

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1

Reps. Posthumus and Fitzgerald offered the following  
resolution:

A resolution to prescribe the Standing Rules for the 2025-2026  
session of the House of Representatives.

**STANDING RULES**  
**OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MICHIGAN CONSTITUTION**  
**ARTICLE IV, SECTION 16**

**CHAPTER I**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Meetings, Officers and Quorum.**

1 Rule 1. (1) The House shall meet in regular session at the  
 2 seat of government on the second Wednesday in January of each year  
 3 at twelve o'clock noon. In each odd-numbered year, it shall  
 4 proceed with its organization and the election of a Speaker and a  
 5 Clerk for the ensuing term of the Legislature. All elections shall  
 6 be by roll call and shall require a majority of the Members voting  
 7 to elect.

8 (2) A majority of the Members elected to and serving in the  
 9 House shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller  
 10 number may adjourn from day to day and not less than 15 Members  
 11 voting in favor thereof may compel the attendance of absent Members  
 12 and prescribe penalties for non-attendance. (See Const 1963, Art 4  
 13 §§ 13 and 14)

14  
 15 **Admission to Floor--Defined.**

16 Rule 2. (1) No person shall be admitted on the floor of the  
 17 House for a period of 30 minutes immediately preceding the time set  
 18 for any call to order during any session of the House through  
 19 adjournment, except as follows:

- 20 (a) Representatives and Senators;
- 21 (b) Former Legislators, unless otherwise restricted;
- 22 (c) Sergeants at Arms, pages, Clerk's staff, and legislative  
 23 staff who are specifically designated and approved by the Majority  
 24 Floor Leader to be working on the House floor during session;
- 25 (d) Immediate family of Representatives who have obtained and  
 26 are wearing in plain sight appropriate identification passes,  
 27 issued under guidelines developed by the Majority Floor Leader;
- 28 (e) Media correspondents accredited by the Clerk of the House  
 29 who are wearing in plain sight appropriate identification passes,

1 issued under guidelines developed by the Clerk. Media  
2 correspondents shall not use the center aisle or be at the Members'  
3 desks without the permission of the Majority Floor Leader; and

4 (f) Such other persons as may be invited by the Speaker or  
5 Majority Floor Leader.

6 (2) No group or individual shall be allowed access to the  
7 floor when the House is not in session unless permission is granted  
8 by the Majority Floor Leader or Clerk. The Majority Floor Leader  
9 and Clerk shall issue guidelines to ensure that guests using the  
10 floor are responsible for costs incurred by the House. If  
11 permission is given to a Member to bring guests on the floor when  
12 the House is not in session, the Member shall accompany the guests.

13 (3) Only Members shall sit in Members' chairs.

14 (4) Any person who is a lobbyist or employed by a lobbyist  
15 shall not be admitted on the floor of the House at any time, except  
16 immediate family of a Representative if admitted under rule 2(1)(d)  
17 on the first session day of an odd-numbered year for a swearing-in  
18 ceremony. A former Legislator or immediate family of  
19 Representatives shall not lobby on the floor. The words "floor of  
20 the House", when used in these rules, shall mean the space of the  
21 main floor of Representative Hall, together with adjacent rooms on  
22 the second floor of the Capitol under the jurisdiction of the  
23 Clerk, including the Democrat and Republican caucus rooms and the  
24 corridor behind the House rostrum.

25 (5) Guests may be introduced only by permission of the  
26 Presiding Officer. Guests shall not be introduced during a roll  
27 call vote. Guests are to use the center aisle only if being  
28 escorted by a Member or House staff.

29 (6) Use of the center aisle should be kept at a minimum.

(7) The Majority Floor Leader must grant approval for the distribution of items on the floor. All printed material intended for distribution on the floor shall be clearly identified by the Member requesting the distribution.

#### **Bar of the House.**

Rule 3. (1) Any Member, having answered attendance roll call at the opening of any session, or who enters after attendance roll call, shall be considered present until leave of absence is obtained from the House. Any Member, having entered upon the floor of the House after the House has been called to order, shall be considered present if within the bar of the House.

