- (3)
  - (a) Whenever the consent calendar contains legislation, the presiding officer shall inform the Senate each day that:
    - (i) there are items on the consent calendar; and
    - (ii) if any senator objects to any legislation on the consent calendar, three or more senators may move the legislation to the second reading calendar by notifying the presiding officer verbally or in writing.
  - (b) If the presiding officer receives requests to move legislation from the consent calendar to the second reading calendar from three or more senators, the secretary shall:
    - (i) remove the legislation from the consent calendar; and
    - (ii) place the legislation at the bottom of the second reading calendar.
- (4) If no more than two members have registered objections to the legislation during the time period described in Subsection (2), the legislation shall be:
  - (a) read the third time;
  - (b) placed before the Senate; and
  - (c) considered for final passage.
- (5)
  - (a) The presiding officer shall pose the question on each consent calendar bill in the following form:

"The presiding officer has determined that a quorum is present.  
Those who favor the question say, 'aye.'  
Does the chair hear a single dissenting nay to the question?"
  - (b) If the presiding officer hears no nays to the question a roll call vote shall be taken immediately.

(6) Notwithstanding the requirements of Subsection (5), any senator may, before the roll call vote is taken, make a motion to remove the bill from the consent calendar and place it on the bottom of the third reading calendar.

(7) Nothing in this rule prevents a senator from challenging the ruling of the chair or asking for a vote on any question.

Renumbered and Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

## **Part 5 Time Certain Calendar**

## **Part 5 Concurrence Calendar**

### **SR4-4-501 Time certain calendar.**

The secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee shall place on the time certain calendar legislation or other matters approved by the Senate for a time certain under:

- (1) SR1-5-201; or
- (2) other rules allowing matters to be set for a time certain.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

### **SR4-4-501 Concurrence calendar.**

(1) After the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee reads the transmittal letter from the House informing the Senate that the House has amended or substituted Senate legislation, the presiding officer shall place the legislation on the concurrence calendar.

(2) (a) During the first 42 days of the annual general session, the legislation shall remain on the concurrence calendar over at least one night before the Senate may consider the question of concurrence.

(b) During the last three days of the annual general session and during any special session, the Senate may consider legislation for concurrence after the Senate has been given a reasonable time to review the House changes.

(3) (a) When presenting legislation to the Senate for concurrence, the presiding officer shall ask the sponsor of the legislation for a motion.

(b) The sponsor of the legislation may move to either:

(i) concur with the House amendments; or

(ii) refuse to concur with the House amendments and ask the House to recede from their amendments.

(c) If a motion to concur with the House amendments passes by majority vote, the presiding officer shall:

(i) pose the question: "This bill (resolution) has been read three times. The question is: Shall this bill (resolution) pass?"; and

(ii) take the final roll call vote on the legislation.

- (d) If a motion to refuse to concur with the House amendments and ask the House to recede from their amendments passes by a majority vote, the secretary of the Senate shall return the legislation to the House for its further action.
- (e) If the House refuses to recede, the Senate and House shall follow the procedures and requirements of JR3-2-901 relating to the appointment of a conference committee.

Renumbered and Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

## **Part 6 Time Certain Calendar**

### **SR4-4-601 Time certain calendar.**

The secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee shall place on the time certain calendar legislation or other matters approved by the Senate for a time certain under:

- (1) SR1-5-201; or
- (2) other rules allowing matters to be set for a time certain.

Renumbered and Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

## **Chapter 5 Committee of the Whole**

### **SR4-5-101 Committee of the whole -- Purpose -- Process.**

- (1) Because only members of the Senate may speak to the Senate while the Senate is conducting business on the floor, the Senate must resolve itself into a committee of the whole in order to allow nonmembers to address the Senate.
- (2) The Senate may resolve itself into a committee of the whole if:
  - (a) a senator makes a motion for the Senate to resolve itself into a committee of the whole; and
  - (b) the motion is approved by a majority vote of those present.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

### **SR4-5-102 Procedure in committee of the whole.**

- (1) The presiding officer shall chair and preside over the committee of the whole.
- (2) Senate Rules apply in the committee of the whole, except that:
  - (a) a senator may not speak more than twice on the same subject;
  - (b) roll call votes are out of order during a committee of the whole; and
  - (c) a senator may not appeal the decision of the chair.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

