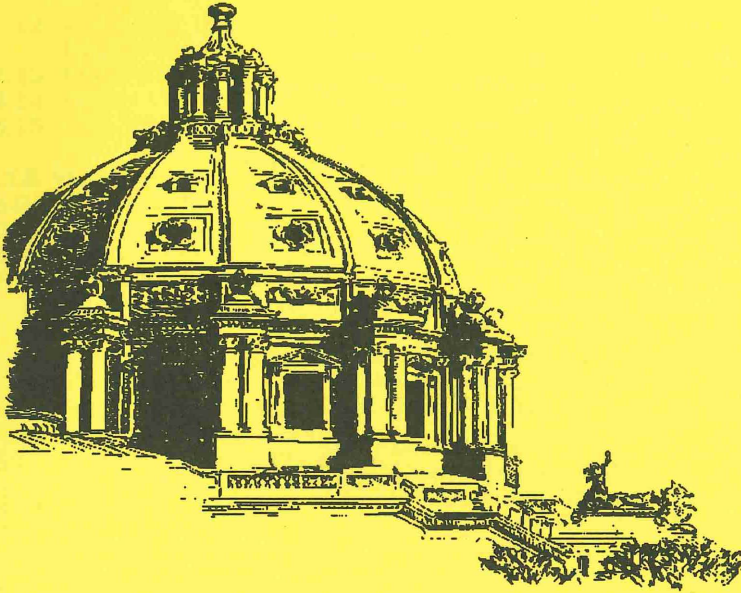


**1994  
PERMANENT RULES  
OF THE HOUSE**



**State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
SEVENTY-EIGHTH SESSION**

**As adopted by the House of Representatives  
on Monday, February 15, 1993, and revised on  
Thursday, March 3, 1994**

# PERMANENT RULES OF THE HOUSE

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## **ARTICLE I DAILY BUSINESS**

1.01 CONVENING OF THE HOUSE. Unless otherwise ordered, regular sessions of the House shall convene at two-thirty p.m. The Speaker shall take the chair at the hour at which the House convenes and the House shall then be called to order. A prayer shall be said by the Chaplain or time allowed for a brief meditation. Then, on the first legislative day in any calendar week, it shall be followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. Then a roll of members shall be called and the names of members present and members excused shall be entered in the Journal of the House.

1.02 READING OF THE JOURNAL. A quorum being present, the Journal of the preceding day shall be read by the Chief Clerk unless otherwise ordered. The House may correct any errors in the Journal of the preceding day.

1.03 ORDER OF BUSINESS. After the reading of the Journal, the order of business of the day shall be:

- (1) Presentation of petitions or other communications.
- (2) Reports of standing committees.
- (3) Second reading of House bills.
- (4) Second reading of Senate bills.
- (5) Reports of select committees.
- (6) Introduction and first reading of House bills.
- (7) Consideration of messages from the Senate.
- (8) First reading of Senate bills.
- (9) Consent Calendar.
- (10) Calendar for the day.
- (11) General Orders.
- (12) Motions and resolutions.

Conference committees on House bills and the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration may report at any time except when the House is in the Committee of the Whole.

1.04 SECOND READING OF BILLS. Every bill shall require a second reading.

Except as otherwise ordered, every bill requiring the approval of the Governor shall, after a second reading, be considered in a Committee of the Whole before it shall be finally acted upon by the House.

1.05 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE. The Committee of the Whole is a committee of the entire membership of the House. The Speaker may appoint another member as chair to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

When the House arrives at the General Orders of the Day, it shall resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider bills on General Orders.

A bill considered in the Committee of the Whole shall be reported and then debated by sections, with the title considered last. All amendments shall be typewritten and five copies shall be submitted to the Chair who shall report them to the House.

**1.06 RULES TO APPLY TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.** The Rules of the House shall be observed in the Committee of the Whole so far as may be applicable except that the previous question shall not be forced or speaking limited.

Upon demand of 15 members, the yeas and nays shall be called, the question voted on, and the yeas and nays recorded in the Journal of the House.

In the Committee of the Whole no amendment increasing the amount of any appropriation shall be passed without the yeas and nays recorded in the Journal of the House.

A motion that the Committee arise shall always be in order and shall be decided without debate.

**1.07 GENERAL ORDERS OF THE DAY.** The Chief Clerk at the direction of the Speaker shall prepare the General Orders of the Day, which is a list of all bills which have not been made Special Orders or placed on the Consent Calendar, numbered according to their order at second reading. Unless otherwise ordered by a majority of the Committee, items on General Orders shall be taken up in numerical order.

The Chief Clerk shall see that a copy of each bill printed under the Rules or Orders of the House is placed in each member's file, which is to be kept at the member's desk in the chamber, at least 24 hours before the bill shall be considered in the Committee of the Whole.

If a bill is progressed three times it shall be placed at the end of General Orders.

Except during the last five days in any year on which a bill may be passed, a bill amended in the Committee of the Whole shall not be given its third reading until it is engrossed and reproduced as amended.

**1.08 THIRD READING OF BILLS.** No amendment shall be received after the third reading without the unanimous consent of the House, except to fill blanks or to amend titles.

At any time prior to its passage any bill or resolution may be referred or re-referred by a majority vote of the whole House. If the committee, other than the Committee of the Whole, to which it was referred or re-referred reports an amendment on it, it shall again be given its second reading, considered in Committee of the Whole, given its third reading and placed upon its final passage.

1.09 SPECIAL ORDERS. A bill may be made the Order of the Day for a special time and be placed upon a separate list known as "Special Orders."

The Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration may by committee report designate as a Special Order any bill which has had its second reading.

Any member may move to make a bill a Special Order by giving notice at least two legislative days in advance of and specifying the day on which the member will so move. The notice shall include the number and title of the bill and the day and time certain for the Special Order. Only the member giving such notice, or another member designated in writing by the member who originally gave notice of the Special Order to the Speaker, may make the motion for the Special Order. A two-thirds vote of the whole House on such motion is required to make a bill a Special Order.

The time set for the motion may not be extended, and failure to make the motion on the specified day forfeits the right to make the motion.