(2) The words "within the bar of the House", when used in these rules, shall mean the space occupied and used by the House or any legislative room or office under the jurisdiction of the Clerk.

(3) Cell phones on the floor shall not ring audibly.

(4) All persons within the bar of the House shall be in acceptable business attire.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **OFFICERS**

#### **SPEAKER**

#### **Definitions.**

Rule 4. Speaker is any Member elected as Speaker under Rule 1 of these rules.

#### **Duties as Presiding Officer.**

Rule 5. (1) The Speaker, Speaker Pro Tempore, Associate

1 Speaker Pro Tempore, or the designee of the Speaker shall take the  
2 Chair each day at the hour to which the House shall have adjourned  
3 or recessed. The Presiding Officer shall call the House to order  
4 and lead the Members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and,  
5 except in the absence of a quorum, shall proceed to business in the  
6 manner prescribed by these rules. In the absence of the Speaker,  
7 or the designee of the Speaker, the Clerk or Assistant Clerk may  
8 call the House to order.

9 (2) The Speaker, may, by filing a written notice with the  
10 Clerk, appoint any Member to perform the duties of the Presiding  
11 Officer, but not for a longer time than one day without leave of  
12 the House. Such notice shall be entered upon the House Journal.

13 Rule 6. (1) The Presiding Officer shall preserve order and  
14 decorum; may speak to points of order, rising for that purpose; and  
15 shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the  
16 House. When two or more Members rise at once, the Presiding  
17 Officer shall name the Member who is first to speak.

18 (2) Only the Presiding Officer shall lead the House in  
19 observing a moment of silence.  
20

21 **Duties of Speaker as Chief Administrator.**

22 Rule 7. (1) Payment to all persons, authorized under  
23 subsections (2), (3), and (4) to expend House funds for  
24 transportation, lodging, meals, registration fees, and related  
25 items, shall be made in accordance with expenditure regulations as  
26 predetermined and prepublished to Members by the Speaker. The  
27 regulations shall set forth the guidelines for amounts, methods of  
28 payment, and time of payment for such items. The Speaker may  
29 revise the regulations upon 15-day notice to all Members.

1           (2) The Speaker may authorize persons to make expenditures  
2 from the general funds of the House for administrative  
3 purposes. The Speaker may enter into contracts for the purchase  
4 and payment of benefits affecting employees, Members of the House,  
5 retirees, and their successors in interest.

6           (3) Regular standing committees of the House shall be  
7 allotted such funds as the Speaker may authorize. The Speaker may  
8 restrict selected expenditures to a lesser number of Members,  
9 alternates, or substitute Members than the number of Members of the  
10 standing committee. The funds may be expended for items specified  
11 in subsection (1) and for contractual services, publications, and  
12 supplies. All expenditures under this subsection shall be approved  
13 by the committee Chair and the Speaker and, for items specified in  
14 subsection (1), shall be in accordance with the regulations and  
15 guidelines provided for by subsection (1).

16           (4) Additional committees may be authorized by  
17 resolution. The resolutions shall set the maximum budget of such  
18 committees. Members, alternates, and substitute Members of such  
19 additional committees shall be appointed by the Speaker unless  
20 otherwise specified in the resolution. The Speaker may restrict  
21 selected expenditures to a lesser number of Members, alternates, or  
22 substitute Members than the number of Members specified in the  
23 resolution. Budgeted funds may be expended for items specified in  
24 subsection (1), for contractual services, publications, and  
25 supplies, and for any other items specified in the resolution.  
26 Payments for contractual services may be authorized by the  
27 committee Chair and the Speaker. All expenditures under this  
28 subsection for items specified in subsection (1) shall be in  
29 accordance with the regulations and guidelines provided for by

1 subsection (1).

