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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1

INTRODUCED BY ****

BY REQUEST OF THE ****

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 qualifications of the Senators.

S10-40. Voting by presiding officer. Any Senator, when acting as presiding officer of the Senate, shall vote as any other Senator.

S10-50. Presiding officer and duties. (1) The presiding officer of the Senate is the President of the Senate, who must be chosen in accordance with law.

(2) The President shall take the chair on every legislative day at the hour to which the Senate adjourned at the last sitting.

1 bears including in the calendar.

2 **S20-70. Distribution of materials on floor -- exception.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), material may
3 not be distributed on the Senators' desks in the chamber unless the material bears the signature of the bearer
4 and a Senator and has been approved by the President.

5 (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to material written by staff at the request of a Senator and placed on
6 the Senator's desk.

7 **CHAPTER 3**

8 **Committees**

9 **S30-10. Committee appointments.** (1) There is a Committee on Committees consisting of six
10 members of the majority party. If the Senate is evenly divided between parties, the committee shall consist of
11 six Senators, three from the majority party and three from the minority party.

12 (2) The Committee on Committees shall, with the approval of the Senate, appoint the members of
13 Senate standing committees, joint committees, and interim committees. Prior to making committee
14 assignments, the Committee on Committees shall take into consideration the recommendations of the minority
15 leader for minority committee assignments.

16 (3) The minority leader shall designate the ranking minority member for each standing committee.

17 (4) The President of the Senate shall appoint all conference committees and select committees, with
18 the advice of the majority leader and minority leader.

19 (5) The Senate may change the membership of any committee on 1 day's notice.

20 **S30-20. Standing committees -- classification.** (1) The standing committees of the Senate are as
21 follows:

22 (a) class one committees:

23 (i) Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs;

24 (ii) Executive Branch Review;

25 ~~(ii)(iii)~~ Finance and Claims;

26 ~~(iii)(iv)~~ Judiciary; and

27 ~~(iv)(v)~~ Taxation;

28 (b) class two committees:

- 1 ~~(i) Education and Cultural Resources;~~
- 2 ~~(i) Highways and Transportation;~~
- 3 (ii) Local Government;
- 4 (iii) Natural Resources;
- 5 (iv) Public Health, Welfare, and Safety; and
- 6 (v) State Administration;

7 (c) class three committees:

- 8 (i) Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation;

9 ~~(ii) Education and Cultural Resources;~~

10 ~~(#)(iii) Energy and Telecommunications; and~~

11 ~~(##)(iv) Fish and Game; and~~

12 ~~(iv) Highways and Transportation; and~~

13 (d) on-call committees:

- 14 (i) Ethics;
- 15 (ii) Legislative Administration; and
- 16 (iii) Rules.

17 (2) A class 1 committee is scheduled to meet Monday through Friday. A class 2 committee is
18 scheduled to meet Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. A class 3 committee is scheduled to meet Tuesday and
19 Thursday. Unless a class is prescribed for a committee, it meets upon the call of the chair.

20 (3) The Legislative Council shall review the workload of the standing committees to determine if any
21 change is indicated in the class of a standing committee for the next legislative session. The Legislative
22 Council's recommendations must be submitted to the leadership nominated or elected at the pre-session
23 caucus.

24 **S30-40. Ex officio members -- quorum.** (1) A quorum of a committee is a majority of the members of
25 the committee. A quorum of a committee must be physically or remotely present at a meeting to act officially. A
26 quorum of a committee may transact business, and a majority of the quorum, even though it is a minority of the
27 committee, is sufficient for committee action.

28 (2) The majority leader and the minority leader are ex officio nonvoting members of all committees in