



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

**Senate Resolution No. 2**

LCO No. 853



Referred to Committee on NO COMMITTEE

Introduced by:

SEN. LOONEY, 11<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. FASANO, 34<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 2019 and 2020  
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 2019 and  
31 2020 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. (a) 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 or unfavorable report of a  
41 joint committee which shall, upon being read by the clerk, be referred  
42 without further action to the appropriate committee, (b) all bills and  
43 joint resolutions received from the House for action by the Senate

44 which have not been referred by the Senate to any committee, and (2)  
45 all bills and resolutions favorably reported to the Senate from any  
46 committee; and these shall be entered on the Calendar in the order in  
47 which they are received. Each joint resolution proposing an  
48 amendment to the constitution and each bill so entered shall be printed  
49 and in the files and on the Calendar, with a file number for two session  
50 days and shall be starred for action on the session day next succeeding,  
51 except that:

52 (A) A resolution may be acted on in accordance with Rule 17(b) of  
53 the joint rules of the Senate and the House of Representatives,

54 (B) A bill or resolution certified in accordance with section 2-26 of  
55 the general statutes, if filed in the House, may be transmitted to and  
56 acted upon first by the Senate with the consent of the speaker; and if  
57 filed in the Senate, may be transmitted to and acted upon first by the  
58 House with the consent of the President Pro Tempore,

59 (C) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this rule, any  
60 bill or resolution certified in accordance with section 2-26 of the  
61 general statutes, may be acted upon immediately in the first house,  
62 may be transmitted immediately to the second house and may be acted  
63 upon immediately when received by the second house,

64 (D) If the Senate rejects an amendment adopted by the House, the  
65 bill or resolution after final action by the Senate may be transmitted  
66 immediately to the House, or if the House rejects an amendment  
67 adopted by the Senate, the bill or resolution when received from the  
68 House may be placed immediately on the Calendar,

69 (E) During the last five calendar days of the session, if the Senate  
70 rejects an amendment adopted by the House, or adopts a Senate  
71 amendment to a bill or resolution received from the House, or takes  
72 any action on the bill or resolution requiring further action by the  
73 House, the bill or resolution after final action in the Senate, may be  
74 transmitted immediately to the House, or if the House rejects an

75 amendment adopted by the Senate or adopts a House amendment to a  
76 bill or resolution received from the Senate, or takes any action on the  
77 bill or resolution requiring further action by the Senate, the bill or  
78 resolution when received from the House may be placed immediately  
79 on the calendar and may be acted upon immediately,

80 (F) During the last five calendar days of the session, any bill or  
81 resolution after final action by the Senate may be transmitted  
82 immediately to the House, or

83 (G) During the last five calendar days of the session, any bill or  
84 resolution received by the Senate after final action by the House may  
85 be placed on the calendar immediately.

86 (b) All bills and resolutions starred for action shall be acted upon  
87 only when reached in their regular order, and any bill or resolution  
88 passed over when so reached shall retain its place on the Calendar  
89 unless it is passed temporarily, put on the foot of the Calendar or its  
90 consideration is made the order of the day for some specified time.

91 (c) The clerk shall immediately provide an electronic notice of the  
92 filing, in either chamber, and number of any emergency certified bill  
93 introduced by the President Pro Tempore and the speaker, certified in  
94 accordance with section 2-26 of the general statutes, that is the biennial  
95 budget bill or a bill that amends or implements the biennial budget bill  
96 to the members of the Senate. No such emergency certified bill may be  
97 marked ready for action or acted upon less than twelve hours  
98 following the provision of such electronic notice.

99 (d) On any day that is not scheduled as a session day, the President  
100 Pro Tempore and the Minority Leader, or their designees, may call the  
101 Senate into session for purposes of transacting business of a procedural  
102 nature by filing with the clerk or the clerk's designee a written  
103 instruction to conduct a pro forma Senate session with or without the  
104 presence of a senator. Said direction shall include a written motion to  
105 adopt the day's Senate agenda and act on all items as indicated and

106 incorporate the items by reference into the Senate journal and Senate  
107 transcript. Said motion shall be read into the record and shall have the  
108 same force and effect as if the Senate were convened with a presiding  
109 officer and senator.

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

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

117 12. The assistant clerk shall have the same powers and perform the  
118 same duties as the clerk, subject to the direction of the clerk. The bill  
119 clerk and the journal clerk shall perform such duties as are assigned to  
120 them by the clerk.

