

INTRODUCED BY ~~C. SMITH~~C. SMITH

SENATE RULES AMENDMENT NO. SR.0001.001.006

AMENDMENT REQUESTED BY T. MCGILLVRAY

FOR THE (S) RULES

PREPARED BY JARET COLES

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A RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA ADOPTING THE SENATE RULES.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the following Senate Rules be adopted:

**RULES OF THE MONTANA**

**SENATE**

**CHAPTER 1**

**Administration**

**S10-10. Officers of the Senate.** The officers of the Senate include a president, a president pro tempore, a majority leader, a minority leader, and majority and minority whips.

**S10-20. Term of officers.** The term of office for the officers and employees of the Senate established by rule is until the succeeding Legislature is organized. This rule may not be construed to mean the staff will be full-time employees during an interim.

**S10-30. President, President pro tempore, and other officers.** (1) The Senate shall, at the beginning of each regular session, and at other times as may be necessary, elect a Senator as President and a Senator as President pro tempore.

(2) The Senate shall choose its other officers and is the judge of the elections, returns, and

President, the following procedure applies:

(a) If the President dies while in office, the members of the Senate have the right to immediately nominate and elect an acting President of the same party.

(b) If the President is absent for 2 or more legislative days or at any time after the 85th legislative day or at any time during special session of the Legislature and wants to appoint an acting President during the President's absence, the President may do so, or the members of the Senate have the right to immediately nominate and elect an acting President of the President's caucus.

(c) An acting President of the Senate has the powers of the President and supersedes the powers of the President pro tempore.

**S10-70. President-elect.** The President-elect nominated by the appropriate party caucus has the responsibility and authority to assume the duties of President of the Senate.

**S10-80. Legislative Administration Committee duties.** (1) The Legislative Administration Committee shall consider matters relating to legislative administration, staffing patterns, budgets, equipment, operations, and expenditures.

(2) The committee has authority to act in the interim to prepare for future legislative sessions.

(3) The committee shall approve contracts for purchase or lease of equipment and supplies for the Senate, subject to the approval of the President.

(4) The committee shall consider disputes or complaints involving the competency or decorum of legislative employees referred to it by the President and recommend dismissal, suspension, or retention of employees.

(5) The chair of the Legislative Administration Committee may, upon approval of the President, have purchase orders and requisitions prepared and forwarded to the accounting office in the Legislative Services Division.

**S10-90. Majority Leader.** The primary functions of the majority leader usually relate to floor duties. The duties of the majority leader may include but are not limited to:

(1) being the lead speaker for the majority party during floor debates;

(2) arranging legislation on the Committee of the Whole agenda in the order in which the bills will be considered;

- ~~(2)~~(3) helping the President develop the calendar;
- ~~(3)~~(4) assisting the President with program development, policy formation, and policy decisions;
- ~~(4)~~(5) presiding over the majority caucus meetings; and
- ~~(5)~~(6) other duties as assigned by the caucus.

**S10-100. Majority Whip.** The duties of the majority whip may include but are not limited to:

- (1) assisting the majority leader;
- (2) ensuring member attendance;
- (3) counting votes;
- (4) generally communicating the majority position; and
- (5) other duties as assigned by the caucus.

**S10-110. Minority Leader.** The minority leader is the principal leader of the minority caucus. The duties of the minority leader may include but are not limited to:

- (1) developing the minority position;
- (2) negotiating with the majority party;
- (3) directing minority caucus activities on the chamber floor;
- (4) leading debate for the minority; and
- (5) other duties as assigned by the caucus.

**S10-120. Minority Whip.** The major responsibilities for the minority whip may include but are not limited to:

- (1) assisting the minority leader on the floor;
- (2) counting votes;
- (3) ensuring attendance of minority party members; and
- (4) other duties as assigned by the caucus.

**S10-130. Senate employees.** (1) In addition to the employees appointed by the President, the Senate shall employ staff recommended by the leadership and the Legislative Administration Committee as necessary to perform the functions of the Senate.

(2) The Secretary of the Senate shall designate a secretary to take and prepare written minutes of committee meetings for each standing committee. A committee secretary is immediately responsible to the