

SPONSOR: Rep. Smith & Rep. Welch

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

140th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.

RELATING TO PERMANENT RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 140TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1	BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 140th General Assembly of
2	the State of Delaware that the Permanent Rules of the
3	House of Representatives shall be as follows:
4	
5	TABLE OF CONTENTS
6	
7	I. RULES OF ORDER
8	
9	1 Convening of House
10	
11	2 Order of Business
12	
13	3 Messages
14	
15	II. DUTIES OF THE SPEAKER
16	
	Page 1 of 63

17	4 Order and Decorum
18	
19	5 Questions of Order; Appeal
20	
21	6 Temporary Presiding Officer
22	
23	7 Signing of Bills, Resolutions and other documents
24	
25	8 Appointment of Committees
26	
27	9 Assignment of Bills and Resolutions to Committee
28	
29	10 Setting the Agenda
30	
31	11 Subpoena Issuance
32	
33	III. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS
34	
35	12 Attendance of Members
36	
37	13 Quorum
38	
39	14 Addressing the House
40	

41	15 Decorum of Members on Floor of House
42	
43	16 Rules of Legislative Conduct
44	
45	IV. BILL, RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER MEASURES
46	
47	17 Resolutions and Other Measures; Definitions
48	
49	18 Preparation and Custody
50	
51	19 Introduction of Bills and Resolutions; Filing with Clerk
52	
53	20 Assignment to Appropriations Committee
54	
55	21 Fiscal Notes
56	
57	22 Final Readings and Consideration by House
58	
59	23 Amendments
60	
61	24 Substitute Bills
62	
63	25 Petition of Bill or Resolution out of Committee
64	

65	26 Voting
66	
67	27 Striking a Bill or Resolution
68	
69	V. COMMITTEES
70	
71	28 Standing Committees
72	
73	29 Appointment of Special Committees
74	
75	30 Ethics Committee
76	
77	31 Joint Committees
78	
79	32 Quorum on Committees
80	
81	33 Committee Meetings
82	
83	34 Deliberative Process and Procedures of Standing Committees
84	
85	35 Passage of Measures Out of Committee
86	
87	36 Committee Reports
88	

89	37 Committee Recommendations to Appropriations Committee
90	
91	38 Committee of the Whole
92	
93	VI. MOTIONS
94	
95	39 Debate and Vote on Motions
96	
97	40 Precedence of Motions
98	
99	41 Motion for Reconsideration
100	
101	42 Motion to Take from the Table
102	
103	43 Suspension of Rules
104	
105	VII. CALENDAR AND AGENDA
106	
107	44 House Calendar
108	
109	45 Agenda
110	
111	46 Consent Agenda
112	

113	47 Consent Calendar
114	
115	48 Announcement of Agenda; Delivery of Bills and Resolutions
116	
117	VIII. MISCELLANEOUS
118	
119	49 Offices, Parking Spaces and Seats
120	
121	50 Authorized Manual of Parliamentary Procedure
122	
123	51 Chief Clerk and Assistant Chief Clerk
124	
125	52 Supervision of Legislative Staff
126	
127	53 Registration of News Media
128	
129	54 Registration of Legislative Agents
130	
131	55 Privilege of Floor
132	
133	56 Expedited Procedures
134	
135	57 Persons on the Floor of the House
136	

137	58 Non-member invited speakers or guests
138	
139	59 Repeal or Amendment of Rules
140	
141	60 Rules to be Printed
142	
143	61 State Mail and Postage
144	
145	I. RULES OF ORDER
146	
147	RULE 1 - CONVENING OF HOUSE
148	
149	The House of Representatives shall meet every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
150	at 2:00 P.M., unless otherwise ordered. The
151	Speaker or his designee shall take the chair at that time and shall call the House to
152	order. At the beginning of each legislative
153	day, the Speaker or his designee shall cause the names of the members to be called
154	in alphabetical order. If a quorum is present,
155	he shall proceed with the opening prayer, the pledge to the flag, and the business of
156	the day.
157	
158	RULE 2 - ORDER OF BUSINESS
159	
160	(a) After the convening of the House, the order of business shall include the following:

101	
162	(1) The minutes of the previous day shall be made public and posted by the
163	Chief Clerk prior to the next
164	legislative day. With the consent of a majority of members, the reading of
165	the minutes for the previous day may
166	be omitted.
167	
168	(2) Presentation of petitions, memorials, tributes, memoriams, citations or
169	communications.
170	
171	(3) Reports from standing and special committees.
172	
173	(4) Introduction and first reading of bills and resolutions.
174	
175	(5) Consideration of agenda.
176	
177	(6) Consent calendar, or consent agenda, when available.
178	
179	(7) Announcement of committee meetings.
180	
181	(8) Announcement of agenda for next legislative day.
182	
183	(b) The order of business may be changed when necessary by the Speaker unless a
184	majority of the members present object.

161

185	
186	RULE 3 - MESSAGES
187	
188	Messages from the Senate or from the Governor may be received at any time
189	except when the roll is being called.
190	
191	II. DUTIES OF THE SPEAKER
192	
193	RULE 4 - ORDER AND DECORUM
194	
195	(a) The Speaker shall preside and have general direction over the House Chamber,
196	and shall preserve order and decorum. In
197	debate, the Speaker shall confine the members to the question under discussion. No
198	member shall have the floor except when
199	recognized by the Speaker, or when the Speaker grants open debate between
200	members.
201	
202	(b) Cameras, recording instruments, and similar equipment or electronic devices
203	are permitted in the House Chamber only with
204	the permission of the Speaker.
205	
206	RULE 5 - QUESTIONS OF ORDER; APPEAL
207	

208	The Speaker shall decide all questions of order. An appeal from his decision may
209	be made by any member, if properly seconded.
210	The appeal shall be upheld only upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the
211	elected members. The Speaker shall not vote on
212	any such appeal.
213	
214	RULE 6 - TEMPORARY PRESIDING OFFICER
215	
216	(a) The Speaker may appoint a member to serve as the Presiding Officer to perform
217	the duties of Speaker; but such appointment
218	shall not extend beyond an adjournment or recess except when the Speaker takes a
219	leave of absence, in which case the Senior
220	Member of the majority party of the House shall act as the Speaker pro tempore
221	during such leave. The Presiding Officer shall
222	not have authority to reassign any measure to a committee unless specifically
223	required to do so by Rule 20, the Speaker has
224	taken a leave of absence or pursuant to the direction of the Speaker.
225	
226	(b) When neither the elected Speaker nor the appointed Presiding Officer nor the
227	Speaker pro tempore is present, the House
228	shall be called to order and presided over by the Senior Member of the majority
229	party. The Senior Member shall serve in the
230	interim as the Presiding Officer. The Senior Member is the member who has served
231	in the House the longest current consecutive

Page 10 of 63

232	period of time. In the event more than one member has served the same length of
233	time, the member originally sworn first shall be
234	the Senior Member. If two or more members were sworn in at the same time, then
235	of those two or more members the member
236	whose name would appear first in alphabetical order shall be the Senior Member.
237	
238	RULE 7 - SIGNING OF BILLS, RESOLUTIONS, AND OTHER DOCUMENTS
239	
240	The Speaker shall sign all bills and resolutions passed by the House. All warrants,
241	writs and subpoenas issued by the House
242	shall be signed by the Speaker and attested to by the Chief Clerk. In the absence of
243	the Speaker, the presiding officer or Speaker
244	pro tempore shall have authority to sign such documents.
245	
246	RULE 8 - APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES
247	
248	(a) The Speaker shall appoint all committees and subcommittees.
249	
250	(b) Where illness, stated conflict of interest, or other sufficient cause shall compel
251	the absence or non-participation of any
252	committee member, the Speaker, in his discretion, may fill such vacancy from the
253	same political party as the absent or
254	non-participating member, during said absence or period of non-participation.
255	