### **SR4-5-103 Motion to dissolve committee of the whole.**

A motion to dissolve a committee of the whole is always in order and is nondebateable.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

## **Chapter 6 Senate Floor Parliamentary Procedures**

### **Part 1 General Requirements**

#### **SR4-6-101 Obtaining the floor in the Senate -- Remarks to be germane.**

- (1) A senator may speak to the subject under consideration if the senator is recognized by the presiding officer.
- (2) Upon recognition by the presiding officer, the senator shall ensure that the senator's remarks are germane to the subject under consideration.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

#### **SR4-6-102 Motions on the floor -- General requirements and procedures.**

- (1)
  - (a) A senator who is recognized by the presiding officer may make a motion.
  - (b) A second to the motion is not required.
- (2) The presiding officer shall restate each oral motion made by a senator.
- (3)
  - (a) After a motion is stated by the presiding officer, it is in the possession of the Senate.
  - (b) The motion may be withdrawn by the senator who made it or by a majority vote of the Senate.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

#### **SR4-6-103 Sponsor may open and close debate.**

After coming to a piece of legislation on a calendar or after accepting a motion, the presiding officer shall recognize the chief sponsor of the piece of legislation or of the motion and allow the chief sponsor to open and close debate on the legislation or motion.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

#### **SR4-6-104 Interruptions and questions.**

- (1) A senator may not interrupt or question another senator in debate without that senator's consent.
- (2)
  - (a) To obtain consent, the querying senator shall address the presiding officer and ask if the senator speaking will yield the floor to a question or series of questions.
  - (b) If the senator speaking consents to yield the floor to a question or series of questions, the presiding officer shall allow the querying senator to ask the question or questions.
  - (c) If the senator speaking declines to yield the floor to a question or series of questions, the presiding officer:
    - (i) shall inform the querying senator that the senator speaking has declined; and
    - (ii) may not allow the querying senator to ask a question or series of questions.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-6-105 Senators not to speak more than twice -- Maximum speaking time.**

- (1) Without permission from the Senate, a senator may not speak more than twice on the same piece of legislation, substitute legislation, or amendment in any one debate on the same day and on the same reading of the legislation.
- (2)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), the presiding officer may not grant a senator who has spoken once permission to speak again on the same piece of legislation if any senator who has not spoken wishes to speak.
  - (b) The presiding officer may grant a senator who has spoken once permission to respond to a question if the senator consents to a request that the senator yield to a question under SR4-6-104.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-6-105 Senators not to speak more than twice.**

- (1) Without permission from the Senate, a senator may not speak more than twice, including the senator explaining the senator's vote, on the same legislation, substitute legislation, or amendment in any one debate on the same day and on the same reading of the legislation.
- (2)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), the presiding officer may not grant a senator who has spoken once permission to speak again on the same legislation if any senator who has not spoken wishes to speak.
  - (b) The presiding officer may grant a senator who has spoken once permission to respond to a question if the senator consents to a request that the senator yield to a question under SR4-6-104.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR4-6-106 Order of action.**

If a senator makes a motion to amend or substitute legislation during debate on second or third reading, the presiding officer shall ensure that the Senate debates and passes or defeats the motion to amend or substitute before allowing debate and action on the legislation itself.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-6-107 Substitute motions.**

- (1) A senator may, upon recognition by the presiding officer, make a substitute motion, which, if adopted by vote of a majority of the Senate, disposes of the original motion.
- (2) If the substitute motion is not adopted, the original motion is revived.
- (3) A senator may not make a substitute motion if another substitute motion has been made and is pending.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-6-108 Dividing a motion or question.**

- (1)
  - (a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b)(i), if a motion or a question in debate contains several points, a senator may ask to have the question divided for purposes of the vote.
  - (b)
    - (i) A motion to strike out and insert is not subject to division.
    - (ii) Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(b)(i), the rejection of a motion to strike out and insert one proposition does not preclude a motion to strike out and insert a different proposition.
- (2) The request to divide shall clearly state how the motion or question is to be divided.
- (3)
  - (a) The presiding officer shall determine how many divisions may be made to any motion or question.
  - (b) The Senate may seek to overrule the chair's decision only once.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-6-109 Motions in order during debate.**