A motion to make a bill a Special Order, when made according to the procedures herein prescribed, shall be a privileged motion, shall take precedence over all other motions except a motion to adjourn or to set the time to adjourn and questions of personal privilege, and may be made at any time on the day designated in the notice. A three-fourths vote of the whole House is required to suspend the motion.

Any Special Order, or any part of it, may be continued or postponed by two-thirds vote of the whole House at the time of such Special Order; however, a Special Order designated by the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration may be continued or postponed by a majority vote of the whole House at the time of such Special Order. If a bill on Special Orders has been continued three times by the author or coauthor a motion for continuance shall not be in order and the bill shall be returned to General Orders.

When the time arrives for the consideration of any Special Order, the House shall consider each bill upon the Special Order in the order in which it is listed. After consideration it shall immediately be read the third time and placed upon final passage.

**1.10 FINANCE AND REVENUE BILLS GIVEN PRECEDENCE.** Any bill relating to taxes or raising revenue and any finance bill, which has had its second reading, shall be acted upon whenever requested by the Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means or a designee of the Chair.

**1.11 CONSENT CALENDAR.** Any bill of a non-controversial nature for which the committee report recommends placement upon the Consent Calendar shall be given its second reading after the report is adopted and placed upon the Consent Calendar. The bill shall be printed and placed in the members' files at least one day before it can be considered. The bill shall be placed upon the Consent Calendar in the order in which it is given its second reading.

The Consent Calendar shall immediately precede the order of business known as "Calendar for the Day." Every bill on the Consent Calendar shall be debated, given its third reading and voted upon, provided, however, that at any time prior to third reading, ten members may object to any bill as being controversial. Any bill so objected to shall be stricken from the Consent Calendar and be immediately placed upon General Orders, taking its place in the usual order.

**1.12 SUSPENSION OF RULES TO ADVANCE A BILL.** Every bill shall be reported on three different days, except that in case of urgency, a two-thirds majority of the whole House may suspend this Rule. A motion for suspension of the Rules to advance a bill for consideration out of its regular order is in order under the order of business "Motions and Resolutions" or at any time the bill is before the House. The motion must be presented to the Speaker in writing and must state the present position of the bill.

**1.13 MINORITY REPORTS.** Any minority report shall be made separately from the majority report and shall be considered before the majority report. If the minority report is adopted the majority report shall not be considered. If the minority report is not adopted the majority report shall then be considered.

**1.14 COMMITTEE REPORT LAID OVER.** The report of any committee may be laid over one day and printed in the Journal, if so ordered by the House.



1.15 RECALLING BILL FROM COMMITTEE OR DIVISION. In regular session, except after the deadline for committee reports on bills originating in the House, any bill or resolution may be recalled from any committee or division at any time by majority vote of the whole House, be given a second reading and be advanced to General Orders. A motion to recall a bill or resolution shall be in order only under the order of business "Motions and Resolutions."

1.16 TIME LIMIT FOR CONSIDERATION OF BILLS. If 20 legislative days after a bill has been referred to committee or division (other than a bill in the Committee on Ways and Means, the Committee on Taxes, a finance committee, or a finance division of a standing committee) no report has been made upon it by the committee or division, its chief author may request that it be returned to the House and the request shall be entered in the Journal for the day. The committee or division shall have ten calendar days thereafter in which to vote upon the bill requested. If the committee or division fails to vote upon it within the ten days, the chief author may, at any time within five calendar days thereafter, present a written demand to the Speaker for its immediate return to the House. The demand shall be entered in the Journal for that day and shall constitute the demand of the House. The bill shall then be considered to be in the possession of the House, given its second reading and placed at the end of General Orders.

Such bill is subject to re-reference by a majority vote of the whole House. If the motion to re-refer is made on the day of the demand or within one legislative day thereafter, the motion shall take precedence over all other motions except privileged motions and shall be in order at any time.

In regular session in 1993 after Friday, May 7, and in 1994 after April 15, the House shall not act on bills other than those recommended by conference committee reports, the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration, or the Committee on Ways and Means, and those bills contained in messages from the Senate or from the Governor.

1.17 DISPOSITION OF SENATE BILLS. Any Senate File received by the House, accompanied by a message announcing its passage by the Senate, shall be referred to the appropriate standing committee in accordance with Rule 5.05. However, if a Senate File is received which is stated by a member to be identical to a House File already reported by a standing committee of the House and placed on General Orders, Calendar, Consent Calendar, or Special Orders, the Senate File shall be referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison. If the Chief Clerk reports that the Senate File is identical with the House

File, the Senate File may by majority vote be substituted for the House File and take its place. The fact that the bills are identical shall be entered in the Journal and the House File is then considered withdrawn.

Any Senate File which has been amended on the floor of the House, except at time of final passage, and any Senate File which has been reported to the House with amendments by a House standing committee, shall be unofficially engrossed and reprinted by the Chief Clerk. Amendments to unofficial engrossments of a Senate File may be offered.

**1.18 RECORDED FLOOR PROCEEDINGS.** All proceedings on the floor of the House shall be recorded on magnetic tape or similar recording device under the direction of the Chief Clerk. All taped proceedings of the House floor sessions shall be delivered to the Director of the Legislative Reference Library and there maintained on file for use by any member of the public in accordance with the rules of the Legislative Reference Library. Tapes delivered to the Legislative Reference Library shall be kept by the library for eight years after which they shall be delivered to the Director of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Any person may obtain a copy of any such tape during the biennium in which it is recorded upon payment of a fee determined by the Chief Clerk to be adequate to cover the cost of preparing the copy.

Discussion preserved under this rule is not intended to be admissible in any court or administrative proceeding on an issue of legislative intent.

## **ARTICLE II VOTING**

**2.01 AUTHORIZING ELECTRIC VOTING SYSTEM.** Except for a vote upon elections, any vote may be taken by means of the electric voting system which shall be under the control of the Speaker of the House. No member may vote on a question except at the member's own seat in the chamber.

