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SR029-16 – Proposed Permanent Senate Rules

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SR029-16 proposes permanent Senate Rules. The proposal is comprised of changes proposed at the March 8, 2024, hearing of the Subcommittee on Joint and Permanent Rules, with some modifications and additional changes. Throughout the document, technical changes are made, including changes to capitalization, grammar, and cross-references. In addition, throughout the document “shall” is changed to “must,” “group” is changed to “caucus,” and “Web site” is changed to “website.” The table below summarizes changes that are not technical in nature. The resolutions referenced in the table below are from the March 8 hearing and are available here:

<https://www.senate.mn/schedule/individual/18429/20240308>.

Rule	Proposed Change(s)
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Specifies that the most recent version of Mason’s Manual governs.- This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Strikes language relating to bill introduction in the interim.- This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Requires bills proposing constitutional amendments to go to Rules Committee.- This is from SR046 (Drazkowski).
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Clarifies process for recalling bills from committee.- This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Clarifies that this rule does not apply before the Rules Committee is established or to the adoption of temporary rules.- This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).

Rule	Proposed Change(s)
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reorganizes the rule related to budget targets. - This is from SR066 (Marty).
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strikes language relating to uniform criteria governing committee assignments. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strikes reference to caucuses of certain county delegations being open to the public. - Reorganizes Rule 12.1. - Requires committee and subcommittee hearings to be held in a manner that permits remote participation. - Witnesses must be seen and heard by committee members when providing testimony. - Removes references to COVID-19. - Allows remote participation by members with caucus leader approval; removes other qualifiers for remote participation. Removes ability to participate without caucus leader approval in some situations. - Specifies that members participating remotely must be visible when speaking or voting. - Allows members participating remotely to be counted in a division. - Requires witnesses to be allowed to testify remotely in committees where testimony is taken. - Changes “internet connection” to “technology connection.” - Strikes requirement to post notices on Senate bulletin boards and to send notices to the House. - Specifies that a hearing notice sent on a listserv constitutes notice to known proponents and opponents. - Changes process for meeting past midnight so that a committee may extend the meeting for one hour past midnight by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the committee. - Strikes obsolete language about minutes. Requires minutes to be taken. Minutes must reflect every action and vote taken. - Prohibits disturbances and disorderly conduct during committee hearings. States the chair is responsible for order and decorum. - Allows a committee chair to establish written procedures for conducting committee hearings. - These are from SR029-5 (Murphy); SR035 (Marty); SR043 (Baldon); SR060 (Pratt); SR072 (Pratt); and new proposals.
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If the Senate adjourns without setting a time to reconvene, the Senate reconvenes the next following calendar day (instead of next legislative day), excluding Sundays. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deletes redundant language. - Specifies that a tie vote on an appeal from the decision of the President sustains the decision of the President. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).

Rule	Proposed Change(s)
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amends admission to Senate chamber so that everyone except a member, officer, Representative, or Senate staff member must be personally admitted to the chamber. - This is a modified version of SR061 (Draskowski).
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reorganizes language so that language prohibiting demonstrations is its own Rule. - Allows Senators and staff to consume water on the floor regardless of how long the proceedings are expected to last; water must be stored out of sight; the requirement that containers be unadorned is stricken. - This is from SR037-1 (Rest).
18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes conforming changes to striking Rules 23 (Committee of the Whole), 24 (Calendar), and 25 (Consent Calendar). - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specifies that the Secretary of the Senate must ensure all messages are promptly delivered in the Chamber. Corresponds to striking this responsibility from the Sargent at Arms in Rule 52. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allows messages from the House to be made available electronically before a member may move to concur in a House amendment. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes conforming changes to striking Rule 23 (Committee of the Whole). - General Orders remains a list of bills that have received a second reading. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strikes the entire Rule relating to the Committee of the Whole. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strikes the entire Rule relating to the calendar of all bills. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strikes the entire Rule relating to the Consent Calendar. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes conforming changes to striking Rule 23 (Committee of the Whole). - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adds a cross reference to Rule 29, to allow debate for a motion to adjourn sine die. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specifies that a motion to adjourn sine die is subject to debate, amendment, and subsidiary motions. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).