256	RULE 9 - ASSIGNMENT OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS TO COMMITTEE
257	
258	The Speaker shall determine the principal objective of a bill or resolution and,
259	subject to the provisions of Rule 20, assign the
260	same to the appropriate committee. All prefiled measures shall be pre-assigned to
261	committees by the Speaker and each member
262	notified in writing of assignments, unless the measure is introduced from the floor,
263	in which case the Speaker shall at that time
264	announce the committee to which the measure is assigned.
265	
266	RULE 10 - SETTING THE AGENDA
267	
268	The Speaker sets the Agenda and may place an item on the Agenda only if the item
269	is on the Ready List and has been requested
270	to be placed on the Agenda by the prime House sponsor or floor manager. The
271	Ready List shall consist of all items that have
272	been reported out of committee or have been laid on the table.
273	
274	RULE 11 - SUBPOENA ISSUANCE
275	
276	The Speaker may sign a subpoena if requested by a majority vote of a standing
277	committee, a special committee, a joint
278	committee, a task force, or any similar entity if the committee, task force or entity
279	was created by the House of Representatives or

280	an action of the General Assembly. No subpoena shall be issued unless it is first
281	signed by the Speaker. Upon the majority vote
282	of all members elected to the House a subpoena shall be signed and issued by the
283	Speaker, presiding officer or Speaker pro
284	tempore
285	
286	III. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS.
287	
288	RULE 12- ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS
289	
290	(a) No member shall knowingly absent himself or herself from any session of the
291	House without notifying the Speaker that he or
292	she is unable to attend. A member who is absent without notifying the Speaker may
293	be considered in contempt, and may be
294	subject to the censure of the House.
295	
296	(b) Each member shall answer each roll call from his or her assigned seat in the chamber.
297	
298	RULE 13- QUORUM
299	
300	Twenty-one members of the House shall constitute a quorum. The House shall not
301	convene without a quorum. In the absence of
302	a quorum, the Sergeant-at-Arms shall notify those members who are absent from
303	the Chamber, but not from Legislative Hall, that

304	their presence is required. Upon receiving the notification, the absentee members
305	shall report to the House Chamber. After a
306	proper interval for such notifications, the Speaker shall order a roll call of the
307	House to ascertain if a quorum is present.
308	
309	RULE 14 - ADDRESSING THE HOUSE
310	
311	(a) When a member wishes to speak, such member shall rise but shall not proceed
312	to speak until recognized by the Speaker.
313	Upon acknowledgment by the Speaker, the member may be seated until called
314	upon. If two or more members seek recognition at
315	the same time, the Speaker shall determine who shall speak first.
316	
317	(b) Remarks shall be confined to the subject before the House, or to the purpose for
318	which recognition was obtained.
319	
320	RULE 15 - DECORUM OF MEMBERS ON FLOOR OF HOUSE
321	
322	(a) Each member shall conduct himself or herself in a dignified manner at all times.
323	
324	(b) No member or other person may walk across the House Chamber, or converse
325	privately, in such a manner as to interrupt the
326	House proceedings.
327	

328	(c) A member shall not be interrupted when speaking except for the following reasons:
329	
330	(1) a call to order by the Speaker.
331	
332	(2) a point of order by a member.
333	
334	(3) a motion by a member to move the previous question, to adjourn, or to
335	recess.
336	
337	a.A member shall not make derogatory personal comments about or to other
338	members.
339	
340	(e) No member shall use a cellular phone in the House Chamber while the House is
341	in session.
342	
343	RULE 16 - RULES OF LEGISLATIVE CONDUCT
344	
345	(a) A member of the House shall be subject to discipline by the House for the
346	violation of any of the following Rules of
347	Legislative Conduct, which shall be deemed to constitute "disorderly behavior"
348	within the meaning of Article II, Section 9 of the
349	Delaware Constitution. The Rules of Legislative Conduct are as follows:
350	

351	(1) Re	estrictions relating to "personal or private interests" within the meaning
352	of Article II, Section 20 o	f the
353	Delav	vare Constitution and Chapter 10, Title 29 of the Delaware Code are as
354	follows:	
355		
356		(A) A member who has a personal or private interest in any measure or
357	bill pending before the	
358		House shall disclose the fact and shall not participate in the debate nor
359	vote thereon; provided	
360		however, that (i) upon the request of any other member of the House, a
361	member who has such a	
362		personal or private interest may nevertheless respond to questions
363	concerning any such meas	sure
364		or bill, or (ii) a member who has a personal or private interest may add
365	factual matter to the debat	te
366		which he believes will correct wrong or false information. A personal
367	or private interest in a	
368		measure or bill is an interest which tends to impair a member's
369	independence of judgmen	t in the
370		performance of his or her legislative duties with respect to that
371	measure or bill.	
372		
373		(B) A member has an interest which tends to impair his or her
374	independence of judgmen	t in the

375		performance of his or her legislative duties with regard to any bill or
376	measure when, (i) the	
377		enactment or defeat of the measure or bill would result in a financial
378	benefit or detriment to ad	ccrue
379		to the member or a close relative to a greater extent than such benefit
380	or detriment would accru	ie to
381		others who are members of the same class or group of persons, (ii) the
382	member or a close relativ	ve
383		has a financial interest in a private enterprise which enterprise or
384	interest would be affecte	d by a
385		measure or bill to a greater extent than like enterprises or other
386	interests in the same enter	erprise, or
387		(iii) a person required to register as a legislative agent pursuant to
388	Chapter 16, Title 29 of th	he
389		Delaware Code is a close relative of the legislator and that person acts
390	to promote, advocate,	
391		influence or oppose the measure or bill.
392		
393		(C) If the member is present, the disclosure required under paragraph
394	(A) shall be made in ope	n
395		session, (i) prior to the vote on the measure or the bill by any
396	committee of which the	member is a
397		member, and (ii) prior to the vote on the measure or bill in the House.
398	Disclosure may be made	by

399	written statement submitted to the Chairperson of a committee or the
400	Speaker of the House, and
401	read in open session in the committee or the House as the case may be.
402	If the member is absent
403	when a measure or bill is voted on which would have required
404	disclosure required under paragraph
405	(A), then the member shall make the required disclosure as soon as
406	possible upon returning to the
407	committee or House.
408	
409	(D) For the purposes of this Rule:
410	
411	(I) A "close relative" means a person's parents, spouse, children
412	(natural or
413	adopted) and siblings of the whole and half-blood.
414	
415	(II) A "private enterprise" means any activity, whether
416	conducted for profit or not
417	for profit, and includes the ownership of real or personal
418	property; provided that
419	"private enterprise" does not include any activity of the State of
420	Delaware, any
421	political subdivision or any agency, authority or instrumentality
422	thereof.