**2.02 CALL OF THE HOUSE.** Ten members may demand a call of the House at any time except after voting has commenced. When such call is demanded, the doors shall be closed, the roll shall be called, the absent members shall be sent for, and no member may be permitted to leave until the roll call is suspended or completed. During the roll call, no motion shall be in order except a motion pertaining to matters incidental to the call. Proceedings under the roll call may be

suspended by a majority vote of the whole House. After the roll call is suspended or completed the Sergeant at Arms shall not permit any member to leave the Chamber unless excused by the Speaker. A call of the House may be lifted by a majority vote of the whole House.

**2.03 DEMANDING YEAS AND NAYS.** Yeas and nays shall be ordered without demand upon final passage of bills and upon adoption of resolutions or motions directing the payment of money. In all other cases the yeas and nays shall be ordered only upon demand of 15 members.

**2.04 EXPLAINING OR CHANGING VOTE.** No member shall be allowed to explain a vote or discuss the question while the yeas and nays are being taken, nor be allowed to change a vote after the yeas and nays have been announced from the chair by the Speaker.

**2.05 EVERY UNEXCUSED MEMBER TO VOTE.** Any member who is immediately interested in the question being voted on shall not vote.

Every other member present before a vote is declared from the chair shall vote for or against the matter before the House, unless the House excuses the member from voting. However, no member is required to vote on any matter concerning a resolution except for a resolution relating to the internal business of the House or the Legislature.

A member who declines to vote on a call of the member's name shall be required to state reasons for so declining. After the vote has been taken but before the chair has announced the vote, the chair shall submit to the House the question, "Shall the member, for the reasons stated, be excused from voting?" which shall be decided without debate. Any other proceedings in reference thereto shall take place after announcement of the vote.

### **ARTICLE III MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

**3.01 AMENDMENTS AND OTHER MOTIONS.** No amendment or other motion shall be debated until after it is stated by the Speaker.

After an amendment or other motion has been stated by the Speaker it is in possession of the House, but the mover may withdraw it at any time before amendment or decision. Unless a motion, resolution or amendment is withdrawn on the day it is made, it shall be entered in the Journal, together with the name of the member offering it.

The Speaker may require any amendment or other motion be typewritten and that five copies be given to the Chief Clerk.

**3.02 PRECEDENCE OF MOTIONS.** When a question is under consideration, no motion shall be received except the following, the first four of which shall be decided without debate:

- (1) To fix the time of adjournment.
- (2) To adjourn.
- (3) To lay on the table.
- (4) For the previous question.
- (5) To refer.
- (6) To postpone to a day certain.
- (7) To amend.
- (8) To postpone indefinitely.
- (9) To pass.

The motions shall have precedence in the order listed. However, if the motion for the previous question has been seconded and the main question ordered, the motion to lay on the table shall not be in order.

**3.03 MOTION TO ADJOURN.** A motion to adjourn shall always be in order except during roll call.

When a motion to adjourn is made it shall be in order for the Speaker, before putting the question, to permit any member to state reasons which would seem to render adjournment improper at that time. Such a statement shall not be debatable and shall be limited to not over two minutes.

**3.04 MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION.** When a question has been decided either in the affirmative or negative, it shall be in order for any member who voted with the prevailing side to move its reconsideration, provided that such motion is made either on the same day the vote was taken or within the following two days of actual session of the House. A motion for reconsideration can be made at any time in the Order of Business and shall take precedence over all other questions except the motion to adjourn and the notice of intention to move reconsideration. Such motion or notice shall not be in order if the document, bill, resolution, message, report or other official action on which the vote was taken shall have left the possession of the House.

When a member gives notice of intention to move reconsideration of the final action of the House on any bill, resolution, message, report or other official action, the Chief Clerk shall retain the same until after the matter is disposed of or the time has expired during which the motion for reconsideration can be made.

On the last day allowed for the motion to reconsider, it shall be in order for any member who voted on the prevailing side to make the motion, unless the matter has been already disposed of.

A motion for reconsideration having been voted upon and lost shall not be renewed.

In regular session in 1993, notice of intention to move reconsideration shall not be in order after Monday, April 19.

In regular session in 1994, notice of intention to move reconsideration shall not be in order after April 8.

**3.05 ORDER OF PUTTING QUESTION.** Except in the case of privileged questions, all questions, whether in committee or in the House, shall be put in the order in which they are moved. When filling blanks, a motion for the largest sum or the longest time shall be put first.

**3.06 DIVISION OF A QUESTION.** Any member may request the division of a question which contains several separate and distinct points. A motion to strike out and insert shall not be divisible. If a motion to strike out is lost it shall not preclude another motion to amend or to strike out and insert.

**3.07 THE PREVIOUS QUESTION.** The motion calling for the previous question must be seconded by 15 members. If the motion for the previous question is ordered by a majority of members present, it shall have the effect of cutting off all debate and bringing the House to direct vote upon the question or questions.

The previous question may be moved and ordered upon a single motion, a series of motions allowable under the Rules, or an amendment or amendments; or it may include all authorized motions or amendments, including a vote on final passage of a bill.

On a motion for the previous question, but prior to its being ordered, a call of the House shall be in order. After a majority has ordered the previous question, no call shall be in order prior to the decision on the main question.

When the previous question is decided in the negative, the main question remains under debate until disposed of by taking a vote either on the question or in some other manner.

All incidental questions of order arising after a motion is made for the previous question and prior to the vote on the main question shall be decided without debate.

3.08 AMENDMENTS TO AMENDMENTS. An amendment may be amended, but an amendment to an amendment may not be amended.

3.09 MOTIONS AND PROPOSITIONS TO BE GERMANE. No motion or proposition on a subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted under guise of its being an amendment.

3.10 AMENDMENT NOT TO ANNEX ANOTHER BILL. Except in a standing committee no bill or resolution shall at any time be amended by annexing or incorporating any other bill or resolution.

3.11 RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS INVOLVING EXPENDITURE OF MONEY. Any resolution or motion involving the expenditure of money out of the legislative expense fund shall be referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration before being acted upon by the House. A majority vote of the whole House, determined by a roll call, is required to pass any such resolution or motion.

3.12 AMENDMENTS TO APPROPRIATION AND TAX BILLS. No amendment increasing an appropriation and no amendment increasing a tax shall be declared passed until voted for by a majority of the whole House determined by a roll call vote.

3.13 MOTION TO LAY ON THE TABLE. A motion to lay on the table shall not be in order on a motion to amend, except that a motion to amend the Rules may be tabled.

