

ARTICLE 2 - FLOOR PROCEEDINGS, VOTING, DECORUM

2.31 OFFENSIVE WORDS IN DEBATE. If a member is called to order for offensive words in debate, the member calling for order must report the words to which exception is taken and the Clerk must record them. A member must not be held to answer, or be subject to censure of the House, for language used in debate unless exception is taken before another member speaks or other business takes place.

Rule 2.32

Rule 2.30

House Rules Index

Permanent Rules of
the House

Sec. 7. **Rules of government.** Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, sit upon its own adjournment, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and with the concurrence of two-thirds expel a member; but no member shall be expelled a second time for the same offense.

Sec. 8. **Oath of office.** Each member and officer of the legislature before entering upon his duties shall take an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States, the constitution of this state, and to discharge faithfully the duties of his office to the best of his judgment and ability.

Sec. 9. **Compensation.** The compensation of senators and representatives shall be prescribed by law. No increase of compensation shall take effect during the period for which the members of the existing house of representatives may have been elected.

Sec. 10. **Privilege from arrest.** The members of each house in all cases except treason, felony and breach of the peace, shall be privileged from arrest during the session of their respective houses and in going to or returning from the same. For any speech or debate in either house they shall not be questioned in any other place.

Sec. 11. **Protest and dissent of members.** Two or more members of either house may dissent and protest against any act or resolution which they think injurious to the public or to any individual and have the reason of their dissent entered in the journal.

Sec. 12. **Biennial meetings; length of session; special sessions; length of adjournments.** The legislature shall meet at the seat of government in regular session in each biennium at the times prescribed by law for not exceeding a total of 120 legislative days. The legislature shall not meet in regular session, nor in any adjournment thereof, after the first Monday following the third Saturday in May of any year. After meeting at a time prescribed by law, the legislature may adjourn to another time. "Legislative day" shall be defined by law. A special session of the legislature may be called by the governor on extraordinary occasions.

Neither house during a session of the legislature shall adjourn for more than three days (Sundays excepted) nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be assembled without the consent of the other house.

Sec. 13. **Quorum.** A majority of each house constitutes a quorum to transact business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day and compel the attendance of absent members in the manner and under the penalties it may provide.

Sec. 14. **Open sessions.** Each house shall be open to the public during its sessions except in cases which in its opinion require secrecy.

Sec. 15. **Officers; journals.** Each house shall elect its presiding officer and other officers as may be provided by law. Both houses shall keep journals of their proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, and the yeas and nays, when taken on any question, shall be entered in the journals.

Sec. 16. **Elections viva voce.** In all elections by the legislature members shall vote viva voce and their votes shall be entered in the journal.

Sec. 17. **Laws to embrace only one subject.** No law shall embrace more than one subject, which shall be expressed in its title.

Sec. 18. **Revenue bills to originate in house.** All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the house of representatives, but the senate may propose and concur with the amendments as on other bills.

Sec. 19. **Reporting of bills.** Every bill shall be reported on three different days in each house, unless, in case of urgency, two-thirds of the house where the bill is pending deem it expedient to dispense with this rule.

Sec. 20. **Enrollment of bills.** Every bill passed by both houses shall be enrolled and signed by the presiding officer of each house. Any presiding officer refusing to sign a bill passed by both houses shall thereafter be disqualified from any office of honor or profit in the state. Each house by rule shall provide the manner in which a bill shall be certified for presentation to the governor in case of such refusal.

Sec. 21. **Passage of bills on last day of session prohibited.** No bill shall be passed by either house upon the day prescribed for adjournment. This section shall not preclude the

enrollment of a bill signature.

Sec. 22. **Majority.** shall be: "Be it enacted unless voted for by the vote entered in:

Sec. 23. **Approval.** ty to the rules of each governor. If he approves and notify the house of his objections to the journal. If, after reconsideration together with the governor. If approved by two-thirds of the secretary of state, yeas and nays, and the journal of each house (excepted) after its adjournment by adjournment. The final adjournment and secretary of state within the last three days of adjournment does not

If a bill presented may veto one or more governor shall append take effect. If the legislature has taken a copy of the statute for reconsideration any item is a part of the law notwithstanding.

Sec. 24. **Presentation.** lution or vote requiring adjournment of the house as prescribed in case of veto.

Sec. 25. **Disorderly conduct.** ment for not more than 30 days for contemptuous behavior.

Sec. 26. **Banking law.** the vote of two-thirds of

Section 1. **Executive Department.** tenant governor, secretary of state, chosen by the electors of the state by a single vote applying

NOTE: If the constitutional amendment as follows:

"Section 1. The executive department shall be chosen by the electors of the state. The manner prescribed by law."

NOTE: If the proposed amendment 1998, chapter 387, article 1, section 2.

Sec. 2. **Term of governor and lieutenant governor.** for the governor and lieutenant