423		
424		(III) A person has a "financial interest" in a private enterprise if
425	he or she, (i) has a	
426		legal or equitable ownership interest in the enterprise with a fair
427	market value in	
428		excess of \$5,000, (ii) is associated with the enterprise and
429	received from the	
430		enterprise during the last calendar year or might reasonably be
431	expected to receive	
432		from the enterprise during the current or the next calendar year
433	income in excess of	
434		\$5,000 for services as an employee, officer, director, trustee, or
435	independent	
436		contractor, or (iii) is a creditor of an insolvent private enterprise
437	in an amount in	
438		excess of \$5,000.
439		
440		(IV) A "person" means an individual, partnership, corporation,
441	trust, joint venture	
442		and any other association of individuals or entities.
443		
444	(2) A mem	ber shall not receive unlawful gratuities in violation of Section
445	1206, Title 11 of the Delaware	Code.
446		

447	(3) A member shall not receive a bribe in violation of Section 1203, Title 11
448	of the Delaware Code.
449	
450	(4) A member shall not profiteer in violation of Section 1212, Title 11 of the
451	Delaware Code.
452	
453	(5) A member shall not engage in conduct constituting official misconduct in
454	violation of Section 1211, Title 11 of
455	the Delaware Code.
456	
457	(6) A member shall not fail to comply with the campaign finance disclosure
458	requirements set forth in Chapter 80,
459	Title 15 of the Delaware Code.
460	
461	(7) A member shall not fail to comply with the financial disclosure
462	requirements of Chapter 58, Title 29 of the
463	Delaware Code.
464	
465	(8) A member shall not appear for, represent, or assist another in respect to a
466	matter before the General Assembly
467	or one of its committees for compensation other than that provided by law.
468	
469	(9) A member shall not release, without authorization of the Ethics
470	Committee, any confidential matter pertaining

471	to proceedings of the Ethics Committee.
472	
473	(10) A member shall not knowingly file a false statement with the Ethics
474	Committee or the House in connection
475	with any proceeding involving a Rule of Legislative Conduct.
476	
477	(11) A member shall not engage in conduct which the House determines (i)
478	brings the House into disrepute or (ii)
479	reflects adversely on the member's fitness to hold legislative office.
480	
481	(b) A member shall be subject to sanction for any disorderly behavior occurring
482	subsequent to being elected to the House.
483	
484	(c) A complaint alleging a violation of a Rule of Legislative Conduct shall be filed
485	in writing by a member with the Ethics
486	Committee for investigation and recommendation to the House as to disposition. A
487	complaint must be accompanied by a written
488	statement signed by any person, sworn under oath, setting forth the facts supporting
489	the complaints. No such complaint shall
490	be considered by the House prior to its consideration and recommendation by the
491	Ethics Committee.
492	
493	(d) If the Ethics Committee recommends some disciplinary action with respect to a
494	complaint, it shall present a resolution to the

495	House requesting that the House conduct a proceeding to consider the matter. If the
496	Ethics Committee votes to dismiss a
497	complaint, and there are no votes against dismissal in the Committee, the House
498	shall take no action with respect thereto. If the
499	Ethics Committee votes to dismiss a complaint, but there are dissenting votes in the
500	Committee, the House may consider the
501	matter upon the motion of any member of the House, approved by a majority vote
502	of the House. In any proceeding before the
503	House involving an alleged violation of a Rule of Legislative Conduct, the accused
504	member shall be given an opportunity to be
505	heard after notice, to be advised and assisted by legal counsel, to produce
506	witnesses, and offer evidence and to cross-examine
507	any witnesses. A transcript of any such proceeding shall be made and retained; and
508	rules of procedure for ethics violations as
509	may be adopted by the House shall apply.
510	
511	(e) If the House finds by a majority vote that a member has violated a Rule of
512	Legislative Conduct, it may impose such
513	disciplinary action as it deems appropriate; provided that no member may be
514	suspended or expelled without the vote of
515	two-thirds of the members of the House concurring therein.
516	
517	IV. BILLS, RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER MEASURES
518	

519	RULE 17 - RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER MEASURES; DEFINITIONS
520	
521	(a) The following types of resolutions may be considered by this body:
522	
523	(1) Simple Resolutions: A Simple Resolution is an expression of a majority
524	of members on a specific subject, and
525	deals with the internal affairs of the House only. The effect of its passage
526	does not go beyond the bounds and
527	the authority of the House.
528	
529	(2) Concurrent Resolutions: A Concurrent Resolution is used to accomplish
530	the same purpose in relation to the
531	entire General Assembly that the Simple Resolution achieves for either the
532	House or Senate singly. It must be
533	passed by both the House and Senate to become effective. A Concurrent
534	Resolution adopted by the General
535	Assembly does not become a statute, nor does it have the force and effect of
536	law, nor can it be used for any
537	purpose which requires the exercise of legislative power.
538	
539	(3) Joint Resolutions: A Joint Resolution is the most formal type of
540	resolution, and is addressed to matters which
541	are not internal affairs of either the House individually, nor the internal
542	affairs of the General Assembly as a

543	whole. It is of no legal effect unless passed by both Houses and approved by
544	the Governor. Although a Joint
545	Resolution is not a law, it is employed to provide for temporary measures;
546	and has the force of law while in effect
547	for a wide variety of limited purposes. A Joint Resolution is effective only
548	for the General Assembly in which it
549	was passed and approved. The requirement of the Governor's signature for
550	Joint Resolutions stems from its
551	original use in instances where it was expedient or necessary to express the
552	joint will and action of the General
553	Assembly and Governor combined.
554	
555	(b) Each member of the House may issue tributes and memoriams at any time
556	during his or her term of office. Tributes and
557	memoriams shall be sequentially numbered by the Chief Clerk and made a part of
558	the House Journal. Each tribute or memoriam
559	shall be signed by the prime sponsor, the Speaker and the Chief Clerk. The
560	Speaker, or his designee, shall cause to be read into
561	Speaker, of his designee, shan eause to be read into
501	the permanent record of the House such tributes and memoriams as have been filed
562	
	the permanent record of the House such tributes and memoriams as have been filed
562	the permanent record of the House such tributes and memoriams as have been filed with the Chief Clerk. Tributes and
562 563	the permanent record of the House such tributes and memoriams as have been filed with the Chief Clerk. Tributes and memoriams shall not require a vote; however, at the time such items are officially

567	administratively managed by the Chief Clerk, who shall cause such items to be
568	made a part of the official proceedings of the
569	House.
570	
571	a.A measure, as used in these Rules, means a bill, resolution, amendment,
572	motion, or other questions before the
573	House.
574	
575	(d) A measure, as used in these Rules, means a bill, resolution, amendment,
576	motion, or other questions before the House.
577	
578	RULE 18 - PREPARATION AND CUSTODY
579	
580	(a) Each bill and resolution shall be introduced with as many backed copies as are
581	deemed necessary by the Speaker. The
582	original of the bill or resolution shall at all times remain in the custody of the Chief
583	Clerk of the House or the Chairperson of the
584	committee to which it has been assigned. A "duplicate" backed copy may go (on
585	request) to the following: the Speaker, the
586	Sponsor, and the Division of Research. Upon introduction of a bill or resolution a
587	copy shall be delivered to every member.
588	Copies shall also be delivered to the Division of Research.
589	