Rule	Proposed Change(s)
32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes conforming changes to striking Rule 23 (Committee of the Whole). - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes conforming changes to striking Rules 24 (Calendar) and 25 (Consent Calendar). - Specifies that an amendment to an amendment may be amended once adopted. - These come from SR029-5 (Murphy) and SR057 (Drazkowski).
35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes conforming changes to striking Rule 23 (Committee of the Whole). - Specifies the question to be asked when the President puts the question of germaneness to the body. Explains what “yes” and “no” votes mean. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
37	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strikes obsolete reference to an officer being absent from session unless excused by the Senate. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requires a member calling for the division of a question to state the proposed division. Requires the president to determine if division is possible. Specifies that the author determines which portion to vote on first. - Strikes obsolete language relating to motions to strike. - These come from SR029-5 (Murphy) and a new proposal.
40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strikes references to COVID-19. - Allows a member voting remotely during a floor session to be counted in a division. - Requires a record in the Journal when a member votes remotely. - Strikes the prohibition on accepting per diem when a member votes remotely on the floor. - These come from SR029-5 (Murphy); SR034 (Rest); and SR035 (Marty).
41	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes conforming changes to striking Rule 23 (Committee of the Whole). - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
42	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes conforming changes to striking Rule 23 (Committee of the Whole). - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
44	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strikes the requirement that bills be engrossed before being transmitted to the House for concurrence. - Adds references to resolutions. - Specifies that engrossing and enrolling is done under the authority of the Secretary and Engrossing Secretary. - Moves language from Rule 51 to this Rule to require the Engrossing Secretary to correct mistakes to this Rule; makes the Engrossing Secretary solely responsible. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).

Rule	Proposed Change(s)
45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes conforming changes to striking Rule 24 (Calendar). - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
46	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reorganizes criteria for selecting conference committee members. - Specifies that the Subcommittee on Conference Committees is not subject to the committee meeting requirements in Rule 12. - These come from SR029-5 (Murphy) and a new proposal.
47	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes conforming changes to striking Rules 24 (Calendar) and 25 (Consent Calendar). - Strikes obsolete language related to motion before adjournment of the regular session in an odd-numbered year. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
48	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes conforming changes to striking Rule 23 (Committee of the Whole). - Provides that action on a bill that has not been printed or made available electronically is a waiver of Rule 48.4. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Makes conforming changes to striking Rule 23 (Committee of the Whole). - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strikes language related to duties of the Engrossing Secretary that was moved to Rule 44. - Strikes obsolete language related to long distance telephone calls. - Re-orders the months in chronological order. - These are from SR029-5 (Murphy) and a new proposal.
52	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strikes the requirement that the Sergeant at Arms see that messages are promptly delivered. This is replaced with language in Rule 19. - Strikes obsolete language and replaces it with a reference to Senate spaces. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).
54	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strikes language regarding a committee member requesting an action of the Rules Committee to be submitted as a Senate resolution. - Strikes the requirement for the Secretary to post notices in a public place in the Capitol. - Strikes references to the Rules committee's full and exclusive authority and sole and exclusive power over employee matters. - This is from SR029-5 (Murphy).

Rule	Proposed Change(s)
55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specifies that a complaint made to the Subcommittee on Ethical Conduct is made to the chair. - Requires the chair to promptly provide the complaint to the subject of the complaint and members of the committee. - Specifies that complaints are public. - Requires the subcommittee to investigate complaints that meet the stated requirements. - Prohibits the subcommittee from calling witnesses or taking testimony during executive session. - Prohibits recording executive sessions except upon a vote of three members. - Strikes the provision authorizing appointment of special counsel to advise the subcommittee. - Provides a process for dismissing a complaint if the subcommittee is deadlocked. - Specifies that the complainant or subject of the complaint may be represented by counsel. The Senate will not provide legal counsel or reimburse for costs of legal counsel. - Provides a process to withdraw complaints. Notices of withdrawal are public. - These are from SR054-1 Champion and a new proposal.
56	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Includes language from the statute defining potential conflict of interest and what actions must be taken if one exists. - States that senate equipment and resources are for purposes of the Senate and the Legislature and must not be used for commercial purposes or for campaign activities. - These are from a modified version of SR032-1 (Pratt) and a new proposal.
57	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Includes language from statute prohibiting accepting employment or receiving compensation for services performed from businesses related to lobbying. - A member may submit a complaint to the Subcommittee on Ethical Conduct alleging a violation of this Rule. - This is from SR065-1 (Drazkowski).