- (1)
  - (a) When a motion or question is being debated, the presiding officer may not accept any other motion except a motion:
    - (i) to adjourn, which is nondebatable;
    - (ii) to determine the time to adjourn, which is debatable;
    - (iii) to recess, with the senator having the floor retaining the floor when the Senate reassembles, which is nondebatable;
    - (iv) to call the Senate;
    - (v) to refer to a committee, which is debatable;
    - (vi) to table, which is debatable;
    - (vii) to lift from the table, which is debatable;
    - (viii) to circle, which is debatable;
    - (ix) to postpone to a time certain, which is debatable;
    - (x) to strike the enacting clause, which is debatable;
    - (xi) to adopt a substitute, which is debatable; or
    - (xii) to amend, which is debatable.
  - (b) Points of order and appeals of the decision of the presiding officer are not motions and are always in order.
  - (c) The presiding officer shall grant priority to the motions listed in Subsection (1)(a) according to the order in which they are listed in that rule.
- (2) A senator may not make, and the presiding officer may not accept, a motion for the previous question, which is a call for an end to debate and a vote on the matter under discussion.
- (3) If a motion to postpone a piece of legislation to a day certain or a motion to refer a piece of legislation to a committee is defeated, a senator may not make the same motion on the same piece of legislation during the same reading of the legislation.
- (4) When a motion to refer to committee, to postpone indefinitely, to postpone to a time certain, or to table is made, the presiding officer may not allow consideration of amendments or debate on the main question.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-6-109 Motions in order during debate.**



- (1)
  - (a) When a motion or question is being debated, the presiding officer may not accept any other motion except a motion:
    - (i) to adjourn, which is nondebatable;
    - (ii) to determine the time to adjourn, which is debatable;
    - (iii) to recess, with the senator having the floor retaining the floor when the Senate reassembles, which is nondebatable;
    - (iv) to call the Senate;
    - (v) to refer to a committee, which is debatable;
    - (vi) to table, which is debatable;
    - (vii) to lift from the table, which is debatable;
    - (viii) to circle, which is debatable;
    - (ix) to postpone to a time certain, which is debatable;
    - (x) to strike the enacting clause, which is debatable;
    - (xi) to adopt a substitute, which is debatable; or
    - (xii) to amend, which is debatable.
  - (b) Points of order and appeals of the decision of the presiding officer are not motions and are always in order.
  - (c) The presiding officer shall grant priority to the motions listed in Subsection (1)(a) according to the order in which they are listed in that rule.
- (2) A senator may not make, and the presiding officer may not accept, a motion for the previous question, which is a call for an end to debate and a vote on the matter under discussion.
- (3) If a motion to postpone legislation to a time certain or a motion to refer legislation to a committee is defeated, a senator may not make the same motion on the same legislation during the same reading of the legislation.
- (4) When a motion to refer to committee, to postpone indefinitely, to postpone to a time certain, or to table is made, the presiding officer may not allow consideration of amendments or debate on the main question.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR4-6-110 Nondebatable motions.**

- (1) The presiding officer may not allow debate on a motion:
  - (a) to adjourn; or
  - (b) to recess.
- (2) The presiding officer shall decide all points of order arising from one of the above motions without debate.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**Part 2**  
**Specific Motions**

**SR4-6-201 Motion to adjourn.**

A motion to adjourn is always in order except:

- (1) when a vote is being taken;

- (2) when a previous motion to adjourn has been defeated and no intervening business has been transacted; or
- (3) when another senator has the floor.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-6-202 Motion to circle.**

- (1) A motion to circle a piece of legislation holds the legislation in place on the calendar.
- (2)
  - (a) A motion to circle preserves all amendments or substitutes to the legislation already adopted by the Senate.
  - (b) A motion to circle extinguishes all amendments or substitutes pending at the time that the motion is made.
- (3) When a motion to uncircle is made:
  - (a) amendments, substitutes, or both that were already adopted by the Senate are part of the legislation; and
  - (b) any amendments or substitutes that were being discussed at the time the legislation was circled are extinguished and a new motion to amend or substitute must be made in order to revive them.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-6-203 Motion to strike the enacting clause.**