590	(b) No bill or joint resolution shall be introduced into the House unless it be
591	"prefaced" by a brief statement of its purpose which
592	shall be known as the title; and the bill or resolution shall also contain the text of
593	such bill or resolution in full. Each bill or
594	resolution shall have an appropriate enacting or resolving clause. If a bill by its
595	terms requires an extraordinary majority for
596	enactment, such vote requirement shall be announced by the Speaker prior to roll
597	call, and such vote requirement should be
598	plainly indicated on the bill. At the end of each bill or joint resolution introduced,
599	the author shall include a brief synopsis of the
600	intent of the bill or joint resolution. In the lower left hand corner of page one shall
601	be the initials of the unit preparing the bill or
602	resolution, the initials of the drafter, and the initials of the typist; and, if prepared
603	by automatic equipment, the identification
604	number.
605	
606	(c) If a bill or resolution provides for the appointment or selection of members to a
607	committee, task force or similar entity, there
608	shall be a brief synopsis of the need for the creation of the task force or similar
609	entity. A copy of such bill or resolution shall be
610	delivered to each person who is to make an appointment or selection; and delivered
611	to any person designated in the bill or
612	resolution to be a member of the committee, task force or similar entity. Such bill
613	or resolution shall contain the criteria for the

614	selection of the chairperson and members of the task force or similar entity.
615	
616	RULE 19 - INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS; FILING WITH
617	CLERK
618	
619	(a) Each bill or resolution shall be numbered in order as introduced, beginning with
620	HB 1 for House Bills, HR 1 for House
621	Resolutions, HCR 1 for House Concurrent Resolutions and HJR 1 for House Joint
622	Resolutions; and the original backer shall
623	contain the signatures of all the sponsors of the original bill.
624	
625	(b) Every bill or resolution shall be introduced by:
626	
627	(1) Filing it with the Clerk of the House not less than one hour prior to the
628	opening of the session by one of the
629	two following procedures:
630	
631	A. the sponsor's written direction to the Chief Clerk;
632	
633	B. verbal approval from the sponsor to the Chief Clerk (original bill
634	must be signed by the sponsor
635	before start of session);
636	

637	(2) Introduction from the floor while the House is in session if permitted by
638	the Speaker.
639	
640	(c) At the beginning of the day's session following the filing of a bill or resolution
641	with the Clerk, the Clerk shall read the bill or
642	resolution into the record. A bill or resolution that is filed with the Clerk of the
643	House while the House stands in recess, in
644	adjournment, or is not otherwise meeting, shall be given a number and entered
645	upon a docket kept for that purpose.
646	
647	(d) Introduction of a bill or resolution shall be considered the first reading, of that
648	bill or resolution, unless otherwise ordered by
649	the House. The bill or resolution shall be read by title only, or by reference to the
650	prefile list, and then be assigned by the
651	Speaker to its appropriate committee.
652	
653	(e) Resolutions of condolence, congratulations or other non-controversial subject
654	matters may be considered as part of the
655	Consent Calendar without being assigned to a committee, unless any member
656	objects. A suspension of the Rules is required in
657	order to consider any other type of resolution without referring it to a committee.
658	
659	(f) The prime sponsor or sponsors of a bill or resolution shall be the member or
660	members who have responsibility for the drafting

661	and introduction of a bill or resolution. The prime sponsor(s) of a bill or resolution
662	is that House member listed first to the right
663	of the word "sponsor" on the upper right side of the first page of a bill or
664	resolution, and the names of each member after the first
665	which are joined by the word "and" or the symbol "&". The floor manager of a
666	House bill or House resolution shall be that
667	member whose name is listed first to the right of the word "sponsor" in the upper
668	right side on the first page of a bill or
669	resolution. A joint sponsor is any member of the House or Senate whose name is
670	printed on the measure after the name of all
671	prime sponsors. A co-sponsor is a member of the House or Senate whose name is
672	not otherwise shown on the measure, but who
673	signs the backer of the measure.
674	
675	(g) The chairperson of the House standing committee to which a Senate bill or
676	resolution has been assigned shall also be the
677	floor manager of that measure, unless he or she declines to serve, or defers to a
678	House sponsor. If the committee chairperson
679	declines to serve as floor manager, the Speaker shall designate a House member to
680	be the floor manager of that measure.
681	
682	(h) In order to withdraw his or her sponsorship of a bill or resolution, a sponsor
683	shall submit to the Chief Clerk a written notice

684	for this purpose. The written notice shall then be attached to the original of the bill
685	or resolution.
686	
687	RULE 20 - ASSIGNMENT TO APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
688	
689	Each bill or joint resolution, whether emanating from the House or the Senate,
690	containing an appropriation or which may involve
691	any net financial loss or obligation on the part of the State, including transportation
692	trust funds, if any, of \$50,000 or more in any
693	one of the next three fiscal years (which has been previously referred by the
694	Speaker under the Rules to any committee of the
695	House other than the Committee on Appropriations) shall, after the same has been
696	reported back to the House, be referred to the
697	Committee on Appropriations.
698	
699	RULE 21 - FISCAL NOTES
700	
701	(a) No bill or resolution either authorizing expenditures, or increasing or affecting
702	the transportation trust fund, or reducing
703	revenues as described in Chapter 19, Title 29 of the Delaware Code shall be placed
704	before the House for consideration unless
705	accompanied by a fiscal note.
706	

707	(b) (1) All legislation proposing new fees or increases in existing fees charged by
708	any state agency shall include therewith an
709	explanation of:
710	
711	(A) the expected total amount of funds to be generated by the proposed
712	fee or fee increase;
713	
714	(B) the purpose of the proposed new fee or fee increase;
715	
716	(C) a general identification of the persons, business entities or
717	organizations affected by the
718	legislation;
719	
720	(D) the impact of the proposed new fees or fee increases on these
721	affected persons, business
722	entities or organizations;
723	
724	(E) the intended use by the agency of the revenues generated by the
725	new fees or fee increases.
726	
727	(2) The Office of the Controller General shall conduct such review or audit
728	of the information offered by the state
729	agency pursuant to $(b)(1)$ as is deemed necessary to evaluate the information
730	required therein, and shall issue a

731	written report of its findings. The written report of the Office of the
732	Controller General's findings shall be attached
733	to the legislation, by the sponsor of the legislation, prior to the legislation's
734	initial committee consideration in the
735	house of origin.
736	
737	(3) The House may waive the requirements of this section as to any specific
738	legislation pending before the House
739	by a vote of the majority of all members elected to the House.
740	
741	RULE 22 - FINAL READINGS AND CONSIDERATION BY HOUSE
742	
743	(a) When brought before the House for consideration, each bill and joint resolution
744	shall be given its final reading by title,
745	unless the Speaker directs a reading in full.
746	
747	(b) Each bill or joint resolution in order to pass the House shall be read on two
748	different days of the session unless a majority of
749	the members elected to the House determine otherwise, or unless the bill or joint
750	resolution is on a Consent Agenda or Calendar,
751	and voted on by a single vote. No bill or joint resolution shall be brought before the
752	House for passage on the same calendar
753	day it is reported out of committee, nor in the absence of the prime sponsor without
754	his or her written consent.