3.14 MOTION TO RESCIND. The motion to rescind shall not be in order at any time in any proceeding in the House or in any committee of the House.

3.15 SUSPENSION OR AMENDMENT OF THE RULES. The concurrence of two-thirds of the whole House is required to suspend, alter, or amend any Rule of the House, except that any amendment to the Rules reported by the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration may be adopted by a majority of the whole House.

Except as provided in Rule 1.12, a motion to suspend, alter, or amend any Rule of the House must be made under the order of business "Motions and Resolutions." If the motion is made at any other time, unanimous consent is required before the Speaker can entertain the motion.

A motion to suspend the Rules, together with the subject matter to which it pertains, is debatable, but the previous question may be applied to the motion.

## **ARTICLE IV DEBATE AND DECORUM**

**4.01 ABSENCE OF MEMBERS AND OFFICERS.** Unless illness or other sufficient cause prevents attendance, no member or officer of the House shall be absent from any session of the House without first having obtained from the Speaker permission to be absent.

**4.02 DUTIES OF MEMBERS.** Members shall keep their seats until the Speaker announces adjournment.

Every member, before speaking, shall rise and respectfully address the Speaker and shall not speak further until recognized by the Speaker. When two or more members rise at the same time, the Speaker shall designate the member to speak first.

**4.03 QUESTIONS OF ORDER.** If any member of the House transgresses the Rules, either in speaking or in any other way, the Speaker shall, or any member may, call the member to order. A member so called to order shall immediately sit down unless another member moves to permit the member who was called to order to explain. In either case, the House, if appealed to, shall decide without debate. Only if the decision is in favor of the member called to order shall that member be at liberty to proceed. A member called to order shall be liable to censure or such other punishment as the House may deem proper.

**4.04 ORDER IN DEBATE.** No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the House, nor more than once until every other member wishing to speak on the pending question has had an opportunity to do so.

**4.05 NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DEBATE A RESOLUTION.** Any member may give notice of intention to debate a resolution. Such notice may be given at any time before the vote is taken on the resolution. If such notice is given, the resolution shall be laid over one day without debate or any other action.

**4.06 OFFENSIVE WORDS IN DEBATE.** If any member is called to order for offensive words in debate, the member calling for order shall report the words to which exception is taken and the Clerk shall record them. No member shall be held to answer or be subject to censure of the House for any language used in debate if exception is not taken before any other member has spoken or any other business has taken place.

**4.07 ORDER DURING SESSION.** No member shall walk out of or across the Chamber when the Speaker is putting the question. No member shall engage in private conversation while another member is speaking or pass between the speaking member and the Chair.

4.08 NO ONE TO REMAIN BY THE CHIEF CLERK'S DESK. No member or other person shall remain by the Chief Clerk's desk while the yeas and nays are being called.

4.09 WHO MAY BE ADMITTED TO THE FLOOR. No person shall be admitted within the House Chamber, except members themselves, properly authorized employees, the Chief Executive and ex-governors of the State of Minnesota, members of the Senate, heads of departments of the state government, judges of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and District Courts, members of Congress, properly accredited representatives of radio and television stations, newspapers and press associations, as herein provided for, and none other. When a former member of Congress or the Minnesota Legislature or any other person is issued a permit by the Speaker good for the day, that person shall be provided with a seat near the Speaker's rostrum, and at no time shall a conversation be carried on so as to disturb the business of the House. Before issuing the permit, the Speaker shall make certain that the person does not seek the floor of the House for the purpose of influencing decisions of the House.

The alcoves shall be kept for the use of members only, and the Sergeant at Arms shall keep them cleared.

It shall not be in order for the Speaker to entertain a request for the suspension of this Rule, or to present from the Chair the request of any member for unanimous consent unless an extraordinary condition exists, in which event the Speaker may consent to entertain a motion for its suspension.

During the period extending from one hour prior to the time the House is scheduled to convene until one hour after the House adjourns for the day, the retiring room shall be reserved for the exclusive use of the members and employees of the House. No committee meetings shall be held therein except for emergency meetings authorized by the Speaker of the House. The Sergeant at Arms is charged with the duty of strict enforcement of this provision.

4.10 PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS. Any petition, memorial or other paper presented to the House shall include the name of the member introducing it and a brief description of its contents and shall be presented by the Speaker, who shall state briefly its contents.

4.11 NO SMOKING IN HOUSE CAPITOL AREA. Smoking is prohibited in areas of the Capitol and State Office Building under the jurisdiction of the House of Representatives, including the House Chamber and Retiring Room and galleries, hearing rooms, minor corridors and offices, except private offices and a designated lounge. After May 31, 1993, smoking is prohibited in private offices and the designated lounge.



## **ARTICLE V BILLS**

**5.01 BILL AND RESOLUTION FORM.** No bill or resolution shall be introduced until it has been examined and approved by the Revisor of Statutes as to form and compliance with the Joint Rules of the House and Senate and the Rules of the House. Approval as to form shall be endorsed on the bill or resolution by the Revisor of Statutes. A bill that is divided into articles may include or be accompanied by a table of contents.

**5.02 INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.** A bill, advisory bill or resolution offered for introduction shall be placed in the hands of the Speaker at least 24 hours prior to the convening of the daily session. Every bill, advisory bill and resolution shall be introduced in quadruplicate and each copy shall contain the signature of the member or name of the committee introducing it. No bill, advisory bill, memorial or resolution shall have more than five authors. A statement of facts being forwarded for action to a governmental official, agency, or body or other similar proposal is a memorial and shall be introduced in the same form as a bill and take the same course as a bill. No resolution shall authorize the expenditure of monies from any source other than the legislative expense fund.

**5.03 TIME LIMIT FOR INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.** In regular session in 1994, a bill, advisory bill, or resolution shall not be offered for introduction after ..... This rule does not apply to committee bills or to resolutions offered by the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration.

In 1993, a bill prepared by a department or agency of state government shall be introduced and given its first reading before March 15. In 1994, a bill prepared by a department or agency of state government shall be introduced and given its first reading before March 25.

