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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 (2) arranging legislation on the Committee of the Whole agenda in the order in which the bills will be
21 considered, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate or Committee of the Whole;

22 (3) helping the President develop the calendar;

23 (4) assisting the President with program development, policy formation, and policy decisions;

24 (5) presiding over the majority caucus meetings;

25 (6) serving as chair or designee of the rules committee; and

26 ~~(6)(7)~~ other duties as assigned by the caucus.

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

28 (1) assisting the majority leader;

- 1 (2) serving as parliamentary advisor to the Senate;
- 2 (3) compiling and maintaining the calendar for approval by the President;
- 3 (4) keeping the leadership informed on the progress and workload of the Senate;
- 4 (5) transmitting bills with appropriate messages to the House of Representatives as instructed by action
- 5 of the Senate;
- 6 (6) keeping and maintaining records of the Senate; and
- 7 (7) supervision of the Senate employees, except as otherwise provided.

8 **S10-150. Sergeant-at-Arms duties.** Under the direction of the President and the Secretary of the
9 Senate, the Sergeant-at-Arms shall:

- 10 (1) maintain order as directed by the President or chair of the Committee of the Whole;
- 11 (2) enforce the lobbying rules of the Senate;
- 12 (3) supervise the employees assigned to the Sergeant's office;
- 13 (4) receive, distribute, and maintain supplies, equipment, and other inventory of the Senate, along with
- 14 records of purchase and disposal in accordance with law;
- 15 (5) issue floor passes to qualified applicants as provided in S20-55; and
- 16 ~~(5)~~(6) perform duties as required by other rules and the Senate.

17 **S10-160. Legislative interns.** Each Senator may designate one person of legal age to serve as an
18 intern during the session. Exceptions to this policy may be approved by the Rules Committee. The Senator
19 shall register an intern with the Secretary of the Senate and arrange for the purchase of a name tag with the
20 Sergeant- at-Arms.

21 **S10-170. Senate journal.** (1) The Senate shall keep and authenticate a journal of its proceedings as
22 required by law and the rules.

23 (2) The Secretary of the Senate will supervise the preparation of the journal by the journal clerks
24 trained by the Legislative Services Division under the direction of the President.

25 (3) In addition to the proceedings required by law to be recorded, the journal must include:

- 26 (a) committee reports;
- 27 (b) every motion, the name of the Senator presenting it, and its disposition;
- 28 (c) the introduction of legislation in the Senate;

1 (4) If a Senator is called to order, the matter may be referred to the Rules Committee by the minority or
2 majority leader. The Committee may recommend to the Senate that the Senator be censured or be subject to
3 other action. Censure consists of an official public reprimand of a Senator for inappropriate behavior. The
4 Senate shall act upon the recommendation of the Committee.

5 **S20-30. Questions of privilege -- restrictions.** (1) Questions of privilege in order of precedence are
6 those:

7 (a) affecting the collective rights, safety, dignity, or integrity of the proceedings of the Senate; and

8 (b) affecting the rights, reputation, or conduct of individual Senators in their capacity as Senators.

9 (2) A Senator may not address the Senate on a question of privilege between the time:

10 (a) an undebatable motion is offered and the vote is taken on the motion;

11 (b) the previous question is ordered and the vote is taken on the proposition included under the
12 previous question;

13 (c) a motion to lay on the table is offered and the vote is taken on the motion; or

14 (d) a bill sponsor closes on the bill and the question is called by the presiding officer with a vote taken
15 on the motion.

16 **S20-40. Recognition by chair.** A Senator desiring to speak shall indicate to the presiding officer and,
17 once being recognized, shall speak. When two or more Senators indicate a desire to speak at the same time,
18 the presiding officer shall determine the order of the speakers.

19 **S20-50. Floor privileges.** (1) When the Senate is in session no person is permitted in the chambers
20 except:

21 (a) legislators;

22 (b) legislative officers and employees whose presence is necessary for the conduct of business of the
23 session;

24 (c) ~~registered~~ representatives of the media with a floor pass; and

25 (d) former legislators (not currently registered as lobbyists).

26 (2) The President may make exceptions for visiting dignitaries.

27 (3) Beginning 1 hour before and ending one-half hour after adjournment, no person is permitted in the
28 chambers except those authorized as exceptions under subsection (1) or (2).

1 **S20-55. Representatives of the media -- floor pass.** (1) Representatives of the media are not
2 permitted in chambers without a valid floor pass.

3 (2) The Sergeant-at-Arms, at the direction of the President, controls when and where individuals with a
4 floor pass will be granted access to chambers. An individual with a floor pass is not guaranteed access to the
5 floor and may be denied future access for violating rules of decorum.

