



# HOUSE WHAT TO SAY AND WHEN TO SAY IT

**REQUEST TO SPEAK:** Stand, wait to be recognized, and, on recognition state: “Thank you, Mr./Madam Speaker.” Then, proceed with any of the following requests:

**POINT OF ORDER:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, point of order.” If the House is not following its rules or straying from question before it, a member may make the point without first being recognized.

**APPEAL A RULING:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, under House Rule 5 I appeal your ruling on \_\_\_\_\_.”

**RECORD YOUR PRESENCE:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, may I be recorded as present.”

**INTRODUCE LEGISLATION ON THE FLOOR:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, I have a [bill/resolution/amendment] to introduce.” If the Speaker has agreed in advance under House Rule 21(b)(2), Speaker will ask you to present it. Hand printed legislation to page who will distribute.

**BRING A MEASURE BEFORE HOUSE:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, I request that [bill number] be given its third and final reading and brought before the House for consideration.”

**TABLE/LIFT FROM THE TABLE:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, I move that [bill number] be laid on/lifted from the Speaker’s table.” The motion requires a second and is usually adopted by voice vote, but a roll call may be requested.

**SUSPEND THE RULES:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, I move that the rules of the House that interfere with action on [bill number] be suspended.”

**RECONSIDER:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, I move that the House reconsider [bill number]. If the motion prevails, say: “Mr./Madam Speaker, I move that the roll call on [bill number] be rescinded.”

**CALL THE PREVIOUS QUESTION:** Under House Rule 42(7), the motion is made if 5 members rise for this purpose. A verbal motion is not made. Roll is called on the motion.

**DEFER TO A DAY CERTAIN:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, I request that action on [bill number] be deferred to a day certain, [date].”

**REMOVAL FROM CONSENT CALENDAR OR CONSENT AGENDA:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, I request that [bill number] be removed from the Consent Calendar/Consent Agenda.”

**DECLARE A CONFLICT:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, due to a possible conflict of interest, I will not be participating in the debate or voting on [bill number].” When roll is taken, state “Not voting”.

**REQUEST ROLL CALL INSTEAD OF VOICE VOTE:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, I request a roll call vote under House Rule 41(d).”

**STRIKE A BILL:** “Mr./Madam Speaker, I wish to strike [bill number].”