

House Rules Resolution - Legislative Process Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: James A. Dunnigan

LONG TITLE**General Description:**

This rules resolution modifies House processes and procedures.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- clarifies the duties of the chief clerk related to technical corrections to legislation;
- modifies requirements related to sharing requests for legislation with caucus staff;
- clarifies which legislation the House may pass without receiving a favorable recommendation from a House standing committee;
- modifies the circumstances under which a standing committee may recommend legislation for the consent calendar;
- provides legislators the right to attend House committee meetings, subject to certain restrictions;
- defines "censure"; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Legislative Rules Affected:

AMENDS:

HR1-4-302 (Effective upon final passage)

HR1-10-101 (Effective 05/07/25)

HR3-2-401 (Effective upon final passage)

HR3-2-405 (Effective upon final passage)

HR4-2-103 (Effective upon final passage)

ENACTS:

HR3-3-103 (Effective upon final passage)

32 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the state of Utah:*

33 Section 1. **HR1-4-302** is amended to read:

34 **HR1-4-302 (Effective upon final passage). Duties of the chief clerk.**

35 The chief clerk shall perform the following duties:

36 (1) certify and transmit legislation to the Senate and inform the Senate of all House action;

37 (2) assist in the preparation of the House Journal and certify it as an accurate reflection of
38 House action;

39 (3) ~~[make the following]~~ notify the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel of
40 any necessary technical corrections to legislation either before or following final passage,
41 including:

42 (a) ~~[correct]~~ correcting the spelling of words;

43 (b) ~~[correct]~~ correcting the erroneous division and hyphenation of words;

44 (c) ~~[correct]~~ correcting mistakes in numbering sections and their references;

45 (d) ~~[capitalize]~~ capitalizing words or ~~[change]~~ changing capitalized words to lower case;

46 (e) ~~[change]~~ changing numbers from words to figures or from figures to words;~~[-or]~~

47 (f) ~~[underscore]~~ underscoring or ~~[remove]~~ removing underscoring in legislation~~[-without~~
48 ~~a motion to amend]~~; or

49 ~~[(4)]~~ (g) ~~[modify]~~ modifying the long title of ~~[a piece of]~~ legislation to ensure that the
50 long title accurately reflects any changes to the legislation made by amendment or
51 substitute;

52 ~~[(5)]~~ (4) act as custodian of all official documents related to legislation;

53 ~~[(6)]~~ (5) receive all numbered legislation from the Office of Legislative Research and
54 General Counsel;

55 ~~[(7)]~~ (6) record the number, title, sponsor, each action, and final disposition of each piece of
56 legislation on the back of the legislation;

57 ~~[(8)]~~ (7) prepare and distribute the daily order of business each day;

58 ~~[(9)]~~ (8) advise the speaker on parliamentary procedure, Joint Rules, and House Rules;

59 ~~[(10)]~~ (9) assist with verbal amendments to legislation;

60 ~~[(11)]~~ (10) record votes and, if requested, present the results to the speaker;

61 ~~[(12)]~~ (11) record the votes of any member who is present in the House chamber who
62 requests assistance of the chief clerk;

63 ~~[(13)]~~ (12) transmit all enrolled House bills and House concurrent resolutions to the
64 governor;

65 ~~[(14)]~~ (13) approve material for placement on the representatives' desks if a representative

66 has authorized that distribution;
 67 ~~[(15)]~~ (14) maintain all calendars for the House floor; and
 68 ~~[(16)]~~ (15) other duties as assigned by the chief of staff.

69 Section 2. **HR1-10-101** is amended to read:

70 **HR1-10-101 (Effective 05/07/25). Requests for legislation -- Sharing with caucus**
 71 **staff.**

72 (1) As used in this rule, "caucus staff" means House staff assigned to the chief sponsor's
 73 caucus.

74 (2) After a representative files a request for legislation in accordance with JR4-2-101, the
 75 Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide caucus staff the
 76 drafting instructions, as defined in JR4-1-101, provided in the request for legislation and
 77 the request's assigned short title, unless the representative[;]

78 ~~[(a)]~~ elects not to share the drafting instructions and short title with caucus staff[; or]

79 ~~[(b) fails to sign an acknowledgment, for purposes of Rule 1.6 of the Rules of~~
 80 ~~Professional Conduct, that the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel~~
 81 ~~will share the representative's information in accordance with this rule].~~

82 (3) Caucus staff or staff from the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel may
 83 share information provided under Subsection (2) with other representatives who are
 84 members of the chief sponsor's caucus.