- (1) When a motion to strike the enacting clause passes by a constitutional majority, the bill from which the enacting clause was stricken is dead and may not be revived.
- (2) Nothing in this rule precludes a senator from introducing a new bill identical to the bill whose enacting clause was struck.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**Chapter 7  
Voting**

**Part 1  
General Requirements**

**SR4-7-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Roll call vote" means a verbal voting process where:
  - (a) the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee verbally calls the name of each senator alphabetically, except the president, who is called last;
  - (b) each senator present votes "aye" or "nay" when the senator's name is called;
  - (c) the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee:
    - (i) tallies the vote;
    - (ii) records those senators who are absent or not voting; and

- (iii) gives a copy of the tally to the presiding officer; and
  - (d) the presiding officer announces the result of the vote.
- (2) "Voice vote" means a verbal voting process where the presiding officer:
- (a) poses the question to be voted upon in this form: "Those in favor (of the question) say 'aye'." and "Those opposed say 'nay'."; and
  - (b) based upon the senator's responses, announces that the question either passed or failed.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2021 General Session

**SR4-7-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Roll call vote" means a verbal voting process where:
- (a) the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee verbally calls the name of each senator alphabetically, except the president, who is called last;
  - (b) each senator present votes "aye" or "nay" when the senator's name is called;
  - (c) the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee:
    - (i) tallies the vote;
    - (ii) records those senators who are absent; and
    - (iii) gives a copy of the tally to the presiding officer; and
  - (d) the presiding officer announces the result of the vote.
- (2) "Voice vote" means a verbal voting process where the presiding officer:
- (a) poses the question to be voted upon in this form: "Those in favor (of the question) say 'aye'." and "Those opposed say 'nay'."; and
  - (b) based upon the senator's responses, announces that the question either passed or failed.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR4-7-102 Number of votes required for passage.**

- (1) Unless otherwise specified in these rules:
- (a) each piece of legislation requires a constitutional majority vote -- 15 votes -- to pass;
  - (b) amendments to the Utah Constitution, amendments to court rules, and certain motions specified in these rules require a constitutional two-thirds vote -- 20 votes -- to pass;
  - (c) legislation described in Utah Constitution, Article VI, Section 25 that is intended to take effect earlier than 60 days after adjournment of the session in which it passes requires a constitutional two-thirds vote -- 20 votes -- to pass with that immediate effective date;
  - (d) certain motions require a two-thirds vote -- two-thirds of those present -- to pass; and
  - (e) other motions require a majority vote -- a majority of those present -- to pass.
- (2) The Senate may only suspend a rule requiring that a motion must receive a two-thirds vote or a constitutional two-thirds vote to pass by a two-thirds vote.

**SR4-7-103 Senators present required to vote.**

- (1)
- (a) A senator present within the Senate chamber when a vote is being taken shall vote.
  - (b) A senator shall vote within the time limit fixed by the presiding officer.
  - (c) Immediately before a roll call vote or when casting a roll call vote, a senator may, upon recognition by the presiding officer, make a brief statement explaining any conflict of interest.
  - (d) With the permission of the presiding officer, a senator may briefly explain a vote.

- (2)
- (a) A senator may not vote on a piece of legislation or motion unless the senator is present in the Senate chamber.
  - (b) If the vote is a roll call vote or division, a senator entering the chamber after the question is posed and before the presiding officer announces the result, may have the question stated and vote.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-7-103 Senators present required to vote.**

- (1)
- (a) A senator present within the Senate chamber when a vote is being taken shall vote.
  - (b) A senator shall vote within the time limit fixed by the presiding officer.
  - (c) Immediately before a roll call vote or when casting a roll call vote, a senator may, upon recognition by the presiding officer, make a brief statement explaining any conflict of interest.
  - (d) With the permission of the presiding officer, a senator may briefly explain the senator's vote.
- (2)
- (a) Except as provided Joint Rules, Title 1, Chapter 4, Part 4, Electronic Meetings, a senator may not vote on legislation or a motion unless the senator is present in the Senate chamber.
  - (b) If the vote is a roll call vote or division, a senator entering the chamber after the question is posed and before the presiding officer announces the result, may have the question stated and vote.

Amended by 2nd Sub. S.R. 2, 2025 General Session

**SR4-7-104 Disturbing Senate staff during voting prohibited.**

While a roll call vote is being taken, a person may not disturb or remain by the desks of Senate staff conducting or helping to conduct the roll call vote.