6 **S20-60. Communications to Senate.** A communication to the Senate must be addressed to the
7 President and must bear the name of the person submitting it. The President shall decide if the communication
8 bears including in the calendar.

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

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

14 **CHAPTER 3**

15 **Committees**

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 (a) class one committees:

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

3 (ii) Finance and Claims;

4 (iii) Judiciary; and

5 (iv) Taxation;

6 (b) class two committees:

7 (i) Education and Cultural Resources;

8 (ii) Local Government;

9 (iii) Natural Resources;

10 (iv) Public Health, Welfare, and Safety; and

11 (v) State Administration;

12 (c) class three committees:

13 (i) Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation;

14 (ii) Energy, Technology, and ~~Telecommunications~~ Federal Relations;

15 (iii) Fish and Game; and

16 (iv) Highways and Transportation; and

17 (d) on-call committees:

18 (i) Ethics;

19 (ii) Legislative Administration; and

20 (iii) Rules.

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

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

28 **S30-40. Ex officio members -- quorum.** (1) A quorum of a committee is a majority of the members of

1 the committee. A quorum of a committee must be physically or remotely present at a meeting to act officially. A
2 quorum of a committee may transact business, and a majority of the quorum, even though it is a minority of the
3 committee, is sufficient for committee action.

4 (2) The President, the majority leader, and the minority leader are ex officio nonvoting members of all
5 committees in order to establish a quorum. As ex officio nonvoting members of a committee, the President,
6 majority leader, and minority leader have the privileges of a committee member pursuant to S30-70(13)(a),
7 (13)(c), and (13)(d).

8 **S30-50. Chair's duties.** (1) The chair of a committee is the presiding officer of that committee and is
9 responsible for:

10 (a) maintaining order within the committee room and its environs;

11 (b) scheduling hearings and executive action;

12 (c) supervising committee work, including the appointment of subcommittees to act on a formal or
13 informal basis; and

14 (d) authenticating committee reports by signing them and submitting them promptly to the Secretary of
15 the Senate. The chair shall sign business reports reflecting action taken in each committee meeting that enable
16 the preparation of committee minutes. The minutes must be printed on archival paper.

17 (2) The Secretary of the Senate shall arrange to have the minutes copied in an electronic format. An
18 electronic copy will be provided to the Legislative Services Division and the State Law Library of Montana. The
19 archival paper copy must be delivered to the Montana Historical Society.

20 **S30-60. Meetings -- notice -- purpose -- minutes.** (1) All meetings of committees must be open to the
21 public at all times, subject always to the power and authority of the chair to maintain safety, order, and
22 decorum. The date, time, and place of committee meetings must be announced.

23 (2) Notice of a committee hearing must be made by posting the date, time, and subject of the hearing
24 online and in a conspicuous public place not less than 3 legislative days in advance of the hearing. This 3-day
25 notice requirement does not apply to hearings scheduled:

26 (a) prior to the third legislative day;

27 (b) less than 10 legislative days before the transmittal deadline applicable to the subject of the hearing;

28 (c) to consider confirmation of a gubernatorial appointment received less than 10 legislative days

- 1 (a) adopt or amend Senate rules;
- 2 (b) provide for the internal affairs of the Senate;
- 3 (c) express confirmation of the Governor's appointments; or
- 4 (d) make recommendations concerning the districting and apportionment plan as provided by Article V,
- 5 section 14(4), of the Montana Constitution.

6 **S40-20. Introduction -- first reading.** (1) Upon receiving a bill or resolution from a Senator, the
7 Secretary of the Senate shall assign an appropriate sequential number, which constitutes introduction of the
8 legislation. Legislation properly introduced or received in the Senate must be announced across the rostrum
9 and public notice provided. This announcement constitutes first reading, and no debate or motion is in order
10 except that a Senator may question adherence to rules. Acknowledgment by the Secretary of the Senate of
11 receipt of legislation transmitted from the House commences the time limit for consideration of the legislation.
12 All legislation received by the Senate may be referred to a committee prior to being read across the rostrum.

13 (2) Bills and resolutions preintroduced as provided in Joint Rule 40-40 may be assigned to committee
14 by the President, posted online, and printed prior to the legislative session. The Legislative Services Division is
15 responsible for ensuring the preintroduction intent from each Senator and presenting the preintroduced
16 legislation to the Secretary of the Senate.

17 (3) Upon referral to committee by the President, the Secretary of the Senate shall publicly post a listing
18 of the bill or resolution by a summary of its title, together with a notation of the committee to which it has been
19 assigned.

20 (4) The sponsor may ask the Legislative Services Division to change or correct a short title used on the
21 bill status system.