155	
756	RULE 23 - AMENDMENTS
757	
758	(a) An amendment to a measure shall be introduced by prefiling the amendment if
759	the amendment changes the nature and intent
760	of the bill or resolution; or may be introduced when the measure is being discussed
761	on the floor, if the amendment makes only
762	technical corrections and does not change the nature and intent of the bill or
763	resolution.
764	
765	(b) When an amendment to a bill would significantly change the nature and intent
766	of the bill, such amendment shall contain a
767	brief synopsis outlining the basic changes incurred.
768	
769	(c) When an amendment to a bill would change its fiscal impact by increasing
770	expenditures or reducing revenues by \$50,000 or
771	more, a new fiscal note shall accompany the amendment.
772	
773	(d) If a bill becomes significantly changed by amendment, the Speaker may
774	reassign the amended bill to committee. The title of a
775	bill or resolution shall not be amended.
776	
777	(e) All prefiled amendments shall be acted upon in numerical order before final
778	action on the main bill or resolution, when the

755

779	prime sponsor of the amendment is present.
780	
781	(f) An amendment previously attached to a bill in either house may be stricken
782	from the bill by:
783	
784	(1) An amendment which directs that a specific House or Senate amendment
785	be stricken; or
786	
787	(2) An amendment which reverses the directions given by the amendment
788	being stricken.
789	
790	(g) An amendment to an amendment shall only be considered prior to the adoption
791	of the amendment it is amending. However,
792	an amendment once passed may be removed by a subsequent amendment.
793	an amenament once passed may be removed by a subsequent amenament.
	RULE 24 - SUBSTITUTE BILLS
794	KULE 24 - SUBSTITUTE BILLS
795	
796	(a) A substitute bill may be introduced by a prime sponsor of the bill for which it is
797	a substitute and shall be assigned to
798	committee and follow the same procedure as other bills.
799	
800	(b) Once introduced, the substitute bill shall render null and void the bill for which
801	it is a substitute.
802	

803	(c) The title of a substitute bill must be identical to the title of the bill for which it
804	is substituted.
805	
806	RULE 25- PETITION OF BILL OR RESOLUTION OUT OF COMMITTEE
807	
808	Every bill or resolution which has been in committee for a period of more than 12
809	legislative days, except those assigned to the
810	Appropriations Committee pursuant to Rule 20, shall, upon written request of the
811	majority of the members elected to the House,
812	be reported to the House for a decision as to its further disposal.
813	
814	RULE 26 - VOTING
815	
816	(a) Except as provided for in Rule 46 or Rule 47, each bill or joint resolution which
817	comes before the House for final action shall
818	be acted upon by a separate roll call vote.
819	
820	(b) The names of the members of the House shall be called alphabetically, except
821	for the Speaker who shall vote last; and each
822	member shall, without debate or comments, answer "yes", or "no", or "not voting",
823	from his or her respective seat.
824	
825	(c) No member shall be permitted to change his or her vote after the roll call has
826	been announced by the Chief Clerk.

827	
828	(d) A roll call may not be laid on the table.
829	
830	RULE 27 - STRIKING A BILL OR RESOLUTION
831	
832	Only a prime sponsor of a bill or resolution or a member authorized by a prime
833	sponsor in writing can strike said bill or resolution.
834	A bill or resolution may not be stricken once it has been voted upon. Upon the
835	expulsion, death or resignation of any member
836	from the House, any bill not yet acted upon by the House which has that member
837	as the only sponsor shall be stricken.
838	
839	V. COMMITTEES
839 840	V. COMMITTEES
	V. COMMITTEES RULE 28 - STANDING COMMITTEES
840	
840 841	
840 841 842	RULE 28 - STANDING COMMITTEES
840 841 842 843	RULE 28 - STANDING COMMITTEES (a) The standing committees and subcommittees of the House shall include
840841842843844	RULE 28 - STANDING COMMITTEES (a) The standing committees and subcommittees of the House shall include members of both political parties and shall be
 840 841 842 843 844 845 	RULE 28 - STANDING COMMITTEES (a) The standing committees and subcommittees of the House shall include members of both political parties and shall be appointed by the Speaker. The Speaker shall designate a chairperson, and may
 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 	RULE 28 - STANDING COMMITTEES (a) The standing committees and subcommittees of the House shall include members of both political parties and shall be appointed by the Speaker. The Speaker shall designate a chairperson, and may designate a vice chairperson who shall act as the
 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 	RULE 28 - STANDING COMMITTEES (a) The standing committees and subcommittees of the House shall include members of both political parties and shall be appointed by the Speaker. The Speaker shall designate a chairperson, and may designate a vice chairperson who shall act as the chairperson of the committee in the chairperson's absence, for each committee and

851	(b) The following standing committees and subcommittees shall be appointed by
852	the Speaker at the beginning of each General
853	Assembly.
854	
855	Standing Committees:
856	
857	(1) Agriculture
858	
859	(2) Appropriations
860	
861	(3) Bond Bill
862	
863	(4) Business/Corporations/Commerce
864	
865	(5) Clearinghouse
866	
867	(6) Corrections
868	
869	(7) Economic Development Banking & Insurance
870	
871	(8) Education
872	
873	(9) Ethics
874	

875	(10) Health & Human Development
876	
877	(11) House Administration
878	
879	(12) House Rules
880	
881	(13) Housing & Community Affairs
882	
883	(14) Judiciary
884	
885	(15) Labor
886	
887	(16) Land Use and Infrastructure
888	
889	(17) Natural Resources & Environmental Management
890	
891	(18) Public Safety
892	
893	1.Revenue & Finance
894	
895	1.Sunset Committee/Policy Analysis & Government Accountability
896	
897	2.Tourism
898	

899	(22) Transportation
900	
901	(c) There shall also be a House Administration Committee which membership shall
902	be the Speaker, Majority Leader, Majority
903	Whip, Minority Leader and Minority Whip. The Majority Leader shall be the
904	chairperson of the House Administration
905	Committee.
906	
907	RULE 29 - APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES
908	
909	The Speaker, on his own initiative or upon order of the House, may appoint Special
910	Committees.
911	
912	RULE 30 - ETHICS COMMITTEE
913	
914	(a) The Ethics Committee shall be a standing committee consisting of five
915	members, three appointed by the Speaker and two
916	appointed by the Minority Leader, at the beginning of each General Assembly.
917	
918	(b) The powers and duties of the Ethics Committee shall be as follows:
919	
920	(1) to recommend to the House, from time to time, such rules of conduct for
921	members of the House as it shall deem
922	appropriate;

923	
924	(2) to issue written advisory opinions upon the request of any member as to
925	the applicability of any Rule of
926	Legislative Conduct to any particular fact situation;
927	
928	(3) to investigate any alleged violation by a member of any Rule of
929	Legislative Conduct and, after notice and
930	hearing, to recommend to the House by resolution such disciplinary action as
931	the committee may deem
932	appropriate;
933	
934	(4) to report to the appropriate federal or State authorities any substantial
935	evidence of a violation by any member
936	of any law involving a Rule of Legislative Conduct which may come to its
937	attention in connection with any
938	proceeding whether advisory or investigative;
939	
940	(5) to maintain a file of its proceedings and advisory opinions with a view
941	toward achieving consistency of
942	opinions and recommendations. Upon the request of a legislator involved in
943	an advisory opinion, to publish that
944	advisory opinion;
945	

946	(6) to follow such rules of procedure for ethics violations as may be adopted
947	by the House, and to establish such
948	other procedural rules as shall not be inconsistent with the rules prescribed
949	by the House;
950	
951	(7) to act only upon a majority vote of its members; and
952	
953	(8) such other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the House
954	from time to time.
955	
956	(c) All proceedings before the Ethics Committee in connection with an advisory
957	opinion shall be confidential subject to the
958	following: (i) the member involved may waive the privilege of confidentiality, (ii)
959	the proceedings shall no longer be confidential
960	and may be made public in any subsequent disciplinary proceeding if the member
961	acts in disregard of an advisory opinion, and
962	(iii) the Ethics Committee shall maintain records of its proceedings and advisory
963	opinions which shall be available for reference
964	by the Committee, subsequent Committees and their staff.
965	
966	(d) The Committee may undertake an investigation of an alleged violation by a
967	member of any Rule of Legislative Conduct only
968	upon a written complaint submitted by a member of the House. The complaint
969	must be accompanied by a written statement

