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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 majority leader. The Committee may recommend to the Senate that the Senator be censured or be subject to
2 other action. Censure consists of an official public reprimand of a Senator for inappropriate behavior. The
3 Senate shall act upon the recommendation of the Committee.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 (a) legislators;

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

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

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

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

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

28 **S20-55. Representatives of the media – floor pass.** (1) Representatives of the media are not

1 permitted in chambers without a valid floor pass.

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

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

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

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

13 **CHAPTER 3**

14 **Committees**

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

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

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

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

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

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

28 (a) class one committees: