



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

**Senate Resolution No. 1**

LCO No. 707

Referred to Committee on No Committee

Introduced by:

SEN. JEPSEN, 27<sup>th</sup> Dist.

**RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE RULES OF THE SENATE.**

Resolved by the Senate:

1 That the following are the Senate Rules for the 2001 and 2002  
2 sessions:

3 1. The President shall take the chair on each session day, at the hour  
4 to which the Senate stands adjourned. The President shall thereupon  
5 call the Senate to order and after prayer and recitation of the pledge of  
6 allegiance, if a quorum is present, proceed to business.

7 2. In the absence of a quorum, the President may adjourn the Senate  
8 to a subsequent time on that day or to the next session day. At all other  
9 times an adjournment shall be pronounced by the President on motion.

10 3. The President shall preserve order and decorum and shall decide  
11 all questions of order, upon which no debate shall be allowed except at  
12 the request of the President; but the decision shall be subject to an  
13 appeal to the Senate which must be seconded and on which no  
14 member shall speak more than once. No other business shall be in  
15 order until such appeal is disposed of.

16       4. The President shall rise to put a question or to address the Senate,  
17 but may read sitting.

18       5. If there is any disturbance, disorderly conduct or other activity in  
19 or about the Senate Chamber which, in the opinion of the presiding  
20 officer, may impede the orderly transaction of the business of the  
21 Senate, the presiding officer may take such action as is deemed  
22 necessary to preserve and restore order.

23       6. If the President while presiding, wishes to leave the chair, the  
24 president pro tempore shall preside, or, in the absence of the president  
25 pro tempore, the president pro tempore's designee shall preside for a  
26 period not exceeding one day.

27       7. Within one week after appointment, the President Pro Tempore  
28 shall nominate a chaplain and up to three deputy chaplains, and if  
29 such nominations are confirmed by the Senate by a majority vote, the  
30 candidates so nominated and confirmed shall serve for the 2001 and  
31 2002 sessions.

32       8. The clerk shall keep a journal of the Senate, and shall enter therein  
33 a record of each day's proceedings and record any amendment that  
34 may be offered to any bill or resolution.

35       9. Upon acceptance of a Senate agenda, the clerk's office shall act  
36 upon the items listed as indicated and shall incorporate the items by  
37 reference in the Senate journal and Senate transcript. The clerk shall  
38 keep a Calendar on which he or she shall enter daily (1) all bills and  
39 joint resolutions received from the House for action except (a) bills and  
40 resolutions which do not have a favorable report of a joint committee  
41 which shall, upon being read by the clerk, be referred without further  
42 action to the appropriate committee, (b) all bills and joint resolutions  
43 received from the House for action by the Senate which have not been  
44 referred by the Senate to any committee, and (2) all bills and  
45 resolutions favorably reported to the Senate from any committee; and  
46 these shall be entered on the Calendar in the order in which they are