970	signed by any person, sworn under oath, setting forth the facts supporting the
971	complaint. In any such investigation or
972	proceeding, the accused member shall be given an opportunity to be heard after
973	notice, to be advised and assisted by legal
974	counsel, to produce witnesses and offer evidence, and to cross-examine witnesses.
975	A transcript of any such proceeding shall be
976	made and retained. In any such proceeding the rules of procedure for ethics
977	violations as may be adopted by the House shall
978	apply.
979	
980	(e) A member of the Committee shall be ineligible to participate, as a member of
981	the Committee, in any Committee proceeding
982	relating to his or her legislative conduct. In any such case, the person appointing
983	that member (either the Speaker or the
984	Minority Leader) shall designate a member of the House to act as a member of the
985	Committee in any Committee proceeding
986	relating to the legislative conduct of such ineligible member. A member of the
987	Committee who has been found by the House to
988	have violated a Rule of Legislative Conduct shall be ineligible to serve again as a
989	member of the Committee.
990	
991	(f) A member of the Committee may disqualify himself or herself from
992	participating in any investigation of the conduct of a

993	member of the House upon submission in writing and under oath of an affidavit of
994	disqualification stating that he or she cannot
995	render an impartial and unbiased decision in the case in which he or she seeks to
996	disqualify himself or herself. If the Committee
997	approves and accepts such affidavit of disqualification, the chairperson shall so
998	notify the person appointing that member
999	(either the Speaker or the Minority Leader) and request that person to designate a
1000	member of the House to act as a member of
1001	the Committee in any Committee proceeding relating to such investigation.
1002	
1003	(g) Any member who acts in good faith reliance upon any written advisory opinion
1004	of the Ethics Committee rendered to that
1005	member shall not be subject to any discipline by the House with respect to the
1006	matters covered by the advisory opinion;
1007	provided there was a full disclosure to the Ethics Committee of all facts necessary
1008	for the opinion.
1009	
1010	(h) The Committee may function without regard to recess periods or adjournment.
1011	
1012	RULE 31 - JOINT COMMITTEES
1013	
1014	The House of Representatives and the Senate by mutual agreement may establish a
1015	joint committee or committees. The House

1016	members of any Joint Committee shall be appointed by the Speaker, unless
1017	otherwise provided by statute.
1018	
1019	RULE 32 - QUORUM ON COMMITTEES
1020	
1021	Four members or a majority, whichever is less, of the members of any committee,
1022	subcommittee or special committee shall
1023	constitute a quorum.
1024	
1025	RULE 33 - COMMITTEE MEETINGS
1026	
1027	(a) During the legislative sessions, each standing committee of the House shall be
1028	assigned a regular meeting time by the
1029	Speaker. This assignment shall not preclude the option of a committee chairperson
1030	to cancel a regular or special meeting or call
1031	additional meetings when necessary, provided that such special or additional
1032	meetings are not scheduled during regular meeting
1033	times of standing committees. No committee meetings shall be held while the
1034	House is in session without the consent of the
1035	Speaker.
1036	
1037	(b) All committee meetings shall be chaired by the chairperson, or in his or her
1038	absence by the vice-chairperson, if any, if the

1039	committee does not have an appointed vice-chairperson, then, the chairperson shall
1040	designate a member of the committee to
1041	chair the committee in his or her absence.
1042	
1043	(c) So far as may be applicable, the rules of the House shall be observed in the
1044	conduct of committee meetings.
1045	
1046	(d) All committee meetings will be open to the public except that the committee
1047	chairperson may call an executive session at
1048	which no final action may be taken. An executive session may be called for those
1049	purposes which are listed at 29 Del. C. § 10004
1050	and for the purpose of requesting the issuance of a subpoena pursuant to Rule
1051	35(e). This subsection may be waived by a
1052	majority vote of the committee.
1053	
1054	RULE 34 - DELIBERATIVE PROCESS AND PROCEDURES OF STANDING
1055	COMMITTEES
1056	
1057	(a) Each bill, resolution or other legislative matter assigned to a standing
1058	committee shall pass through a prescribed deliberative
1059	process before being brought to the floor of the House, unless it is sooner
1060	petitioned out of committee. Such deliberative
1061	process shall include regularly scheduled, pre-announced meetings whereby the
1062	committee or subcommittee, after notice to the

1063	sponsor, makes time available for each formal sponsor to explain the legislation
1064	and answer possible questions, considers an
1065	analysis of the proposed legislation and receives testimony from the general public.
1066	
1067	(b) On the last legislative day of each week, each standing committee shall release
1068	a Committee Agenda which shall include,
1069	among other things, all matters to be considered by the committee at its next
1070	meeting; and any other announcements from the
1071	committee including the times, places and dates of future meetings.
1072	
1073	(c) Minutes shall be recorded for each formal standing committee meeting, and the
1074	results of any committee votes shall be
1075	included. If a measure is tabled, reasons for such action shall also be included.
1076	Committee members who dissent from any
1077	committee decision shall be permitted, in the minutes, to state such dissent and the
1078	reasons therefor.
1079	
1080	RULE 35 - PASSAGE OF MEASURES OUT OF COMMITTEE
1081	
1082	(a) Bills and resolutions shall be reported out of committee by a majority of the
1083	committee or subcommittee by signing the
1084	backer. A bill or resolution may be tabled in any committee or subcommittee by a
1085	majority vote of the full committee or
1086	subcommittee.

1088	(b) All bills and resolutions shall be acted upon by the appropriate committee
1089	within twelve legislative days after being assigned
1090	to that committee. All bills and resolutions not acted upon by the appropriate
1091	committee within twelve legislative days after
1092	being assigned to that committee can be petitioned out of committee pursuant to
1093	Rule 25.
1094	
1095	(c) The Chairperson shall return the bill or resolution to the Chief Clerk within two
1096	legislative days after a bill or resolution has
1097	been voted out of committee.
1098	
1099	(d) If a bill is unacceptable to the committee, a substitute bill may be introduced or
1100	the committee chairperson, on behalf of the
1101	committee, may offer one or more amendments which shall take precedence in
1102	floor action over any other amendment(s). If the
1103	committee amendment(s) fails, the bill may be reassigned to the committee by the
1104	Speaker.
1105	
1106	(e) Upon a majority vote of the full committee, a subpoena may be requested by the
1107	committee and presented to the Speaker for
1108	consideration pursuant to Rule 11.
1109	
1110	RULE 36 - COMMITTEE REPORTS

1087

Page 47 of 63

1111	
1112	Each bill and resolution reported out of committee may at the discretion of a
1113	majority of the full committee or the committee
1114	chairperson have a printed or typewritten report which includes a summary of the
1115	committee's discussion of the legislation. A
1116	copy of this report shall be placed in each member's agenda book when the
1117	legislation appears on the agenda.
1118	
1119	RULE 37 - COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO APPROPRIATIONS
1120	COMMITTEE
1121	
1122	The committee chairperson on behalf of the committee shall make budgetary
1123	recommendations to the Appropriations Committee.
1124	
1125	RULE 38 - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
1126	
1127	The committee of the whole shall mean and include a committee of the entire
1128	membership of the House, with the Speaker as
1129	chairperson, called into session by the Speaker. So far as may be applicable, the
1130	rules of the House shall be observed in the
1131	committee of the whole.
1132	
1133	VI. MOTIONS
1134	
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Page 48 of 63