22 **S40-30. Cosponsors and additional sponsors.** (1) Prior to submitting legislation to the Secretary of
23 the Senate for introduction, the chief sponsor may add representatives and senators as cosponsors. A
24 legislator shall sign the cosponsor form attached to the legislation in order to be added as a cosponsor.

25 (2) After legislation is submitted for introduction, sponsors may be added on motion of the chief sponsor
26 at any time prior to a standing committee report on the bill or resolution. Forms for adding sponsors will be
27 supplied on request by the Secretary of the Senate.

28 (3) Upon passage of the motion, the names of the additional sponsors will be printed in the journal and

1 the form containing the signatures of the additional sponsors will be forwarded to the Legislative Services
2 Division with the original bill for the inclusion of the names in subsequent printings of the bill or resolution.

3 **S40-40. Reading limitations.** (1) Every bill must be read three times prior to passage, either by title or
4 by summary of title as provided in these rules.

5 (2) A bill or resolution may not have more than one reading on the same day except the last legislative
6 day.

7 (3) An amendment may not be offered on third reading.

8 **S40-60. Scheduling for second reading.** (1) All bills and resolutions that have been reported by a
9 committee or withdrawn from a committee by motion, accepted by the Senate, and posted online and
10 reproduced must be scheduled by the President for consideration by Committee of the Whole.

11 (2) Until the 50th legislative day, 1 day must elapse between receiving the legislation from printing and
12 scheduling for second reading for consideration by Committee of the Whole unless a posted or printed version
13 of an unamended bill is available.

14 (3) The majority leader shall arrange legislation on the agenda in the order in which the bills will be
15 considered, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate or Committee of the Whole.

16 **CHAPTER 5**

17 **Floor Action**

18 **S50-10. Attendance -- mandatory voting -- quorum.** (1) Unless excused by the President, majority
19 leader, or minority leader, Senators must be physically present every sitting of the Senate and shall vote on
20 questions put before the Senate.

21 (2) A majority of the Senate shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may
22 adjourn from day to day and compel the attendance of absent Senators, in the manner and under penalties as
23 the Senate may prescribe (Montana Constitution, Art. V, sec. 10(2)).

24 **S50-20. Orders of business.** After prayer, roll call, and report on the journal, the order of business of
25 the Senate is as follows:

26 (1) communications and petitions;

27 (2) reports of standing committees;

28 (3) reports of select committees;

- 1 (4) messages from the Governor;
- 2 (5) messages from the House of Representatives;
- 3 (6) first reading and commitment of bills;
- 4 (7) second reading of bills (Committee of the Whole);
- 5 (8) third reading of bills;
- 6 (9) motions;
- 7 (10) unfinished business;
- 8 (11) special orders of the day; and
- 9 (12) announcement of committee meetings.

10 To revert to or pass to a new order of business requires only a majority vote. Unless otherwise
11 specified in the motion to recess, the Senate shall revert to Order of Business No. 1 when reconvening after a
12 recess.

13 **S50-30. Limitations on debate.** A Senator may not speak more than twice on any one motion or
14 question without unanimous consent of the Senate, unless the Senator has introduced or proposed the motion
15 or question under debate, in which case the Senator may speak twice and also close the debate. However, a
16 Senator who has spoken may not speak again on the same motion or question to the exclusion of a Senator
17 who has not spoken.

18 **S50-40. Procedure upon offering a motion.** (1) When a motion is offered it must be restated by the
19 presiding officer. If requested by the presiding officer or a Senator, it must be reduced to writing, presented at
20 the rostrum, and read aloud by the Secretary.

21 (2) A motion may be withdrawn by the Senator offering it at any time before it is amended or voted
22 upon.

23 (3) A motion is carried by a majority of the Senate present and voting unless otherwise stated in the
24 Senate Rules.

25 **S50-50. Precedence of motions.** (1) When a question is under debate only the following privileged
26 and subsidiary motions may be made:

27 (a) to adjourn for the day (nondebatable S50-60);

28 (b) to adjourn sine die (debatable S50-135);

- 1 ~~(b)~~(c) for a call of the Senate (nondebatable S50-60);
- 2 ~~(e)~~(d) to recess (nondebatable S50-60);
- 3 ~~(d)~~(e) question of privilege;
- 4 ~~(e)~~(f) to lay on the table (nondebatable S50-60);
- 5 ~~(f)~~(g) for the previous question (nondebatable S50-60);
- 6 ~~(g)~~(h) to postpone to a certain day;
- 7 ~~(h)~~(i) to refer or commit;
- 8 ~~(i)~~(j) to amend;
- 9 ~~(j)~~(k) subject to subsection (1)(k), to postpone indefinitely; and
- 10 ~~(k)~~(l) to postpone indefinitely on a bill or resolution after ~~debate~~its failure to receive a majority of those
- 11 present and voting on second reading.