85 Section 3. **HR3-2-401** is amended to read:

86 **HR3-2-401 (Effective upon final passage). Standing committee review required**
 87 **-- Exceptions.**

88 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), the House of Representatives may not pass a bill,
 89 joint resolution, or concurrent resolution during the annual general session unless a
 90 House standing committee has given a favorable recommendation to the legislation.

91 (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to:

92 (a) a resolution regarding legislative rules or legislative personnel;

93 (b) House legislation that is a committee bill as defined in JR7-1-101 that:

94 (i) received its favorable recommendation by a unanimous vote of the members
 95 present at the authorized legislative committee; and

96 (ii) satisfied the posting requirements described in JR7-1-602.5;

97 (c) the revisor's statute; or

98 (d) if the legislation was reviewed and approved by the Executive Appropriations
 99 Committee, legislation that:

- 100 (i) exclusively appropriates money;
- 101 (ii) amends Utah Code Title 53F, Chapter 2, State Funding -- Minimum School
- 102 Program;
- 103 (iii) amends Utah Code Title 67, Chapter 22, State Officer Compensation; or
- 104 (iv) authorizes the issuance of general obligation or revenue bonds.

105 Section 4. **HR3-2-405** is amended to read:

106 **HR3-2-405 (Effective upon final passage). Consent calendar -- Nonbinding**

107 **resolutions -- Committee recommendations.**

108 (1) As used in this rule, "nonbinding resolution":

109 (a) means a resolution that:

- 110 (i) is primarily for the purpose of recognizing, honoring, or memorializing an
- 111 individual, group, or event;
- 112 (ii) requests, rather than compels, action or awareness by an individual or group; or
- 113 (iii) is informational or promotional in nature; and

114 (b) does not mean:

- 115 (i) a rules resolution;
- 116 (ii) a resolution for a constitutional amendment; or
- 117 (iii) any resolution that approves or authorizes any action, requires any substantive
- 118 action to be taken, or results in a change in law, policy, or funding.

119 (2)(a) A nonbinding resolution shall be placed on the consent calendar.

120 (b) A nonbinding resolution may be moved to the time certain calendar or other calendar

121 by a majority vote of those present.

122 (3) [A] On or before the 41st day of an annual general session, a standing committee may

123 recommend that legislation in the standing committee's possession be placed on the

124 consent calendar if:

- 125 (a) the committee approves a motion, by a unanimous vote of those present, to give the
- 126 legislation a favorable recommendation;[-and]
- 127 (b) immediately subsequent to that action, the committee approves a separate motion, by
- 128 a unanimous vote of those present, to recommend that the legislation be placed on the
- 129 consent calendar; and
- 130 (c) for Senate legislation, the Senate legislation is not a fiscal note bill, as that term is
- 131 defined in JR4-4-101.

132 Section 5. **HR3-3-103** is enacted to read:

133 **HR3-3-103 (Effective upon final passage). Right of legislators to attend House**

134 **committee meetings.**135 (1) Any member of the Legislature may:136 (a) attend any meeting of a House committee or subcommittee, unless the meeting is
137 closed in accordance with Utah Code Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public Meetings
138 Act; and139 (b) if recognized by the chair, present the legislator's views on the subject under
140 consideration.141 (2) A legislator who attends a meeting of a House committee or subcommittee of which the
142 legislator is not a member may not:143 (a) make a motion; or144 (b) vote.145 Section 6. **HR4-2-103** is amended to read:146 **HR4-2-103 (Effective upon final passage). Calling a representative to order for**
147 **violation of a rule.**148 (1)[(a)] As used in this rule, "censure" means an official reprimand or condemnation,
149 which, if approved by the majority of the House, is printed in the journal.150 (2)(a) The presiding officer may call a representative to order for violating any House or
151 Joint Rule.152 (b) Any representative may call another representative to order for violating any House
153 or Joint Rule by raising a point of order under HR4-2-201.154 [(2)] (3) If the representative called to order appeals the ruling of the presiding officer, the
155 House shall decide the issue without debate.156 [(3)] (4)(a) If the decision is favorable to the representative who has been called to order,
157 the representative may proceed.

158 (b) If the decision is unfavorable, the representative is subject to censure by the House.

159 [(4)] (5) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), a representative may not be called to order or
160 censured for words spoken in debate if there has been intervening business.161 Section 7. **Effective Date.**162 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), this resolution takes effect upon a successful vote
163 for final passage.164 (2) HR1-10-101 takes effect on May 7, 2025.