2

3 **Appointments by the Speaker.**

4 Rule 8. The Speaker shall appoint all committees, except  
5 where the House shall otherwise order. If the Speaker makes  
6 permanent or temporary additions to or removals from any standing  
7 or special committee, the names and the appointments or removals  
8 shall take effect when the Clerk and Minority Leader are notified  
9 by letter and shall appear in the next House Journal.

10

11 **Appointment of Employees by Speaker or other Member.**

12 Rule 9. Except as otherwise provided in these rules, the  
13 Speaker, or the Speaker's designee, shall appoint all employees of  
14 the House. Unless otherwise provided by law, the compensation for  
15 all employees and officers of the House shall be fixed by the  
16 Speaker, or the Speaker's designee. All employees of the House  
17 shall maintain a status as non-tenured, at-will employees and are  
18 subject to the House Guidelines and Policies. All employees of the  
19 House, other than those working in a Member office, work at the  
20 pleasure of the Speaker, or the Speaker's designee. Employees  
21 working in a Member office work at the pleasure of the Member.

22

23 **Voting.**

24 Rule 10. The Speaker and Presiding Officer may vote on all  
25 elections and on all questions.

26

27 **Putting the Question.**

28 Rule 11. (1) The Presiding Officer shall pose all questions  
29 to the Members. If in doubt the Presiding Officer may order a

1 division of the House. A division of the House may be had on the  
2 demand of ten Members. A vote taken by division is not printed in  
3 the House Journal. A roll call of the House may be demanded by  
4 one-fifth of the Members present (see Const 1963, Art 4 § 18) on  
5 any pending question and in such case the record of the votes and  
6 names of the voting Members shall be entered in the House Journal.

7 (2) When a division of the House is ordered, the voting board  
8 shall be used, and the Clerk shall announce the vote and the  
9 Presiding Officer shall declare the result. On a tie vote the  
10 question shall be deemed as lost. A majority of those voting shall  
11 decide any question unless otherwise provided.

12  
13 **Recognition During Roll Call.**

14 Rule 12. (1) After a question has been stated by the  
15 Presiding Officer, and the calling of the roll has been started by  
16 the Clerk, the Presiding Officer shall not recognize a Member for  
17 any purpose until after the announcement of the vote by the Clerk  
18 except:

- 19 (a) To raise a point of order;  
20 (b) To request an excuse for another Member;  
21 (c) To announce intent not to vote for reason of potential  
22 conflict of interest; and  
23 (d) To request that the board be cleared.

24 (2) The Clerk shall enter upon the House Journal the names of  
25 those voting "aye" and the names of those voting "nay". Roll calls  
26 shall be consecutively numbered in the House Journal.

27  
28 **SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE**  
29



**1 Powers and Duties.**

2 Rule 13. (1) The Speaker, the Speaker Pro Tempore, or an  
3 Associate Speaker Pro Tempore shall preside over the House, unless  
4 the Speaker has designated another Member to preside.

5 (2) In the absence of a designated Presiding Officer, the  
6 Clerk shall preside and if a quorum is present may designate a  
7 temporary Presiding Officer of the same party as the Speaker.

8

9

**CLERK**

10

**11 Roll Call.**

12 Rule 14. The Clerk shall serve as parliamentarian of the  
13 House. The Clerk shall take the roll at the opening of each  
14 session of the House and announce whether or not a quorum is  
15 present. The Clerk shall enter upon the House Journal the names of  
16 the Members present for attendance roll call, the names of the  
17 Members specifically excused from session, and the names of the  
18 Members absent from session. The term "roll call" as used in these  
19 rules shall mean a record roll call.

20

**21 Conduct of Religious Exercises.**

22 Rule 15. The Clerk shall arrange for a Member to offer an  
23 invocation which will not exceed two minutes in length at the  
24 opening of each session of the House. This invocation shall be  
25 general in nature and shall be a call to a higher power or  
26 authority, may be delivered by the Member, a Member's guest, or the  
27 House Chaplain, and must be submitted to jclerk@house.mi.gov  
28 electronically one day in advance. Copyright violations are  
29 prohibited. For special occasions, the Clerk may arrange for

1 religious services as needed.