12 (2) The motions listed in subsection (1) have precedence in the order listed.

13 (3) Subject to subsection (1)(k), a question may be indefinitely postponed by a majority roll call of all
 14 Senators physically or remotely present and voting. When a bill or resolution is postponed indefinitely after
 15 debate on second reading, it is finally rejected and may not be acted upon again except upon a motion of
 16 reconsideration as provided in S50-90.

17 (4) A motion or proposition on a subject different from that under consideration may not be accepted
 18 unless a substitute motion is in order.

19 **S50-60. Nondebatable motions.** The following motions are not debatable:

- 20 (1) to adjourn for the day;
- 21 (2) for a call of the Senate;
- 22 (3) to recess or rise;
- 23 (4) for parliamentary inquiry;
- 24 (5) for suspension of the rules;
- 25 (6) to lay on the table;
- 26 (7) for the previous question;
- 27 (8) to limit, extend the limits of, or to close debate;
- 28 (9) to amend an undebatable motion;

- 1 (10) to change a vote (S50-200);
- 2 (11) to pass business in Committee of the Whole;
- 3 (12) to take from the table;
- 4 (13) a decision of the presiding officer, unless appealed or unless the presiding officer submits the
- 5 question to the Senate for advice or decision; and
- 6 (14) all incidental motions, such as motions relating to voting or other questions of a general procedural
- 7 nature.

8 **S50-70. Amending motions -- restrictions.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), no more than one
9 amendment and no more than one substitute motion may be made to a motion. This rule permits the main
10 motion and two modifying motions.

11 (2) A motion for a call of the Senate, for the previous question, to table, or to take from the table may
12 not be amended.

13 **S50-80. Previous question.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the effect of calling for the
14 previous question, if adopted, is to close debate immediately, to prevent the offering of amendments or other
15 subsidiary motions, and to bring to vote promptly the immediately pending main question and the adhering
16 subsidiary motions, whether on appeal or otherwise. The motion for the previous question is nondebatable as
17 provided in S50-60(7).

18 (2) When the previous question is ordered on any debatable question on which there has been no
19 debate, the question may be debated for one-half hour, one-half of that time to be given to the proponents and
20 one-half to the opponents. The sponsor of the main motion on which the previous question is adopted may
21 close on the motion regardless of whether debate on the main motion has occurred.

22 (3) A call of the Senate is not in order after the previous question is ordered unless it appears upon an
23 actual count by the presiding officer that a quorum is not physically and remotely present.

24 **S50-90. Reconsideration -- time restrictions.** (1) Subject to subsection (6), any Senator may, on the
25 day the vote was taken or on the next day the Senate is in session, move to reconsider the question. A motion
26 to reconsider is a debatable motion, but the debate is limited to the motion. The debate on a motion to
27 reconsider may not address the substance of the matter for which reconsideration is sought. However, an
28 inquiry may be made concerning the purpose of the motion to reconsider.

1 on the calendar the succeeding legislative day for consideration on second reading. If recommended favorably
2 by the Committee of the Whole, it may be considered on third reading the same legislative day.

3 (2) If both the Senate and the House of Representatives adopt the same conference committee report
4 on legislation requiring more than a majority vote for final passage, the Senate, following approval of the
5 conference committee report on third reading, shall place the final form of the legislation on third reading to
6 determine if the required vote is obtained.

7 (3) If the Senate rejects a conference committee report, the committee continues to exist unless
8 dissolved by the President or by motion. The committee may file a subsequent report.

9 (4) A Senate conference committee may confer regarding matters assigned to it with any House
10 conference committee with like jurisdiction and submit recommendations for consideration of the Senate.

11 **S50-135. Adjournment sine die. (1) Subject to Article V, section 10(5), of the Montana Constitution, a**
12 **Senator may move that the Senate adjourn for the session.**

13 **(2) (a) The motion is debatable and may be made under any order of business except Order of**
14 **Business No. 7.**

15 **(b) Debate on the motion is limited to two proponents and two opponents.**

16 **S50-140. Second reading -- Committee of the Whole report -- segregation -- rejection.** (1) The
17 Senate may resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for consideration of business on second reading, by
18 approval of a motion for that purpose.

19 (2) After a Committee of the Whole has been formed, the President shall appoint a chair to preside.

20 (3) All legislation considered in the Committee of the Whole must be read by a summary of its title. The
21 sponsor shall make an opening statement, proposed amendments must be considered, and then the bill must
22 be considered in its entirety.