47 received. Each joint resolution proposing an amendment to the  
48 constitution and each bill so entered shall be printed and in the files  
49 and on the Calendar, with a file number for two session days and shall  
50 be starred for action on the session day next succeeding, except that:  
51 (A) A resolution may be acted on in accordance with joint rule 17(b),  
52 (B) a bill or resolution certified in accordance with section 2-26 of the  
53 general statutes, if filed in the House, may be transmitted to and acted  
54 upon first by the Senate with the consent of the speaker; and if filed in  
55 the Senate, may be transmitted to and acted upon first by the House  
56 with the consent of the president pro tempore, (C) any bill or  
57 resolution certified in accordance with section 2-26 of the general  
58 statutes, may be acted upon immediately in the first house, may be  
59 transmitted immediately to the second house and may be acted upon  
60 immediately when received by the second house, (D) if the Senate  
61 rejects an amendment adopted by the House, the bill or resolution  
62 after final action by the Senate may be transmitted immediately to the  
63 House, or if the House rejects an amendment adopted by the Senate,  
64 the bill or resolution when received from the House may be placed  
65 immediately on the Calendar, (E) during the last five calendar days of  
66 the session, if the Senate rejects an amendment adopted by the House,  
67 or adopts a Senate amendment to a bill or resolution received from the  
68 House, or takes any action on the bill or resolution requiring further  
69 action by the House, the bill or resolution after final action in the  
70 Senate, may be transmitted immediately to the House, or if the House  
71 rejects an amendment adopted by the Senate or adopts a House  
72 amendment to a bill or resolution received from the Senate, or takes  
73 any action on the bill or resolution requiring further action by the  
74 Senate, the bill or resolution when received from the House may be  
75 placed immediately on the calendar and may be acted upon  
76 immediately, (F) during the last five calendar days of the session, any  
77 bill or resolution after final action by the senate may be transmitted  
78 immediately to the house, or (G) during the last five calendar days of  
79 the session, any bill or resolution received by the senate after final  
80 action by the house may be placed on the calendar immediately. All

81 bills and resolutions starred for action shall be acted upon only when  
82 reached in their regular order, and any bill or resolution passed over  
83 when so reached shall retain its place on the Calendar unless it is  
84 passed temporarily, put on the foot of the Calendar or its consideration  
85 is made the order of the day for some specified time.

86 10. The clerk shall retain all bills, resolutions and other papers, in  
87 reference to which any member has a right to move a reconsideration,  
88 until the right of reconsideration has expired, and no longer.

89 11. The clerk shall also keep a record of all petitions, resolutions,  
90 and bills for all acts which are presented for the consideration of the  
91 Senate, and said record shall be so kept as to show by a single  
92 reference the action of the Senate on each of them to that date.

93 12. The assistant clerk shall have the same powers and perform the  
94 same duties as the clerk, subject to the direction of the clerk. The bill  
95 clerk and the journal clerk shall perform such duties as are assigned to  
96 them by the clerk.

97 13. The clerk shall cause the journals and calendars to be distributed  
98 on the desks of the members daily, before the opening of the session.

99 14. No member shall speak more than twice upon the same question  
100 without leave of the Senate, except to explain.

101 15. No member who is interested in the decision of any question in  
102 such manner that he or she cannot vote thereon may stay in the Senate  
103 when such question is discussed or decided.

104 16. If a member, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the rules and  
105 order of the Senate, the president shall, or any member may, call such  
106 member to order; and if speaking, such member shall sit down, unless  
107 permitted to explain; and if a member is guilty of a breach of any of the  
108 rules and orders, such member may be required by the Senate, on  
109 motion, to make satisfaction therefor, and until satisfaction has been  
110 made shall not be allowed to vote or speak except by way of excuse.

111        17. If a candidate for the Senate notifies the clerk on or before the  
112 opening day of the session that such candidate contests the results of  
113 the election for his or her district, a committee of three shall be  
114 appointed by the President Pro Tempore within the first two days of  
115 the session. If a candidate for the Senate in a special election notifies  
116 the clerk no later than fourteen days following such election that such  
117 candidate contests the results of the election for his or her district, a  
118 committee of three shall be appointed by the president pro tempore no  
119 later than sixteen days following such election. The committee shall  
120 take into consideration such contested election and report the facts  
121 with its opinion thereon.