1135	RULE 39 - DEBATE AND VOTE ON MOTIONS
1136	
1137	(a) After debate or discussion, the motion shall be repeated by the Speaker before
1138	putting the question to the House.
1139	
1140	(b) Every motion shall be decided in a fair and impartial manner by the Speaker.
1141	The vote of a majority of the members present
1142	shall prevail in the case of a motion to recess, incidental motions, subsidiary
1143	motions, or other motions presenting questions of a
1144	general procedural nature. The vote of a majority of the members elected to the
1145	House shall prevail in the case of privileged
1146	motions (except a motion to recess), main motions, or other motions presenting
1147	questions of a substantive nature. Such voting
1148	shall prevail unless contrary to these Rules, or unless it is in conflict with the
1149	statutes, or provisions of the Constitution, of the
1150	State of Delaware.
1151	
1152	(c) The Speaker may cause or any member may call for a roll call or division in
1153	which case the members voting in the affirmative
1154	shall be required to rise for the purpose of being counted by the Clerk of the House.
1155	
1156	(d) At the request of any member, the vote on any measure shall be by roll call vote.
1157	
1158	RULE 40 - PRECEDENCE OF MOTIONS

Page 49 of 63

1159	
1160	(a) If a question is before the House, no motion may be received except one of the
1161	following, and they have precedence in the
1162	order listed:
1163	
1164	(1) to adjourn sine die. This motion is not debatable.
1165	
1166	(2) to adjourn. This motion is not debatable and cannot be amended nor
1167	reconsidered.
1168	
1169	(3) to recess. This motion is not debatable. This motion is passed by a
1170	majority of those members present.
1171	
1172	(4) question of privilege.
1173	
1174	(5) all incidental motions.
1175	
1176	(6) to table.
1177	
1178	(7) motion to call the previous question. A motion to call the previous
1179	question shall not be entertained except at
1180	the request of five members arising for that purpose and so indicating, and
1181	shall be determined by roll call vote

1182	without debate. When the previous question has been called and sustained, it
1183	shall not cut off action on
1184	amendments to the main measure; and the vote shall be taken without debate
1185	first on the amendments in order
1186	and then on the main measure.
1187	
1188	(8) to limit debate.
1189	
1190	(9) postpone to a day certain.
1191	
1192	(10) to commit to committee.
1193	
1194	(11) to amend. An amendment may be offered to an amendment, but no
1195	motion may be accepted which would
1196	amend an amendment to an amendment.
1197	
1198	(12) to reconsider.
1199	
1200	(13) to take from the table.
1201	
1202	(b) No motion may be received after a vote upon the question then before the
1203	House has been called for by the Speaker.
1204	
1205	RULE 41 - MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

1206	
1207	(a) No motion for reconsideration shall be in order unless made on the same
1208	legislative day or on one of the three next
1209	succeeding legislative days. If the original vote was taken by a recorded vote of yes
1210	and no, this motion can be made only by a
1211	member who voted with the prevailing side; i.e., a reconsideration can be moved
1212	only by one who voted "yes" if the motion
1213	involved was adopted or "no" if the motion was lost. If the original vote was not
1214	taken by a recorded vote of yes or no, it is in
1215	order for any member to move for the reconsideration thereof.
1216	
1217	(b) When a bill, resolution, report, amendment, order or message, upon which a
1218	vote has been taken, shall have gone out of
1219	possession of the House and been communicated to the Senate, or to the Governor,
1220	the motion to reconsider shall be
1221	accompanied by a motion in writing, attested to by the Speaker, to request the
1222	Senate or the Governor to return the same; which
1223	last motion shall be acted upon immediately and without debate, and if determined
1224	in the negative shall be a final disposition of
1225	the motion to reconsider.
1226	
1227	RULE 42 - MOTION TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE
1228	

1229	(a) After a measure has been laid on the table, only the following persons may
1230	move to lift such measure from the table:
1231	
1232	(1) In the case of a House measure, only one of the prime sponsors of the
1233	measure or a member authorized in
1234	writing by all the prime sponsors.
1235	
1236	(2) In the case of a measure without a House prime sponsor, only the floor
1237	manager of a measure or a member
1238	authorized in writing by the floor manager.
1239	
1240	(b) A motion to take a measure from the table may only be made on the same
1241	legislative day the measure is tabled (or if this
1242	motion is listed on the agenda). The motion is not debatable.
1243	
1244	RULE 43 - SUSPENSION OF RULES
1245	
1246	The suspension of any Rule requires the concurrence of at least a majority of the
1247	members elected to the House. This motion is
1248	debatable but does not permit discussion of the main question. It cannot be
1249	reconsidered, laid on the table, nor postponed
1250	indefinitely, and while it is pending no motion may be made except to adjourn. A
1251	separate suspension of the Rules is necessary
1252	for each measure.

1253	
1254	VII. CALENDAR AND AGENDA
1255	
1256	RULE 44 - HOUSE CALENDAR
1257	
1258	The Clerk of the House shall keep a House Calendar on which shall be placed the
1259	number and title of all bills and resolutions, the
1260	name of the prime sponsor, and the current status of each bill or resolution. Said
1261	bills and resolutions shall be kept on the
1262	Calendar and final action recorded.
1263	
1264	RULE 45 - AGENDA
1265	
1266	(a) The Speaker shall place items on the agenda pursuant to Rule 10 of these rules.
1267	
1268	(b) In lifting bills from the table, the motion to lift is the agenda item.
1269	
1270	(c) Any House bill amended by the Senate shall either be placed on the Agenda or
1271	assigned to committee, at the discretion of
1272	the Speaker.
1273	
1274	(d) Measures brought to the top of the Agenda for the day shall be permitted only to be:
1275	
1276	1. deferred to day certain two times only; or

1277	
1278	2. deferred to the end of agenda one time only; or
1279	
1280	3. laid on the table. A measure which has been on the table for six legislative
1281	days shall be returned to the Ready
1282	List; or
1283	
1284	4. brought to a vote.
1285	
1286	RULE 46 - CONSENT AGENDA
1287	
1288	(a) Any member of the House may propose any bill or joint resolution for inclusion
1289	on a Consent Agenda for final reading. The
1290	proposal shall be made in writing to the office of the Chief Clerk on any day. If any
1291	bill or joint resolution on a particular Consent
1292	Agenda has a super majority vote requirement then such Consent Agenda will
1293	require the highest such vote requirement.
1294	
1295	(b) A bill or joint resolution shall be removed from a Consent Agenda if any
1296	member objects to it being included thereon. In
1297	addition, a bill or joint resolution may not be included on a Consent Agenda if at
1298	the time of reading a Consent Agenda an
1299	unattached amendment to it has been proposed.
1300	

1301	(c) All bills and joint resolutions on a Consent Agenda shall be read and voted
1302	upon as a single group.
1303	
1304	RULE 47 - CONSENT CALENDAR
1305	
1306	(a) Any member of the House may propose any resolution for inclusion on a
1307	Consent Calendar for final reading. The proposal
1308	shall be made in writing in the office of the Chief Clerk on any day.
1309	
1310	(b) A resolution shall be removed from a Consent Calendar if any member objects
1311	to its being included thereon. In addition,
1312	resolutions may not be included on a Consent Calendar if at the time of reading a
1313	Consent Calendar an unattached amendment to
1314	it is proposed.
1315	
1316	(c) All resolutions on a Consent Calendar shall be read and voted upon as a single group.
1317	
1318	RULE 48 - ANNOUNCEMENT OF AGENDA; DELIVERY OF BILLS AND
1319	RESOLUTIONS
1320	
1321	(a) The Chief Clerk shall lay upon the desk of the Speaker at the beginning of each
1322	day's session all bills, resolutions and
1323	motions pending before the House that day, properly arranged and classified.
1324	