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

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

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

128 16. If a member, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the rules and  
129 order of the Senate, the president shall, or any member may, call such  
130 member to order; and if speaking, such member shall sit down, unless  
131 permitted to explain; and if a member is guilty of a breach of any of the  
132 rules and orders, such member may be required by the Senate, on  
133 motion, to make satisfaction therefor, and until satisfaction has been  
134 made, shall not be allowed to vote or speak except by way of excuse.

135        17. If a candidate for the Senate notifies the clerk on or before the  
136 opening day of the session that such candidate contests the results of  
137 the election for his or her district, a committee of three shall be  
138 appointed by the President Pro Tempore within the first two days of  
139 the session. If a candidate for the Senate in a special election notifies  
140 the clerk no later than fourteen days following such election that such  
141 candidate contests the results of the election for his or her district, a  
142 committee of three shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore  
143 no later than sixteen days following such election. The committee shall  
144 take into consideration such contested election and report the facts  
145 with its opinion thereon.

146        18. The majority leader shall be elected by the members of the  
147 majority party in the Senate. The other leaders of the majority party in  
148 the Senate and the chairperson and vice chairpersons of each standing  
149 committee shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the  
150 Senate. Chairpersons and vice chairpersons shall serve at the pleasure  
151 of the President Pro Tempore and the majority leader. The clerks of the  
152 standing committees and the chairpersons of the subcommittees  
153 thereof shall be appointed by the chairpersons of the respective  
154 committees with the approval of the President Pro Tempore of the  
155 Senate. The minority leader shall be elected by the members of the  
156 minority party in the Senate and the other leaders of the minority  
157 party in the Senate shall be appointed by the minority leader. The  
158 minority leader shall appoint ranking minority members to each  
159 standing committee. Such ranking members shall serve at the pleasure  
160 of the minority leader. All standing committee members shall be  
161 appointed by the President Pro Tempore by the fifth regular session  
162 day of the first year of the term, except to fill a vacancy caused by  
163 death or incapacity or resignation from the Senate or from a  
164 committee; and except that the President Pro Tempore may appoint  
165 any member elected after the fifth regular session day of the first year  
166 of the term to any committee within five calendar days after the  
167 member takes the oath of office. Not more than nine senators shall be  
168 appointed to any standing committee, except that the joint standing

169 committee on Judiciary shall consist of not more than eleven senators  
170 and the joint standing committees on Appropriations and Finance,  
171 Revenue and Bonding shall consist of not more than thirteen senators.  
172 The member first named shall be chairperson. The chairperson of each  
173 committee may appoint one of the members of the committee as clerk  
174 thereof. All Senate leaders, standing committee assignments,  
175 chairpersons, vice chairpersons and clerks and subcommittee  
176 chairpersons shall serve for both the 2019 and the 2020 sessions.

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

178 1. Reception of petitions.

179 2. Reception of communications from the Governor, secretary  
180 of the state, annual and biennial reports, interim committee  
181 reports and reports.

182 3. Introduction of bills and resolutions.

183 4. Reports of committees.

184 5. Reception of business from the House.

185 6. Business on the Calendar.

186 7. Introduction of guests.

187 8. Miscellaneous business.

188 9. Resolutions removed from consent calendar.

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

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

194 22. When a motion is stated by the president, or read by the clerk, it

195 shall be deemed to be in the possession of the Senate. It may be  
196 withdrawn by the mover at any time before decision or amendment,  
197 but not after amendment, unless the Senate gives leave.

198 23. If the question under debate consists of two or more  
199 independent propositions any member may move to have the question  
200 divided. The president shall rule on the order of voting on the division  
201 of a question.

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

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

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

214 27. Pairs may be made by senators whose votes if they were present  
215 would be cast on opposite sides of any question, by filing with the  
216 clerk of the Senate a memorandum, containing the names of the  
217 senators, and their votes, who are thus paired and the subject matter or  
218 matters to which such pairs apply. Senators making any such pairs  
219 shall be excused from voting upon the merits of the matters involved  
220 while the pair continues, but no pairs shall operate while both of the  
221 senators paired are present.