122        18. The majority leader, other leaders of the majority party in the  
123 Senate and the chairperson and vice chairpersons of each standing and  
124 select committee shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of  
125 the Senate. Chairpersons and vice chairpersons shall serve at the  
126 pleasure of the president pro tempore and the majority leader. The  
127 clerks of the standing and select committees and the chairpersons of  
128 the subcommittees thereof shall be appointed by the chairpersons of  
129 the respective committees with the approval of the president pro  
130 tempore of the Senate. The minority leader shall be elected by the  
131 members of the minority party in the Senate and the other leaders of  
132 the minority party in the Senate shall be appointed by the minority  
133 leader. The minority leader shall appoint ranking minority members to  
134 each standing and select committee. Such ranking members shall serve  
135 at the pleasure of the minority leader. All standing and select  
136 committee members shall be appointed by the president pro tempore  
137 by the fifth regular session day of the first year of the term, except to  
138 fill a vacancy caused by death or incapacity or resignation from the  
139 Senate or from a committee; and except that the president pro tempore  
140 may appoint any member elected after the fifth regular session day of  
141 the first year of the term to any committee within five calendar days  
142 after the member takes the oath of office. Not more than nine senators  
143 shall be appointed to any standing committee, except that the joint  
144 standing committees on Appropriations and Finance, Revenue and

145 Bonding shall consist of not more than eleven senators. The member  
146 first named shall be chairperson. The chairperson of each committee  
147 may appoint one of the members of the committee as clerk thereof. All  
148 Senate leaders, standing committee assignments, chairpersons, vice  
149 chairpersons and clerks and subcommittee chairpersons shall serve for  
150 both the 2001 and the 2002 sessions.

151 19. The order of business shall be as follows:.

152 1. Reception of petitions.

153 2. Reception of communications from the governor, secretary of  
154 the state, annual and biennial reports, interim committee  
155 reports and reports

156 3. Introduction of bills and resolutions.

157 4. Reports of committees.

158 5. Reception of business from the House.

159 6. Business on the calendar.

160 7. Introduction of guests.

161 8. Miscellaneous business.

162 9. Resolutions removed from consent calendar.

163 20. Before any petition or resolution is received, a brief statement of  
164 its object shall be made by the introducer.

165 21. When a motion is made, it shall be stated to the Senate by the  
166 president before any debate is had thereon, and every motion shall be  
167 reduced to writing if the president so directs or any member desires it.

168 22. When a motion is stated by the president, or read by the clerk, it  
169 shall be deemed to be in the possession of the Senate. It may be  
170 withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment,

171 but not after amendment, unless the Senate gives leave.

172 23. If the question under debate consists of two or more  
173 independent propositions any member may move to have the question  
174 divided. The president shall rule on the order of voting on the  
175 divisions of a question.

176 24. The yeas and nays shall be taken on the roll call machine on all  
177 final action on bills on the regular calendar and on all other questions  
178 at the desire of one-fifth of the members present, expressed at any time  
179 before a declaration of the vote.

180 25. Whenever the result of a vote as stated by the presiding officer is  
181 doubted, it shall be taken again by rising.

182 26. When a vote has been taken, it shall be in order for any senator  
183 on the prevailing side to move for a reconsideration thereof on the day  
184 of the vote or on the next succeeding session day, if the bill is still in  
185 the possession of the Senate; provided also that there shall be no  
186 reconsideration of the following motions: To adjourn, for the previous  
187 question or to reconsider, and no question shall be twice reconsidered.

188 27. Pairs may be made by senators whose votes if they were present  
189 would be cast on opposite sides of any question, by filing with the  
190 clerk of the Senate a memorandum, containing the names of the  
191 senators, and their votes, who are thus paired and the subject matter or  
192 matters to which such pairs apply. Senators making any such pairs  
193 shall be excused from voting upon the merits of the matters involved  
194 while the pair continues, but no pairs shall operate while both of the  
195 senators paired are present.

196 28. Persons, other than members of the General Assembly, shall not  
197 be permitted on the floor of the Senate while it is in session. Lobbyists  
198 shall be prohibited from the floor of the Senate on any day during  
199 which the Senate is in session except during a public hearing in the  
200 Senate chamber. This rule shall not apply to the staff of the General

201 Assembly, to any state or municipal official or member of the media  
202 who has been given permission to be on the Senate floor by the  
203 president of the Senate, president pro tempore, majority leader or  
204 minority leader, or to persons invited to the Senate for purposes of  
205 recognition or ceremony. Other persons who desire to speak with a  
206 member of the Senate while it is in session shall communicate such  
207 desire through one of the messengers and shall not converse with such  
208 member in the chamber while the Senate is in session.