**SR4-7-105 Changing vote before vote is closed.**

A senator may change the senator's vote before the presiding officer announces the result.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-7-106 Voting or changing vote after the vote is announced.**

After the vote is announced, a senator may not vote or change the senator's vote unless:

- (1) the Senate has possession of the legislation;
- (2) there is unanimous consent of the senators present; and
- (3) the result of the vote is not changed.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2015 General Session

**Part 2  
Voting Process**

**SR4-7-201 Means of voting -- Requirements.**

- (1) The presiding officer shall ensure that the vote on final passage of a piece of legislation is taken by roll call vote.
- (2) The presiding officer shall conduct a roll call vote on other questions if requested by a senator.
- (3) During a roll call vote, the presiding officer may not accept a motion or other business, except for a request from a senator to disclose a conflict of interest or to explain the senator's vote, until after the presiding officer announces the result of the vote.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-7-202 Placing the question -- Voice vote -- Division.**

- (1) The presiding officer shall place all questions other than those identified in SR4-7-201 by voice vote.
- (2) After taking a voice vote, if the presiding officer is in doubt about which side prevailed, the presiding officer may require the Senate to vote by roll call vote.
- (3) If the presiding officer questions the result of the count, or if a senator calls for division, the presiding officer shall require that those voting aye stand and be counted first, followed by those voting nay standing and being counted.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**Chapter 8  
Call of the Senate**

**SR4-8-101 Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, "call of the Senate" means the process by which the Senate may compel absent senators to be present in the Senate chamber.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2021 General Session

**SR4-8-102 Initiating a call of the Senate.**

- (1) Subject to the requirements of this rule, a senator may demand a call of the Senate by standing and verbally stating "call of the Senate."
- (2) After a senator demands a call of the Senate, the presiding officer shall say: "It requires at least five senators to require a call of the Senate. Will those in favor of the call please stand?"
- (3) If the presiding officer determines that five or more senators demand a call of the Senate, the presiding officer shall order the call.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-8-103 Effect of call of the Senate.**

- (1) Except for receiving and acting on the report of the sergeant-at-arms under SR4-8-105, the Senate may not transact any business during a call of the Senate.
- (2)

- (a) During a call of the Senate, the presiding officer shall declare out of order each motion except:
  - (i) a motion to adjourn; or
  - (ii) a motion to lift the call of the Senate.
- (b) The motions identified in Subsection (2)(a) must receive a majority vote from the senators present to pass.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-8-104 Process for conducting a call of the Senate.**

- (1) During a call of the Senate:
  - (a) a senator present in the chamber may not leave the chamber; and
  - (b) the sergeant-at-arms or the sergeant's designees shall close the doors to the Senate chamber.
- (2) After ordering the call of the Senate, the presiding officer may:
  - (a) in consultation with the secretary of the Senate, identify any absent senators; and
  - (b) provide the sergeant-at-arms with the names of those senators who are absent but who have not asked to be excused.
- (3) The sergeant-at-arms or the sergeant's designees shall:
  - (a) search for the absent senators;
  - (b) if they are found, escort them to the Senate chamber; and
  - (c) make a report to the Senate about the sergeant's efforts.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-8-105 Lifting the call of the Senate.**

- (1) The sergeant-at-arms may make a report on the call at any time.
- (2)
  - (a) If, based upon the sergeant-at-arms' report, the presiding officer determines that all senators are present or accounted for, the presiding officer may:
    - (i) order the call to be lifted without motion; or
    - (ii) recognize a senator for a motion to lift the call of the Senate.
  - (b) If the motion is approved by a majority of those present, the call of the Senate is lifted.
  - (c) If the motion is not approved, the sergeant-at-arms and the sergeant's designees shall continue searching for the absent senators.
- (3) After the call is lifted:
  - (a) the sergeant-at-arms and the sergeant's designees shall open the doors of the Senate chamber; and
  - (b) the Senate shall proceed with the order of business that was pending when the call was ordered.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**Chapter 9**  
**Reconsideration of Senate Action**

