



SPONSOR: Sen. Buckson

DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22

REQUESTING SENATE LEADERSHIP CONSIDER NONPARTISAN SEATING ARRANGEMENTS IN THE SENATE CHAMBER FOR FUTURE GENERAL ASSEMBLIES.

1 WHEREAS, current Delaware General Assembly Senate chamber seating is defined in Senate Rules, Rule 14,  
2 Assignment and Control of Legislative Space and is designated by Senate leadership; and

3 WHEREAS, Oregon's Senate, Iowa's House of Representatives, and Nebraska's unicameral legislature designate  
4 chamber seating based on seniority; and

5 WHEREAS, the New Hampshire and Vermont Senate chambers assign seats by district number; and

6 WHEREAS, the Arizona House Chamber allows members to pick any seats they choose; and

7 WHEREAS, many state chambers prioritize legislators who may have physical impairment that requires an  
8 accommodation to choose a seat first; and

9 WHEREAS, many state chambers allow members of either chamber who once served in the opposite chamber to  
10 pick seating first; and

11 WHEREAS, in Idaho, once leadership, physically impaired members, and members who previously served in the  
12 opposite chamber pick their seating, the Chief Clerk randomly draws the remaining names out of hat; each member then  
13 picks a seat in the order their name is drawn; and

14 WHEREAS, chambers in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Tennessee, and Maine have (or at one point in the last few  
15 years) bipartisan seating; and

16 WHEREAS, guidelines established by the Delaware Senate Leadership could promote bipartisan collaboration  
17 instead of separation; and

18 WHEREAS, our Senate floor, which can be seen by every guest who enters the chamber and watches proceedings  
19 via livestream, should reflect a bipartisan view with the carpet moved to the middle of the aisle.

20 NOW, THEREFORE:

21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 152<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the State of Delaware that Senate leadership  
22 is encouraged to consider a nonpartisan seating arrangement in the Senate Chamber for future General Assemblies.

SYNOPSIS

This Senate Resolution encourages Senate leadership to consider a nonpartisan seating arrangement in the Senate Chamber for future General Assemblies.

Author: Senator Buckson