2

3 **Publication and Correction of House Journal.**

4 Rule 16. (1) The Clerk shall make up and complete the House  
5 Journal, supervise its daily publication, and make  
6 corrections. The Clerk is authorized to correct totals that may  
7 have been affected by amendments made to appropriations bills.

8 (2) The House Journal is the only official record of the  
9 proceedings of the House.

10 (3) Written or verbal remarks made under the order of  
11 business of Comments and Recommendations shall not be printed in  
12 the House Journal except for remarks regarding departing  
13 Members. Departing Members' remarks must be submitted  
14 electronically to jclerk@house.mi.gov in order to be printed in the  
15 House Journal.

16

17 **House Calendar.**

18 Rule 17. The Clerk shall prepare and make available to each  
19 Member each session day a list of the business under each order of  
20 business.

21

22 **Printing, Announcement of Printing and Enrollment of Bills.**

23 Rule 18. The Clerk shall ensure the printing or reproduction  
24 of all bills, acts, or documents ordered printed or reproduced by  
25 the House. The Clerk shall announce each day the numbers of all  
26 bills and letters of all joint resolutions which have been printed  
27 or reproduced and placed upon the files of the Members, and the  
28 numbers of House bills which have been enrolled and presented to  
29 the Governor.

**Responsibility for Care of Bills; Presentation of Enrolled Bills to Governor.**

Rule 19. The Clerk shall be responsible for the care and preservation of each bill introduced into the House, and for each bill received from the Senate up to the time of its return to that body. This responsibility shall only be relieved by a receipt from a person when the bill passes from his or her possession. The Clerk shall enroll a House bill while the House is not in session if that bill has passed both houses and no action is pending. The Clerk shall notify the House of such action on the next House legislative day. When a House bill has been finally passed by the two houses, the Clerk shall present to the Governor an enrolled copy thereof, taking a receipt showing the day, hour, and minute at which such copy was deposited in the executive office.

**Appointment of Assistants.**

Rule 20. The Clerk shall, with the consent of the Speaker, appoint an Assistant Clerk and other assistants. All assistants of the Clerk and employees of the House assigned to the Clerk's office shall maintain a status as non-tenured, at-will employees. All assistants and employees of the House assigned to the Clerk's office work at the pleasure of the Clerk and Speaker, shall be subject to the orders of the Clerk and Speaker, and may be transferred to a different position, demoted, suspended, or summarily removed by the Clerk or Speaker.

**Accreditation of News Media.**

Rule 21. (1) The Clerk shall receive the applications of all

1 members of the news media. Persons desiring to be accredited as  
2 official media correspondents at the two-year session shall file a  
3 written application with the Clerk. When issuing credentials, the  
4 Clerk shall instruct the media person as to conduct on the House  
5 floor.

6 (2) Members of the press corps shall comply with all House  
7 rules and guidelines, including acceptable business attire, and  
8 shall, while on the House floor during session, display credentials  
9 at all times.

10  
11 **Responsibility for Care of House and Televising House Session.**

12 Rule 22. (1) The Clerk shall exercise supervisory care and  
13 control of the Hall of the House of Representatives and all House  
14 rooms and equipment assigned to the office of the Clerk. The Clerk  
15 shall, upon prior written authorization by the Speaker, provide for  
16 repairs and alterations in the House Chambers and the connected  
17 rooms and corridors and their furniture and equipment.

18 (2) The Clerk shall be responsible for televised coverage of  
19 House session and committee meetings.

20 (3) As directed by the Speaker, the Clerk shall enter into  
21 contractual agreements for rental of House facilities.

22  
23 **Incapacity of Clerk.**

24 Rule 23. In case of the inability of the Clerk to perform the  
25 duties of that office, the Assistant Clerk shall be charged with  
26 the responsibility of the Clerk and shall perform the Clerk's  
27 duties. In case a vacancy exists in the office of the Clerk, the  
28 Assistant Clerk shall assume the Clerkship and perform the duties  
29 of Clerk until a successor has been elected.

