

1 **House Rules Resolution - House Procedures Amendments**

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: James A. Dunnigan

2
3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This resolution addresses House procedures.

6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This resolution:

- 8 ▶ modifies the duties and appointment of the sergeant-at-arms and the chief clerk; and
9 ▶ clarifies that a motion to saunter is in order during floor debate.

10 **Other Special Clauses:**

11 None

12 **Legislative Rules Affected:**

13 AMENDS:

14 **HR1-4-201**

15 **HR1-4-202**

16 **HR1-4-301**

17 **HR1-4-302**

18 **HR4-6-109**

19
20 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the state of Utah:*

21 Section 1. **HR1-4-201** is amended to read:

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

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

25 Section 2. **HR1-4-202** is amended to read:

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

27 Subject to the [~~chief of staff's or the chief of staff's designee's direction~~] speaker's or the
28 speaker's designee's direction, the sergeant-at-arms and the employees under the sergeant's
29 direction shall:

30 (1) maintain security in areas controlled by the House;

31 (2) enforce the House Rules;

- 32 (3) enforce the provisions of Utah Code [~~Title 26, Chapter 38, Utah Indoor Clean Air Act,~~
33 Section 26B-7-503 in areas controlled by the House;
- 34 (4) when the House is convened in annual general session or special session, receive and, in
35 coordination with House staff, transmit written messages to representatives on the House
36 floor from or on behalf of individuals who are present at the capitol; and
- 37 (5) provide other service as requested by [~~the chief of staff or~~]the speaker.

38 Section 3. **HR1-4-301** is amended to read:

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

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

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

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

46 The chief clerk shall perform the following duties:

- 47 (1) certify and transmit legislation to the Senate and inform the Senate of all House action;
- 48 (2) assist in the preparation of the House Journal and certify it as an accurate reflection of
49 House action;
- 50 (3) make the following technical corrections to legislation either before or following final
51 passage:
- 52 (a) correct the spelling of words;
- 53 (b) correct the erroneous division and hyphenation of words;
- 54 (c) correct mistakes in numbering sections and their references;
- 55 (d) capitalize words or change capitalized words to lower case;
- 56 (e) change numbers from words to figures or from figures to words; or
- 57 (f) underscore or remove underscoring in legislation without a motion to amend;
- 58 (4) modify the long title of a piece of legislation to ensure that the long title accurately
59 reflects any changes to the legislation made by amendment or substitute;
- 60 (5) act as custodian of all official documents related to legislation;
- 61 (6) receive all numbered legislation from the Office of Legislative Research and General
62 Counsel;
- 63 (7) record the number, title, sponsor, each action, and final disposition of each piece of
64 legislation on the back of the legislation;
- 65 (8) prepare and distribute the daily order of business each day;

- 66 (9) advise the speaker on parliamentary procedure, Joint Rules, and House Rules;
67 (10) assist with amendments to legislation;
68 (11) record votes and, if requested, present the results to the speaker;
69 (12) record the votes of any member who is present in the House chamber who requests
70 assistance of the chief clerk;
71 (13) transmit all enrolled House bills and House concurrent resolutions to the governor;
72 (14) approve material for placement on the representatives' desks if a representative has
73 authorized that distribution;
74 (15) maintain all calendars for the House floor;
75 (16) supervise each House in-session employee and assign the employee's duties and
76 responsibilities;
77 (17) keep a record of the attendance of each House in-session employee and ensure that
78 each House in-session employee is paid only for hours worked; and
79 ~~[(16)]~~ (18) other duties as assigned by the [chief of staff] speaker.

80 Section 5. **HR4-6-109** is amended to read:

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

- 82 (1)(a) When a motion or question is being debated, the presiding officer may not accept
83 any other motion except a motion:
84 (i) to adjourn, which is nondebatable;
85 (ii) to determine the time [tø] at which to adjourn, which is debatable;
86 (iii) to recess or saunter, which is nondebatable;
87 (iv) to end debate (call the previous question), which is nondebatable and requires a
88 two-thirds vote to pass;
89 (v) to refer to a committee, which is debatable;
90 (vi) to limit debate, which is debatable;
91 (vii) to postpone to a time certain, which is debatable;
92 (viii) to circle, which is debatable;
93 (ix) to strike the enacting clause, which is debatable;
94 (x) to substitute, which is debatable; or
95 (xi) to amend, which is debatable.
96 (b) Points of order and appeals of the decision of the presiding officer are not motions
97 and are always in order.
98 (c) The presiding officer shall grant priority to the motions listed in Subsection (1)(a)
99 according to the order in which they are listed in that rule.

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

116 Section 6. **Effective Date.**

117 This resolution takes effect upon a successful vote for final passage.