**5.04 ADVISORY BILLS.** An advisory bill may be introduced by any member in the same manner as a bill except that the requirements of Rule 5.01 shall not apply.

Each advisory bill shall be typewritten on a form provided by the Chief Clerk. It shall have a title not exceeding 12 words in length and shall contain a specific proposal for the initiation, termination or alteration of a law or program of the state or any of its subdivisions. It need not be drafted in a form appropriate for enactment into law.

An advisory bill may be considered only in committee and shall not be given a second reading or be otherwise considered by the House, except that the committee may report its recommendation for re-referral to another committee.

**5.05 FIRST READING AND REFERENCE OF BILLS.** Each bill, advisory bill and resolution shall be reported and given its first reading upon its introduction. No bill, advisory bill or resolution shall be objected to upon its introduction.

Except as provided in Rule 1.17 and Rule 5.06 each bill, advisory bill or resolution shall, after first reading, be referred by the Speaker to the appropriate standing committee or division thereof.

Congratulatory resolutions are exempt from this rule and may be adopted by the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration without further consideration by the House.

Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, after a bill, advisory bill or resolution has been referred by the Speaker, a majority vote of the whole House shall be required for a re-referral of the bill, advisory bill or resolution by the House.

**5.06 COMMITTEE BILLS.** A committee bill shall be read for the first time and may be referred by the Speaker to any standing committee. If it is not so referred, it shall be laid over one day. It shall then be read for the second time and placed upon General Orders, or, if recommended by the Committee, upon the Consent Calendar.

**5.07 PRINTING OF BILLS.** Every bill shall be printed after it has been given its second reading. A bill may be printed at any other time a majority of the House so orders.

**5.08 FINANCE AND REVENUE BILLS.** Any bill, whether originating in the House or Senate which directly and specifically affects any present or future financial obligation on the part of the State or which directly and specifically affects state revenues, after being reported to the House, shall be referred, or re-referred to the appropriate finance committee, standing committee with a finance division for consideration by the finance division, or the Committee on Taxes, for action. Once action has been taken by that committee, the bill shall be thereafter re-referred to the Committee on Ways and Means. A bill, other than a major revenue or finance bill referred to in Rule 5.12, which carries an appropriation shall include an appropriation section. This rule does not apply to a bill recommended for passage by the Committee on Capital Investment under Rule 5.09.

**5.09 BILLS AFFECTING DEBT.** The Committee on Capital Investment shall have jurisdiction over debt obligations issued by the State. A bill which authorizes the issuance of debt of the State shall be referred or re-referred to the Committee on Capital Investment.

The Chair of the Committee on Capital Investment shall assign to each finance committee or finance division of a standing committee the responsibility to develop a bill on state public debt within its jurisdiction. The bill shall be referred to the Committee on Capital Investment by Wednesday, April 6, 1994, for further disposition.

A bill recommended for passage by the Committee on Capital Investment shall be accompanied by a statement of its fiscal impact and shall be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means for review and action by that committee.

**5.10 BILLS AFFECTING STATE GOVERNMENT POWERS AND STRUCTURE.** Any bill, whether originating in the House or the Senate, which creates or reestablishes any new department, agency, commission, board, task force, advisory committee or council, or bureau, or any other such entity, or which substantially changes or alters the organization of or delegates rulemaking authority to or exempts from rulemaking any department or agency thereof of state government, or substantially changes, alters, vests or divests official rights, powers, or duties of any official, department or agency of the state government or any institution under its control, after being reported to the House, shall be referred, or re-referred, as the case may be, to the Committee on Governmental Operations and Gambling for action by that committee. Prior to the deadline set by Rule 9.03, any committee other than the Committee on Governmental Operations and Gambling to which such bill is referred shall, in its report, recommend re-referral to the Committee on Governmental Operations and Gambling. After the deadline set by Rule 9.03, a report shall recommend re-referral to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration.

This rule does not apply to the omnibus bill on taxation or the omnibus finance bills for: capital investment; state government; health and housing; human services; K-12 education; higher education; economic development, infrastructure and regulation; judiciary; or environment and natural resources. But, if those bills contain provisions that would create, abolish, or reestablish a department, agency, commission, board, task force, advisory committee or council,

or other such entity, then the chair of the Committee on Taxes or the chair of the appropriate finance committee or standing committee with a finance division, must communicate the inclusion of the provision to the chair of the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration prior to consideration of the matter on the floor.

All other bills in finance committees or referred out of finance divisions of standing committees and bills in the Committee on Taxes are also exempt from this rule except for bills to create, abolish, or reestablish a department, agency, commission, board, task force, advisory committee or council, or other such entity. Prior to the deadline set by Rule 9.03, those bills shall be re-referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations and Gambling. After that deadline, the bills shall be re-referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration.

**5.11 BILLS AFFECTING TAXES.** Any bill whether originating in the House or Senate, which substantially affects state tax policy or the administration of state tax policy, after being reported to the House, shall be referred, or re-referred to the Committee on Taxes for action by that committee. Any standing committee other than the Committee on Taxes to which such a bill is referred shall, in its report, recommend re-referral to the Committee on Taxes.

**5.12 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE; RESOLUTION; EFFECT ON EXPENDITURES AND REVENUE BILLS.** The Committee on Ways and Means shall hold hearings as necessary to determine state expenditures and revenues for the coming fiscal biennium. In regular session, not later than 15 days following the last available state general fund revenue and expenditure forecast for the coming fiscal biennium prepared during the session, the Committee on Ways and Means shall adopt a budget resolution. The budget resolution shall set the maximum limitation on expenditures and revenues for the coming fiscal biennium for the general fund and an amount to be set aside as a budget reserve. The limitation is effective, if adopted, unless the Committee on Ways and Means adopts a different limitation in a subsequent budget resolution that accounts for increases or decreases in general fund revenues and expenditures anticipated for the current fiscal biennium.

Upon adoption of the budget resolution, the Committee on Ways and Means shall reconcile finance and revenue bills and upon request shall certify to the House that such bills do not exceed the limitation specified in the budget resolution.