23 (4) Prior to adoption of the Committee of the Whole report, a Senator may move to segregate
24 legislation. If the motion prevails, the legislation remains on second reading.

25 (5) When a Committee of the Whole report on legislation is rejected, the legislation remains on second
26 reading.

27 **S50-150. Committee of the Whole amendments.** (1) All Committee of the Whole amendments must
28 be prepared by the staff of the Legislative Services Division, stipulating the date and time of preparation and

1 staff approval, and delivered to the Secretary of the Senate for reading before the amendment is voted on.

2 (2) Each amendment, rejected or adopted, must be referenced in the journal, along with the name of
3 the sponsor and the vote on each.

4 **S50-160. Motions in Committee of the Whole.** (1) All proper motions on second reading are
5 debatable unless specified in S50-60.

6 (2) The only motions in order during Committee of the Whole are to:

7 (a) recommend passage or nonpassage;

8 (b) recommend concurrence or nonconcurrence (House amendments to Senate legislation);

9 (c) amend;

10 (d) subject to subsection (2)(e), to postpone indefinitely;

11 (e) to postpone indefinitely on a bill or resolution after ~~the vote is taken~~ its failure to receive a majority of
12 those present and voting on second reading;

13 (f) pass consideration;

14 (g) change the order in which legislation is placed on the agenda (nondebatable S50-60(14));

15 (h) rise (nondebatable S50-60(3));

16 (i) rise and report progress and ask leave to sit again (nondebatable S50-60(3)); or

17 (j) rise and report (nondebatable S50-60(3)).

18 (3) The motions listed in subsection (2) may be made in descending order as listed.

19 (4) Except for the President of the Senate or designee, a Senator may not be recognized between the
20 time a bill sponsor closes on the bill and the question is called by the presiding officer with a vote taken on the
21 bill or resolution.

22 **S50-170. Committee of the Whole -- generally.** (1) The Committee of the Whole may not appoint
23 subcommittees.

24 (2) The Committee of the Whole may not punish its members for misconduct, but may report disorder
25 to the Senate.

26 **S50-180. Voting on second reading -- positive disposition of motions.** (1) On Order of Business
27 No. 7, in addition to other methods, a recorded vote may be made in the following manner: the chair may call
28 for a voice vote to accept or reject a question. If the vote is other than unanimous, the chair may ask that the

1 lesser number on the question indicate their vote by an approved method of counting votes. The Secretary will
2 then record the vote. The chair may then rule that unless excused those of the greater number and physically
3 or remotely present have voted on the prevailing side of the question and that their vote be recorded as voting
4 on the prevailing side. If there was a unanimous voice vote, all those physically or remotely present will be
5 recorded as having voted for the question.

6 (2) A motion on second reading must be disposed of by a positive vote.

7 **S50-190. Third reading procedure.** (1) Unless rereferred to a committee by a majority vote after the
8 adoption of the Committee of the Whole report but before adjournment for the day, all legislation passing
9 second reading must be placed on third reading the day following the receipt of the engrossing or other
10 appropriate printing report.

11 (2) On Order of Business No. 8 the Secretary shall read the title and the President shall state the
12 question as follows: "Senate bill number (or other appropriate identification)..... having been read three ~~several~~
13 times, the question is, shall the bill (or other appropriate identification) pass the Senate?"

14 (3) If an electronic voting system is used, the President shall state "Those in favor vote yes and those
15 opposed vote no" and the Secretary will sound the signal and open the board for voting. After a reasonable
16 pause the presiding officer asks "Has every member voted?" (reasonable pause), "Does any member wish to
17 change his or her vote?" (reasonable pause), "The Secretary will record the vote."

18 **S50-200. Senate voting -- changing a vote -- objection.** (1) A roll call vote must be taken on the
19 request of two Senators, if the request occurs before the vote is taken.

20 (2) On a roll call vote the names of the Senators must be called alphabetically, unless an electronic
21 voting system is used. A Senator may not vote after the decision is announced from the chair. A Senator may
22 not explain a vote until after the decision is announced from the chair.

23 (3) A Senator may move to change the Senator's vote, on any recorded vote, within 1 legislative day of
24 the vote. The Senator making the motion shall first specify the bill number, the date of the vote, and the original
25 vote tally. A vote may not be changed if it would affect the outcome of legislation. The motion is nondebatable.
26 If none of the Senators physically or remotely present object, the change must be entered into the journal.

27 (4) If any Senator objects to the request in subsection (3), the Senator making the request may move to
28 suspend the rules to allow the Senator to change the Senator's vote.