

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 leader and the minority leader, as defined in HR3-2-101, including compensation and reimbursement for expenses for in-state and out-of-state travel on legislative business.

Amended by H.R. 1, 2026 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