A bill described in Rule 5.08 other than a major revenue or finance bill shall not be given its second reading until each major finance and revenue bill has received its second reading. However, a bill other than a major finance or revenue bill may be given its second reading after the House has received from the Committee on Ways and Means a statement certifying that the fiscal impact of the bill is or will be reconciled and within the guidelines of the budget resolution. All statements and certifications required by this rule may be reported orally by the Chair of the Committee on Ways and Means or a designee of the Chair. Major finance and revenue bills are: the higher education finance bill; the K-12 education finance bill; the environment and natural resources finance bill; the health and housing finance bill; human services finance bill; the state government finance bill; the economic development, infrastructure and regulation finance bill; the judiciary finance bill; the omnibus capital investment bill; and the omnibus tax bill.

Each finance committee, finance division of a standing committee, the Committee on Capital Investment, or the Committee on Taxes, upon recommending passage of any bill described in Rule 5.08, shall provide to the Committee on Ways and Means a fiscal statement on the bill.

**5.13 BILLS PROPOSING MEMORIALS.** Any bill or amendment that proposes to have a memorial erected in the Capitol area shall be referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration.

**5.14 RECESS BILL INTRODUCTIONS.** During the period between the last day of the session in 1993 and the first day of the session in 1994, any bill filed with the Speaker for introduction shall be given a file number and may be unofficially referred to an appropriate standing committee of the House of Representatives.

**5.15 BILLS PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.** Any bill, whether originating in the House or Senate, which proposes a constitutional amendment, after being reported to the House, shall be referred, or re-referred, as the case may be, to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration for action by that committee. Any committee, other than the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration, to which such bill has been referred, shall, in its report, recommend re-referral to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration.

**ARTICLE VI  
COMMITTEES  
POWERS AND DUTIES**

6.01 COMMITTEES. Standing committees of the House shall be appointed by the Speaker as follows:

Agriculture

Capital Investment

Commerce and Economic Development

Divisions:       International Trade, Technology and  
                      Economic Development  
                      Tourism and Small Business

Economic Development, Infrastructure and Regulation Finance

Education

Divisions:       K-12 Education Finance  
                      Higher Education Finance

Environment and Natural Resources

Environment and Natural Resources Finance

Ethics

Financial Institutions and Insurance

General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Elections

Governmental Operations and Gambling

Division:       State Government Finance

Health and Human Services

Divisions:       Health and Housing Finance  
                      Human Services Finance

Housing

Judiciary

Division:       Judiciary Finance

Labor-Management Relations

Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs

Regulated Industries and Energy

## Rules and Legislative Administration

### Taxes

### Transportation and Transit

### Ways and Means

**6.02 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP.** No less than 30 days prior to the opening of a regular session of the Legislature, the Speaker-designate shall provide the minority group with a list of the standing committees proposed for the session. The Speaker-designate shall also designate the number of minority members to be appointed to each committee and may require general membership guidelines to be followed in the selection of committee members.

If the minority leader submits to the Speaker-designate, at least 15 days prior to the opening of the session, a list of proposed committee assignments for the minority group, which complies with the numbers and guidelines provided, the Speaker shall make such proposed assignments with the purpose of attaining proportionate representation on the committees for the minority group.

No committee of the House shall have exclusive membership from any one profession, occupation or vocation.

**6.03 COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE.** The Speaker shall prepare a schedule of committee meetings, fixing as far as practicable the day of the week and the hour for the regular meeting time of each committee. The schedule of committee meetings shall officially be made available to the news media. The chair of any committee holding a special meeting or making a change in the regular schedule of meetings shall give written notice which may be announced from the desk and shall be posted on the bulletin board at least one day in advance of the change.

The chair of each committee, division, or subcommittee shall as far as practicable give three days notice of any meeting. The notice shall include the date, time, place and agenda for the meeting.

**6.04 COMMITTEE PROCEDURES.** Meetings of all committees of the House shall be open to the public except for any executive sessions which the committee on ethics deems necessary.

A majority of members of any committee shall constitute a quorum.

The Rules of the House shall be observed in all committees wherever they are applicable.

Any member of any committee may demand a roll call on any bill, resolution, report, motion or amendment before the committee. Only upon such demand being made shall the roll be called and the vote of each member on the bill, resolution, report, motion or amendment be recorded in the committee minutes, together with the name of the member demanding the roll call.

A committee may reconsider any action so long as the matter remains in the possession of the committee. A committee member need not have voted with the prevailing side in order to move reconsideration.

**6.05 SUBCOMMITTEES.** The chair of a committee shall appoint the chair and members of each subcommittee with the advice and consent of the Speaker. The chair or the committee may refer bills to subcommittee. Any subcommittee may make such investigation or exercise such authority as is delegated to it by the chair or the committee.

**6.06 COMMITTEE RECORDS.** The chair of a standing committee shall cause a record to be kept, in the form prescribed by the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration, which shall include the record of each bill referred to the committee and the minutes of the committee. The minutes shall include:

- a. The time and place of each hearing or meeting of the committee;
- b. Committee members present;
- c. The name and address of each person appearing before the committee, together with the name and address of the person, association, firm or corporation in whose behalf the appearance is made;
- d. The language of each motion, the name of the committee member making the motion, and the result of any vote taken upon the motion, including the yeas and nays whenever a roll call is demanded;
- e. The date on which any subcommittee is created, the names of its members and the bills referred to it;
- f. The record of each subcommittee meeting, including the time and place of the meeting; members present; the name of each person appearing before the subcommittee, together with the name of the person, association, firm or corporation in whose behalf the appearance is made; and the language of each



motion, together with the name of the member making the motion, and the result of any vote taken upon the motion, including the yeas and nays whenever a roll call is demanded;

g. Other important matters related to the work of the committee.

The minutes shall be approved at the next regular meeting of the committee.

Copies of the minutes, after approval by the committee, shall be filed with the Chief Clerk and shall be open to public inspection in the Chief Clerk's office. At the end of the biennium they shall be delivered, together with the other committee records, to the Director of the Legislative Reference Library, where they shall remain open for public inspection during regular office hours. A copy of any page of any committee minutes may be obtained upon payment of a fee determined by the Chief Clerk to be adequate to cover the cost of preparing the copy.