1

**2 Notices in Cases of Extra Sessions.**

3 Rule 24. Whenever the Legislature shall be called to meet in  
4 extraordinary session or in case of emergency, the Clerk shall  
5 notify Members and staff electronically of the date and time of  
6 convening.

7

**8 SERGEANT AT ARMS**

9

**10 Definitions.**

11 Rule 25. The Sergeant at Arms shall be the chief police  
12 officer of the House and shall be appointed by the Speaker. Under  
13 the direction of the Speaker, the Clerk shall supervise and direct  
14 the work of the Sergeant at Arms and Assistant Sergeants at Arms,  
15 and may commission the Sergeant at Arms and Assistant Sergeants at  
16 Arms who meet the certification requirements of this state as law  
17 enforcement officers with the powers provided under the Legislative  
18 Sergeant at Arms Police Powers Act. (See MCL 4.381 - 4.382)

19

**20 Powers and Duties.**

21 Rule 26. The Sergeant at Arms shall have charge, under the  
22 direction of the Clerk, of the Assistant Sergeants at Arms, pages,  
23 and session interns, and control of all police, safety, and  
24 security regulations. The Sergeant at Arms shall have authority to  
25 serve subpoenas and warrants issued by the House or any duly  
26 authorized officer or committee, or cause the same to be done by  
27 one of the Assistant Sergeants at Arms or a duly authorized  
28 agent. The Sergeant at Arms shall see that all visitors are seated  
29 and at no time are standing on the floor or balconies of the

1 House. The Sergeant at Arms shall ensure that reasonable decorum  
2 is maintained in the lobby immediately in front of the entrance to  
3 Representative Hall to ensure access for Representatives and to  
4 ensure equal treatment for all citizens.

5  
6 **CHAPTER III**  
7 **MEMBERS**

8  
9 **Conduct in Debate.**

10 Rule 27. When any Member is about to speak in debate or  
11 present any matter to the House, the Member shall rise and  
12 respectfully address the Presiding Officer, confine remarks to the  
13 question under debate, and avoid personalities, impugning the  
14 motives of another member, or the use of indecent or profane  
15 language.

16  
17 **Members Called to Order.**

18 Rule 28. If any Member in speaking transgresses the rules of  
19 the House, the Presiding Officer shall, or any Member may, call the  
20 transgressor to order, in which case the Member so called to order  
21 shall immediately sit down and shall not rise unless to explain or  
22 proceed in order.

23  
24 **VOTING**

25  
26 **Voting by the Electronic Roll Call System.**

27 Rule 29. (1) When taking the roll call on any question, the  
28 electronic roll call system may be used, and shall have the same  
29 force and effect as a roll call taken as otherwise provided in

1 these rules. The electronic roll call system shall only be used  
2 for legislative business officially before the House.

3 (2) When the House is ready to vote upon any question  
4 requiring a roll call, and the vote is to be taken by the  
5 electronic roll call system, the Presiding Officer shall state the  
6 question to the Members. The Presiding Officer shall inform  
7 Members that the board is open to record their votes. When  
8 sufficient time has been allowed the Members to vote, the Presiding  
9 Officer shall direct the Clerk to close the board. Any Member can  
10 vote or change his or her vote after the board has been closed by  
11 rising and, when recognized by the Presiding Officer, announcing  
12 his or her vote before the result of the vote has been announced by  
13 the Clerk. After a sufficient time has passed to allow late  
14 voting, the Presiding Officer shall direct the Clerk to tally,  
15 display, and announce the vote. The Clerk shall record the vote in  
16 the House Journal.