1325	(b) Prior to the beginning of each legislative day, the Chief Clerk shall provide to
1326	each member a printed copy by number,
1327	sponsor and/or title, of the bills, resolutions or other measures that are being placed
1328	on the Agenda for that legislative day.
1329	
1330	(c) All enacted bills, concurrent resolutions, or joint resolutions originating in the
1331	House, or Senate bills or resolutions to which
1332	the House has added amendments or its concurrence, shall be delivered to the
1333	Senate by the Chief Clerk of the House or by the
1334	Bill Clerk within the three next succeeding legislative days.
1335	
1336	VIII. MISCELLANEOUS
1337	
1338	RULE 49 - OFFICES, PARKING SPACES AND SEATS
1339	
1340	Desks on the floor of the House, offices, and parking spaces shall be allocated to
1341	the members by the Speaker.
1342	
1343	RULE 50 - AUTHORIZED MANUAL OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE
1344	
1345	In all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with
1346	these Rules, the latest edition of Mason's
1347	Manual of Legislative Procedure, shall govern the House.
1348	

1349	RULE 51 - CHIEF CLERK AND ASSISTANT CHIEF CLERK
1350	
1351	The House shall elect a Chief Clerk and an Assistant Chief Clerk who, in the
1352	absence of the Chief Clerk, shall perform the Chief
1353	Clerk's duties.
1354	
1355	The Assistant Chief Clerk shall be compensated at a per diem rate to be determined
1356	by the Speaker while serving as Chief Clerk.
1357	
1358	RULE 52 - SUPERVISION OF LEGISLATIVE STAFF
1359	
1360	The legislative staff shall report to such supervisory staff as may be determined by
1361	the Speaker. The financial officer of the
1362	House shall maintain on file job descriptions for all positions within the legislative
1363	staff.
1364	
1365	RULE 53 - REGISTRATION OF NEWS MEDIA
1366	
1367	a.Members of the news media shall be registered by the Division of Research.
1368	
1369	b.Accredited representatives of the daily and weekly press, press associations,
1370	and of radio and television stations
1371	shall be accorded equal press privileges by the Speaker. Any person wishing
1372	to report proceedings of the House

1373	may apply to the Speaker for assignment of suitable available space.
1374	
1375	c.On approval of the Speaker, radio and television stations shall be permitted
1376	to air and record sessions of the
1377	House.
1378	
1379	d.Any use or reproduction of House tapes will require permission of the
1380	Speaker and the request shall be
1381	communicated to the Chief Clerk in writing. A fee may be charged for this
1382	service.
1383	
1384	RULE 54 - REGISTRATION OF LOBBYISTS
1385	
1386	Lobbyists shall be registered by the State Public Integrity Commission pursuant to
1387	Chapter 58, Title 29 of the Delaware Code. No
1388	lobbyist shall be granted privilege of the floor unless so registered.
1389	
1390	RULE 55 - PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR
1391	
1392	The privilege of the floor may be granted by the Speaker upon request of any
1393	member, unless an objection is sustained by a
1394	majority of members present and voting.
1395	
1396	RULE 56 - EXPEDITED PROCEDURES

1398	The Speaker may designate the procedure by which certain items are to be
1399	expedited. Such rules as would interfere with the
1400	introduction of and/or action on such items shall automatically be deemed
1401	suspended unless one or more members object to an
1402	item being determined by expedited procedures.
1403	
1404	RULE 57 - PERSONS ON THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE
1405	
1406	(a) No person may be admitted to the floor of the House while the House is in
1407	session unless specifically invited by a member
1408	and with the consent of the Speaker except the following: former Governors,
1409	former members of the House, former members of
1410	the Senate (but none of the foregoing has this privileged admission without consent
1411	if he is paid to act as a registered legislative
1412	agent as defined in Chapter 16, Title 29 of the Delaware Code), duly designated
1413	representatives of the Governor of Delaware,
1414	members of the House and the Senate and their staffs, staff members from the
1415	Division of Research, representatives of each
1416	Cabinet Department, reporters for each of the daily newspapers published in the
1417	State, a reasonable number of other accredited
1418	correspondents as determined by the Speaker and a reasonable number of
1419	representatives of radio and television broadcasting
1420	stations (together with necessary equipment) as determined by the Speaker.

1397

1421	
1422	(b) No one other than a member shall sit in a member's seat while the House is in
1423	session.
1424	
1425	(c) No one shall be allowed to smoke in the House Chamber.
1426	
1427	(d) No one shall use a cellular phone in the House Chamber, including the balcony
1428	area, while the House is in session.
1429	
1430	RULE 58 - NON-MEMBER INVITED SPEAKERS OR GUESTS
1431	
1432	(a) A non-member speaker or guest shall be allowed to address the House of
1433	Representatives provided they are noted on the
1434	agenda together with the name of the Representative sponsoring said speaker or
1435	guest and the time allotted for their remarks.
1436	
1436 1437	(b) A speaker noted per subsection (a) of this rule shall be granted a time limit of
	(b) A speaker noted per subsection (a) of this rule shall be granted a time limit of one minute, three minutes or five minutes by
1437	
1437 1438	one minute, three minutes or five minutes by
1437 1438 1439	one minute, three minutes or five minutes by
1437 1438 1439 1440	one minute, three minutes or five minutes by the Speaker of the House.
1437 1438 1439 1440 1441	one minute, three minutes or five minutes by the Speaker of the House. (c) On the day of the scheduled address, the sponsoring member shall be

1443	
1446	(d) The Speaker of the House may grant an unlimited amount of time for the
1447	Governor to address the House as deemed
1448	necessary by the Speaker or the members of the House.
1449	
1450	(e) This rule is only applicable to appearances by non-members giving remarks
1451	unrelated to agenda items and shall not be
1452	construed so as to limit the speaking time of witnesses to legislation.
1453	
1454	RULE 59 - REPEAL OR AMENDMENT OF RULES
1455	
1456	No motion, order or resolution to repeal or amend a Rule of the House may be
1457	considered or acted upon unless it has been
1458	submitted in writing to the House at least one day prior thereto, together with the
1459	written text of any proposed amendment. The
1460	repeal or amendment of any Rule of the House requires the concurrence of at least
1461	a majority of the members elected to the
1462	House.
1463	
1464	RULE 60 - RULES TO BE PRINTED
1465	
1466	These Rules shall be printed by the Division of Research, upon adoption, in a
1467	pocket-sized edition which shall also contain the
1468	following materials:

1445

1469	
1470	(a) a list of the Officers of the House;
1471	
1472	(b) the membership of the Standing Committees of the House;
1473	
1474	(c) the Constitutional vote requirements for passage of legislation; and
1475	
1476	(d) requirements set forth elsewhere directly relating to House action such as the
1477	fiscal note requirement.
1478	
1479	RULE 61 - STATE MAIL AND POSTAGE
1480	
1481	No House member or staff member shall use state mail services and/or state-paid
1482	for postage for his or her own personal use.

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