The magnetic tape recording of any committee meetings shall be retained by the chair until the minutes of that meeting have been approved by the committee. The recording shall then be filed with the Director of the Legislative Reference Library. Tapes filed with the Legislative Reference Library shall be kept by the library for eight years after which they shall be delivered to the Director of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Any person may obtain a copy of such tape during the period in which it is maintained in the Legislative Reference Library upon payment of a fee determined by the Chief Clerk to be sufficient to cover the cost of the copy. Testimony and discussion preserved under this rule is not intended to be admissible in any court or administrative proceeding on an issue of legislative intent.

**6.07 COMMITTEE REPORTS.** The chair of a standing committee reporting to the House the action taken by the committee upon any bill or resolution referred to it shall do so upon the form provided for such reports. Each bill or resolution shall be reported separately and the report shall be adopted or rejected without amendment.

The report shall contain the action taken by the committee and the date of such action and shall be authenticated by the signature of the chair.

Before a committee reports favorably upon a bill or resolution, the chair shall see that the form of the bill or resolution conforms to the Joint Rules of the House and Senate and these Rules.

Except during the last seven legislative days in any year, the committee report and any minority report shall be placed in the hands of the Chief Clerk at least four hours prior to the convening of the daily session.

The Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration may report at any time.

If a majority of the members of a standing committee finds a bill referred to the committee to be of a non-controversial nature, the report to the House may recommend that the bill be placed upon a separate calendar to be known as the Consent Calendar.

**6.08 COMMITTEE BILLS.** Any standing or special committee of the House may introduce a bill as a committee bill on any subject within its purview.

**6.09 SUBSTITUTION OF BILLS.** No standing or special committee nor any of its members shall report a substitute for any bill referred to the committee if the substitute relates to a different subject, is intended to accomplish a different purpose, or would require a title essentially different from that of the original bill. Whenever the House is advised that a substitute bill reported to the House is in violation of this rule, the report shall not be adopted.

**6.10 MEMBER CONDUCT DIVISION; THE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS.** The Speaker shall appoint a Committee on Ethics and a Member Conduct Division of the Committee on Ethics. An equal number of members from the majority group and the minority group and one alternate from each group shall be appointed to the Ethics Committee and the Member Conduct Division. The division shall adopt written procedures, which shall include due process requirements, for handling complaints and issuing guidelines.

Complaints regarding a member's conduct must be submitted in writing to the Speaker verified and signed by two or more members of the House and shall be referred to the division within 15 days for processing by the division according to its rules of procedure. Prior to referring the matter to the division, the Speaker shall inform the member against whom a question of conduct has been raised of the complaint and the complainant's identity. The Speaker, the members making the complaint, the members of the Member Conduct Division, and employees of the House shall hold the complaint in confidence until the division or the member subject of the complaint cause a public hearing to be scheduled. A complaint of a breach of the confidentiality requirement by a member or employee of the

House shall be immediately referred by the Speaker to the Member Conduct Division for disciplinary action. The division shall act in an investigatory capacity and may make recommendations regarding questions of ethical conduct received prior to adjournment sine die.

Member Conduct Division recommendations for disciplinary action shall be referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration, which committee may adopt, amend, or reject the recommendations of the Member Conduct Division. Recommendations adopted by the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration to expel, censure, or reprimand shall be reported to the House for final disposition.

**6.11 CONFERENCE COMMITTEES.** A conference committee may report at any time. No committee except a conference committee or the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration shall sit during any daily session of the House without leave.

A conference committee report shall include only subject matter contained in the House or Senate versions of the bill for which that conference committee was appointed, or like subject matter contained in a bill passed by the House or Senate. The member presenting the conference committee report to the House shall disclose all substantive changes from the House version of the bill.

In regular session in 1993 except after Monday, May 10, and in 1994 except after April 18, a written copy of a report of a conference committee shall be placed on the desk of each member of the House 24 hours before action on the report by the House. If the report has been reprinted in the Journal of the House for a preceding day and is available to the members, the Journal copy shall serve as the written report.

**6.12 COMMITTEE BUDGETS AND EXPENSES.** The Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration shall establish a budget for each standing committee of the House for expenses incurred by the committee, its members, or its staff in conducting its legislative business. Per diem expense allowances paid to members during sessions or at times set by the Speaker shall not be charged against the budget. No committee shall incur expenses in excess of its authorized budget.

Employees shall be reimbursed for actual expenses in the same manner as state employees.

During sessions, for travel away from the Capitol, members shall be reimbursed for actual expenses in the same manner as state employees in addition to per diem expense allowances.

All charges against the committee budget must be approved by the chair before payment is made.

6.13 PUBLIC TESTIMONY. Public testimony from proponents and opponents shall be allowed on every bill or resolution before either a standing committee, division or subcommittee of the House.

## **ARTICLE VII OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE**

7.01 DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF THE SPEAKER. The Speaker shall preside over the House and shall have all the powers and be charged with all the duties of the presiding officer.

The Speaker shall preserve order and decorum. The Speaker or the chair of the Committee of the Whole may order the lobby or galleries cleared in the case of disorderly conduct or other disturbance.

Except as provided by rule or law, the Speaker shall have general control of the Chamber of the House and of the corridors, passages and rooms assigned to the use of the House.

The Speaker shall sign all acts, addresses, joint resolutions, writs, warrants and subpoenas of the House or issued by order of the House. The Speaker shall sign all abstracts for the payment of money out of the legislative expense fund of the House; but no money shall be paid out of said fund unless the abstract is also signed by the Chief Clerk of the House.

The Speaker shall appoint the Chief Sergeant at Arms or shall designate that officer from among the Sergeants at Arms elected by the House or appointed by the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration.

7.02 SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE. The Speaker shall appoint a member to preside, whenever the Speaker is absent, as Speaker pro tempore. In the absence of the Speaker and Speaker pro tempore, a member selected by the Speaker shall preside until the return of the Speaker or Speaker pro tempore. If desired, the Speaker may appoint cospeakers pro tempore.

**7.03 DUTIES OF CHIEF CLERK.** The Chief Clerk shall have general supervision of all clerical duties pertaining to the business of the House. The Chief Clerk shall perform under the direction of the Speaker all the duties pertaining to the office of Chief Clerk and shall keep records showing the status and progress of all bills, memorials and resolutions.