209 29. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received  
210 except:.

- 211 1. To adjourn.
- 212 2. To recess.
- 213 3. For the previous question.
- 214 4. To close the debate at a specified time.
- 215 5. To pass temporarily.
- 216 6. To pass retain.
- 217 7. To postpone to a certain time.
- 218 8. To commit or recommit.
- 219 9. To divide the question.
- 220 10. To amend.
- 221 11. To refer to another committee.
- 222 12. To postpone indefinitely.
- 223 13. To place at foot of calendar.

224 These several motions shall have precedence in the order listed in

225 this rule, and no motion to commit or recommit, to continue to the next  
226 General Assembly or to postpone indefinitely, having been once  
227 decided, shall be again allowed at the same session and at the same  
228 state of the bill or subject matter.

229 30. Amendments shall be filed with the clerk of the Senate before 12  
230 noon on the day the bill is acted upon. Exceptions to this rule shall be  
231 allowed (1) upon approval of any two of the following: The president  
232 pro tempore, the majority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of  
233 the Senate or (2) in the case of bills or resolutions not starred for action  
234 or bills or resolutions reported in accordance with subparagraph (a) of  
235 paragraph (d) of Rule 15 of the joint rules for the Senate and the House  
236 of Representatives.

237 Any member who offers an amendment, originating in the Senate  
238 which, if adopted, would reduce state revenues or increase state  
239 expenditures by a specified amount or which would involve a  
240 significant fiscal impact, shall make available to the president,  
241 president pro tempore, the majority leader of the Senate and the  
242 minority leader of the Senate at the time the amendment is offered, in  
243 addition to a fiscal note, a signed and typewritten explanation, of the  
244 decrease in expenditures or the source of the increased revenues  
245 required to balance the state budget.

246 Whenever a bill or resolution is substantively amended, it may be  
247 referred to the legislative commissioners to be re-examined for the  
248 purposes set forth in Rule 13 and to be reprinted as amended. The  
249 legislative commissioners' office shall complete its examination of any  
250 such bill within three calendar days of its receipt. It shall then be  
251 printed in the files with a file number and marked on the calendar  
252 starred for action on the session day on which it appears.

253 31. There shall be a consent calendar on which shall be entered such  
254 bills and resolutions as the majority and minority leaders of the  
255 respective house shall designate. All bills and resolutions starred for  
256 action on the consent calendar shall be passed on motion without

257 discussion unless, at any time before voting has commenced, a  
258 member requests removal of a bill or resolution from the consent  
259 calendar in which case such bill or resolution shall be so removed.

260 32. The rules of parliamentary practice comprised in the 1989  
261 edition of Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure shall govern the  
262 Senate whenever applicable and whenever they are not inconsistent  
263 with the standing rules and order of the Senate or the joint rules of the  
264 Senate and House of Representatives.

265 33. The rules of the Senate shall take precedence over the joint rules  
266 of the Senate and House of Representatives or Mason's Manual of  
267 Legislative Procedure in the event of conflict.

268 34. No person shall smoke in the Senate chamber or the gallery. No  
269 person shall operate a wireless telephone or similar device in the  
270 Senate chamber or gallery while the Senate is in session. The presiding  
271 officer shall enforce this rule.

272 35. These rules shall not be altered, amended or suspended except  
273 by vote of at least two-thirds of the members present.

274 Motions to suspend the rules shall be in order on any session day.  
275 Suspension of a rule shall be for a specified purpose; after the  
276 accomplishment of such purpose, the rule shall remain in force as  
277 before.

278 36. Every member present in the Senate Chamber when a question  
279 is put by the presiding officer shall vote, unless excused under Rule 15.