222 28. Persons, other than members of the General Assembly, shall not  
223 be permitted on the floor of the Senate while it is in session. Lobbyists  
224 shall be prohibited from the floor of the Senate on any day during

225 which the Senate is in session except during a public hearing in the  
226 Senate chamber. This rule shall not apply to the staff of the General  
227 Assembly, to any state or municipal official or member of the media  
228 who has been given permission to be on the Senate floor by the  
229 president of the Senate, President Pro Tempore, majority leader or  
230 minority leader, or to persons invited to the Senate for purposes of  
231 recognition or ceremony. Other persons who desire to speak with a  
232 member of the Senate while it is in session shall communicate such  
233 desire through one of the messengers and shall not converse with such  
234 member in the chamber while the Senate is in session.

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

- 237 1. To adjourn.
- 238 2. To recess.
- 239 3. For the previous question.
- 240 4. To close the debate at a specified time.
- 241 5. To pass temporarily.
- 242 6. To pass retain.
- 243 7. To postpone to a certain time.
- 244 8. To commit or recommit.
- 245 9. To divide the question.
- 246 10. To amend.
- 247 11. To refer to another committee.
- 248 12. To postpone indefinitely.
- 249 13. To place at foot of calendar.

250 These several motions shall have precedence in the order listed in  
251 this rule, and no motion to commit or recommit, to continue to the next  
252 General Assembly or to postpone indefinitely, having been once  
253 decided, shall be again allowed at the same session and at the same  
254 state of the bill or subject matter.

255 30. (a) Amendments shall be filed with the clerk of the Senate before  
256 12 noon on the day the bill is acted upon. Exceptions to this rule shall  
257 be allowed: (1) Upon approval of any two of the following: The  
258 President Pro Tempore, the majority leader of the Senate, the minority  
259 leader of the Senate; or (2) in the case of bills or resolutions not starred  
260 for action or bills or resolutions reported in accordance with  
261 subdivision (1) of paragraph (d) of Rule 15 of the joint rules of the  
262 Senate and the House of Representatives.

263 (b) Upon approval of an amendment pursuant to subdivision (1) of  
264 subsection (a) of this section, the sponsor of the amendment shall cause  
265 a copy of the signed approval to be provided electronically or by hand  
266 to a designated leader or staff member of the other party.

267 (c) Any member who offers an amendment, originating in the  
268 Senate which, if adopted, would reduce state revenues or increase state  
269 expenditures by a specified amount or which would involve a  
270 significant fiscal impact, shall make available to the President,  
271 President Pro Tempore, the majority leader of the Senate and the  
272 minority leader of the Senate at the time the amendment is offered, in  
273 addition to a fiscal note, a signed and typewritten explanation, of the  
274 decrease in expenditures or the source of the increased revenues  
275 required to balance the state budget.

276 (d) Whenever a bill or resolution is substantively amended, it may  
277 be referred to the legislative commissioners to be re-examined for the  
278 purposes set forth in Rule 13 of the joint rules of the Senate and the  
279 House of Representatives and to be reprinted as amended. The  
280 legislative commissioners' office shall complete its examination of any  
281 such bill within three calendar days of its receipt. It shall then be

282 printed in the files with a file number and marked on the calendar  
283 starred for action on the session day on which it appears.

284 31. There shall be a consent calendar on which shall be entered such  
285 bills and resolutions as the majority and minority leaders of the  
286 respective house shall designate. All bills and resolutions starred for  
287 action on the consent calendar shall be passed on motion without  
288 discussion unless, at any time before voting has commenced, a  
289 member requests removal of a bill or resolution from the consent  
290 calendar in which case such bill or resolution shall be so removed.

291 32. The rules of parliamentary practice comprised in the 2010  
292 edition of Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure shall govern the  
293 Senate whenever applicable and whenever they are not inconsistent  
294 with the standing rules and orders of the Senate or the joint rules of the  
295 Senate and the House of Representatives.

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

299 34. No person shall smoke in the Senate chamber or the gallery. No  
300 person shall operate a wireless telephone or similar device in the  
301 Senate chamber or gallery or use any such device to take photographs  
302 or to make video or sound recordings while the Senate is in session.  
303 The presiding officer shall enforce this rule.

304 35. (a) These rules shall not be altered, amended or suspended  
305 except by vote of at least two-thirds of the members present.

306 (b) Motions to suspend the rules shall be in order on any session  
307 day. Suspension of a rule shall be for a specified purpose; after the  
308 accomplishment of such purpose, the rule shall remain in force as  
309 before.

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