During a temporary absence of the Chief Clerk, the First Assistant Chief Clerk shall be delegated all the usual responsibilities of the Chief Clerk and is authorized to sign the daily journal, enrollments, abstracts and other legislative documents.

**7.04 ENGROSSMENT AND ENROLLMENT.** The Chief Clerk of the House shall have supervision over the engrossment and enrollment of bills. The Chief Clerk shall cause to be kept a record by file number of the bills introduced in the House which have passed both houses and been enrolled.

**7.05 BUDGET AND PURCHASING.** The House Controller shall prepare a biennial budget for the House which must be approved by the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration before it is submitted to the Committee on Governmental Operations and Gambling for consideration by the State Government Finance Division.

The House Controller shall be the agent of the House of Representatives for the purchase of supplies. The House Controller shall seek the lowest possible prices and shall file timely reports of expenditures made with the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration.

**7.06 BULLETIN BOARD.** The Chief Clerk shall prepare a bulletin board upon which shall be posted a list of committee and subcommittee meetings and any other announcements or notices the House may require.

**7.07 INDEX.** The Index Clerk, under the supervision of the Chief Clerk, shall prepare an index in which bills may be indexed by topic, number, author, subject, section of the code amended, committees, and any other subject that will make it a complete and comprehensive index. The index shall be open for public inspection at all times during the session and shall be printed in the permanent Journal of the House.

**7.08 DUTIES OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS.** It shall be the duty of the Sergeant at Arms to carry out all orders of the House or the Speaker and to perform all other services pertaining to the office of Sergeant at Arms, including maintaining order in the Chamber and supervising entering and exiting from the Chamber and the prompt delivery of messages.

## **ARTICLE VIII EMPLOYEES OF THE HOUSE**

8.01 APPOINTMENT OF EMPLOYEES. The Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration shall designate the position of and appoint each employee of the House and set the compensation of each officer and employee. A record of all such appointments, including positions and compensation, shall be kept in the office of the Chief Clerk and shall be open for inspection by the public.

The Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration, by resolution, shall establish the procedure for filling vacancies when the Legislature is not in session.

Any employee of the House may be assigned to other duties, suspended or discharged at any time by the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration.

## **ARTICLE IX GENERAL PROVISIONS**

9.01 RULE AS TO CONSTRUCTION. As used in these Rules the terms "majority vote" and "vote of the House" shall mean a majority of members present at the particular time. The term "vote of the whole House" shall mean a majority vote of all the members elected to the House for that particular session of the Legislature.

Singular words used in these Rules shall include the plural, unless the context indicates a contrary intention.

9.02 MEDIA NEWS REPORTERS. Accredited representatives of the press, press associations, and radio and television stations shall be accorded equal press privileges by the House. Any person wishing to report proceedings of the House may apply to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration for a press pass and assignment to suitable available space.

Television stations shall be permitted to televise sessions of the House.

9.03 DEADLINES. In regular session in 1993, committee reports on bills favorably acted upon by a committee in the house of origin after Friday, April 2, and committee reports on bills originating in the other house favorably acted upon by a committee after Friday, April 16, shall be referred in the House of Representatives to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration for disposition. In 1994, committee reports on

bills favorably acted upon by a committee of the house of origin after March 25, and committee reports on bills originating in the other house favorably acted upon by a committee after March 31, shall be referred in the House of Representatives to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration for disposition. However, referral is not required after the first deadline when, by the second deadline, a committee acts on a bill that is a companion to a bill that has then been acted upon by the first deadline in the Senate. A finance or revenue bill referred to in Rule 5.08 is exempt from the first and second deadlines.

A finance bill other than a major finance or revenue bill referred to in Rule 5.12 in finance committees and standing committees with finance divisions and the Committee on Taxes, that includes provisions that create or reestablish a commission, board, task force, advisory committee or council, or other entity, shall be re-referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration if it remains in committee after the deadlines set by this rule.

Committee reports on finance bills that are favorably acted upon by a committee after Friday, April 8, 1994, shall be referred to the Committee on Rules and Legislative Administration for disposition. This deadline does not apply to the House Committees on Taxes and Ways and Means.

**9.04 DISPOSITION OF BILLS.** Adjournment of the regular session in 1993 to a day certain in 1994 shall be equivalent to daily adjournment except that any bill on the Consent Calendar, Calendar, Special Orders or General Orders shall be returned to the standing committee last acting on the bill.

**9.05 AUTHORIZED MANUAL OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE.** The rules of parliamentary procedure contained in "Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure" shall govern the House in all applicable cases in which they are not inconsistent with these Rules, the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, or established custom and usage.

## **ARTICLE X ETHICS**

**10.01 SOLICITATIONS DURING LEGISLATIVE SESSION.** No member of the House, nor the member's principal campaign committee, nor any other political committee with the member's name or title, nor any committee authorized by the member which would benefit the member, shall solicit or accept a contribution on behalf of the member's principal campaign

committee, any other political committee with the member's name or title, or any political committee authorized by the member which would benefit the member, from a registered lobbyist, political committee, or political fund during the regular session of the House.

No member may accept compensation for lobbying.

#### 10.02 ACCEPTANCE OF AN HONORARIUM BY A MEMBER.

No member may accept an honorarium for any service performed for an individual or organization which has a direct interest in the business of the House, including, but not limited to, registered lobbyists or any organizations they represent. The term "honorarium" does not include reimbursement for expenses incurred and actually paid by a member in performing any service.

Alleged violations of this rule shall be referred to the Committee on Ethics under Rule 6.10. Upon finding that an honorarium was accepted in violation of this rule, the Committee on Ethics shall direct the return of the funds. If the funds are not returned, the committee may recommend disciplinary action under Rule 6.10.

10.03 ACCEPTANCE OF TRAVEL AND LODGING BY A MEMBER OR EMPLOYEE. A member or employee of the House shall not accept travel and lodging from any foreign government, private for-profit business, labor union, registered lobbyist, or any association thereof, except for expenses that relate to the member's or employee's participation as a legislator or legislative employee in a meeting or conference. This rule does not apply to travel and lodging provided to a member in the regular course of the member's employment or business.