**SR4-9-101 Motion to reconsider.**

- (1) As used in this rule, "legislative day" means a day when the Senate convenes in the Senate chamber and conducts Senate business.
- (2)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (3), when a question has been decided on the floor of the Senate, a senator voting with the prevailing side may:
    - (i) move for reconsideration after intervening business; or
    - (ii) give notice that a motion for reconsideration will be made.
  - (b) If a motion for reconsideration is made on the floor of the Senate after a piece of legislation has left the possession of the Senate, the secretary of the Senate shall request that the legislation be returned to the Senate.
  - (c) The presiding officer shall rule a motion for reconsideration out of order unless the motion is made:
    - (i) before the 43rd legislative day;
    - (ii) before the Senate adjourns on the legislative day after the legislative day on which the action sought to be reconsidered occurred; and
    - (iii) by a senator who previously served notice.
- (3) A senator may not make a motion to reconsider after the 42nd day of the annual general session of the Legislature.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2021 General Session

**SR4-9-102 Notice of motion to reconsider.**

When a senator gives notice that the senator intends to make a motion to reconsider, the secretary of the Senate or the secretary's designee shall:

- (1) ensure that the notice is recorded in the journal; and
- (2) retain the legislation in the possession of the Senate until the time for reconsideration has expired or until the legislation has been reconsidered.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR4-9-103 Rules governing motions to reconsider.**

- (1) A motion to reconsider a vote on the final passage of a piece of legislation requires approval by a constitutional majority of senators.
- (2) Upon adoption of a motion to reconsider, the secretary of the Senate shall ensure that the legislation is placed at the top of the calendar on which it last appeared.
- (3) The Senate may not reconsider a piece of legislation more than once.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**Title SR5. Lobbyist Ethics and Enforcement**

**Chapter 1  
General Provisions**

**SR5-1-101 Definitions.**

As used in this Senate Rule:

- (1)
  - (a) "Government official" means:
    - (i) an individual elected to a position in state or local government when acting within the individual's official capacity; or
    - (ii) an individual appointed to or employed in a full-time or part-time position by state or local government when acting within the scope of employment or within the individual's official capacity.
  - (b) "Government official" does not mean a member of the legislative branch of state government.
- (2) "Lobbyist" has the meaning identified in Utah Code Section 36-11-102.
- (3)
  - (a) "Volunteer lobbyist" means a person not registered as a lobbyist who engages in lobbying within the meaning of Utah Code Section 36-11-102.
  - (b) "Volunteer lobbyist" does not mean an individual who appears on the individual's own behalf to engage in lobbying within the meaning of Utah Code Section 36-11-102.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**Chapter 2  
Lobbyist Ethics**

**SR5-2-101 Lobbyist code of ethics.**

A lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official may not:

- (1) attempt to influence any legislator or legislative employee by means of deceit or by threat of violence or economic or political reprisal against any person or property, with intent by doing so to alter or affect the legislator's or legislative employee's decision, vote, opinion, or action concerning any matter that is to be considered or performed by the legislator, the legislative employee, or the agency or body of which the legislator or employee is a member;
- (2) knowingly provide false information to any legislator or legislative employee as to any material fact pertaining to any legislation;
- (3) knowingly omit, conceal, or falsify in any manner information required by the lobbyist registration and lobbyist disclosure reports;
- (4) participate in leadership races of the Senate;
- (5) cause or influence the introduction of any bill or amendment for the purpose of afterwards becoming employed to secure its passage or defeat;
- (6) engage in workplace discrimination or harassment, or in behavior that violates the Legislature's workplace harassment policy;
- (7) offer employment that would require or induce a legislator or legislative employee to disclose records classified as private, protected, or controlled;
- (8) use or disclose for any purpose any records classified as private, protected, or controlled that were obtained from a legislator or legislative employee or conspire with any person for that purpose; or
- (9) induce or seek to induce any legislator or legislative employee into committing a violation of any provision of this Senate Rule.



Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR5-2-101 Lobbyist code of ethics.**

A lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official may not:

- (1) attempt to influence any legislator or legislative employee by means of deceit or by threat of violence or economic or political reprisal against any person or property, with intent by doing so to alter or affect the legislator's or legislative employee's decision, vote, opinion, or action concerning any matter that is to be considered or performed by the legislator, the legislative employee, or the agency or body of which the legislator or employee is a member;
- (2) knowingly provide false information to any legislator or legislative employee as to any material fact pertaining to any legislation;
- (3) knowingly omit, conceal, or falsify in any manner information required by the lobbyist registration and lobbyist disclosure reports;
- (4) participate in leadership races of the Senate;
- (5) cause or influence the introduction of any bill or amendment for the purpose of afterwards becoming employed to secure its passage or defeat;
- (6) engage in discriminatory conduct, as defined in Legislative Management Committee Policy E -- Legislative Workplace Discrimination Prevention, toward a senator or legislative employee;
- (7) offer employment that would require or induce a legislator or legislative employee to disclose records classified as private, protected, or controlled;
- (8) use or disclose for any purpose any records classified as private, protected, or controlled that were obtained from a legislator or legislative employee or conspire with any person for that purpose; or
- (9) induce or seek to induce any legislator or legislative employee into committing a violation of any provision of this Senate Rule.

Amended by S.R. 1, 2025 General Session

**Chapter 3**  
**Enforcement of Lobbyist Code of Ethics**

**SR5-3-101 Enforcement -- Written complaint.**

- (1) To initiate an ethics complaint against a lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official who has violated the lobbyist code of ethics established in SR5-2-101, either two senators from one party and one senator from another party, or five senators, shall sign and file a written complaint with the president of the Senate.
- (2) The written complaint shall contain:
  - (a) the name of each of the senators who is filing the complaint;
  - (b) the name of the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official who is the subject of the complaint;
  - (c) the nature of the alleged violation, citing specifically to the provisions of SR5-2-101 that the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official is alleged to have violated;
  - (d) all documents that support the complaint as an attachment to it; and
  - (e) any facts alleged to support the complaint.
- (3)

- (a) Any complaint filed under this rule is a protected record under Utah Code Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act, until referred to the investigating committee for action, because disclosure of the information in the complaint would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy and that disclosure is not in the public interest.
- (b) Any complaint filed under this rule that is withdrawn by the complainants is a protected record under Utah Code Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act, because disclosure of the information in the complaint would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy and that disclosure is not in the public interest.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR5-3-102 Enforcement -- Meeting of the parties and witnesses.**

- (1) After receiving the complaint, the president shall meet with the legislators who filed the complaint, the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official who is the subject of the complaint, and any other persons who have relevant information about the complaint.
- (2) If, after that meeting, all of the senators who signed the complaint wish to proceed with the complaint, they shall, within 14 calendar days from the date of the meeting, send a letter to the president requesting that the president appoint a committee to investigate the complaint.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session

**SR5-3-103 Enforcement -- Investigating committee.**

- (1)
  - (a) Within 14 calendar days after receipt of a letter requesting the appointment of a committee to investigate the complaint, the president shall:
    - (i) appoint a committee composed of five members, three from the majority party and two from the minority party, to investigate the complaint; and
    - (ii) designate one senator as the committee chair.
  - (b) The president may not appoint a senator who signed the complaint to the investigating committee.
- (2)
  - (a) The chair of the committee shall schedule a committee meeting to investigate the complaint.
  - (b)
    - (i) The committee shall comply with the procedures and requirements of Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings Act, including the procedures and requirements for closing a meeting.
    - (ii) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall staff the committee.
  - (c)
    - (i) At the hearing, the committee shall review the complaint.
    - (ii) The committee may allow the legislators who filed the complaint to address and be questioned by the committee.
    - (iii) The committee shall provide the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official who is the subject of the complaint with the opportunity to address and be questioned by the committee.
    - (iv) The committee may allow other persons with information relevant to the complaint to address and be questioned by the committee.
  - (v)

- (A) The complainants, the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official, and any witness appearing before the committee, may have legal counsel present.
  - (B) That counsel may privately advise their client about the client's legal rights when specifically requested to do so by their client, but may not address the committee, ask questions of any party or witness, or engage in oral arguments with the committee.
  - (C) If counsel fails to abide by any of these rules, the committee may exclude the counsel from the meeting.
  - (D) Upon completion of the investigation, the committee shall report to the president, recommending what action, if any, should be taken against the lobbyist, volunteer lobbyist, or government official.
- (3) The president, after reviewing the committee's recommendation, may take appropriate action.

Enacted by S.R. 1, 2011 General Session