17 (3) No Member shall vote for another Member, nor shall any  
18 person not a Member cast a vote for a Member. Members shall vote  
19 at their assigned seat for record roll call votes. In addition to  
20 such penalties as may be prescribed by law, any Member who shall  
21 vote or attempt to vote for another Member may be punished in such  
22 manner as the House may determine. A person who votes or attempts  
23 to vote for a Member shall be barred from the floor of the House  
24 for the remainder of the session and may be further punished in  
25 such manner as the House may deem proper.

26 (4) Any vote shall be taken by the ayes and nays and entered  
27 upon the House Journal on request of one-fifth of the Members  
28 present. (See Const 1963, Art 4 § 18)  
29

**1 Vote Explanations.**

2 Rule 30. (1) A Member may dissent from and protest against  
3 any act, proceeding, or resolution which the Member deems injurious  
4 to any person or the public, and have the reason for dissent  
5 printed in the House Journal. (See Const 1963, Art 4 § 18)

6 (2) If a Member desires to abstain from voting because of a  
7 potential conflict of interest, the Member may rise, announce his  
8 or her intent not to vote, and reserve the right to explain the  
9 abstention. The Member shall be granted the right to have the  
10 explanatory statement printed in the House Journal. To be printed  
11 in the House Journal, the abstention from voting explanation shall  
12 be submitted to the Clerk.

13 (3) No vote explanations, other dissents, or explanations of  
14 abstention from voting shall be in compliance with House Rules and  
15 shall not be substantively edited by the Clerk before publication  
16 in the House Journal. When the Clerk invokes this rule, the Member  
17 with the rejected no vote explanation will be told by the Clerk or  
18 Clerk's staff of the specific rule violation and given the  
19 opportunity to resubmit the no vote explanation.

20

**21 Conduct.**

22 Rule 31. (1) No person shall pass between the Presiding  
23 Officer and a Member who has the floor.

24 (2) When so ordered by the Presiding Officer, the Members  
25 shall keep their seats until the Majority Floor Leader announces  
26 that no further voting will occur or the Presiding Officer  
27 announces that the House is adjourned. During such time, the  
28 Speaker or the Speaker's designees may give a Member permission to  
29 temporarily leave his or her seat upon request.



(3) While a bill is considered on Third Reading, the Members shall not leave the floor of the House without permission of the Speaker or the Speaker's designees.

#### CHAPTER IV

#### COMMITTEES

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

##### **Names and Number of Members.**

Rule 32. (1) All standing committees shall be appointed by the Speaker, except where the House shall otherwise order.

(2) The standing committees of the House and the number of Members shall be as follows:

- (a) Agriculture (11)
- (b) Appropriations (29)
- (c) Communications and Technology (11)
- (d) Economic Competitiveness (11)
- (e) Education and Workforce (11)
- (f) Election Integrity (9)
- (g) Energy (17)
- (h) Families and Veterans (11)
- (i) Finance (15)
- (j) Government Operations (5)
- (k) Health Policy (17)
- (l) Insurance (11)
- (m) Judiciary (11)
- (n) Natural Resources and Tourism (17)
- (o) Oversight (17)
- (p) Regulatory Reform (17)

(q) Rules (9)

(r) Transportation and Infrastructure (17)

(3) Statutory Standing Committees:

(a) Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (5)

(b) House Fiscal Agency Governing Committee (6)

(c) Legislative Council (6)

(4) The House Journal shall report the roll call on all motions to report bills, resolutions, and reorganization orders. (See Const 1963, Art 4 § 17)

(5) Committees shall adopt a meeting schedule at the commencement of each term which shall be printed in the House Journal. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair or by a majority of the Members in writing to the Clerk. The Chair may cancel any scheduled meeting, except one called by a majority of the Members, by notice to the Members.

#### **Uniform Committee Rules.**

Rule 33. (1) The Clerk of the House shall assign committee clerks with the approval of the respective committee Chairs. Duties of committee clerks shall be prescribed by the Clerk.

(2) Special committees shall operate under the same rules as standing committees insofar as practical. Conference committees on House bills shall meet at a place assigned by the Clerk.

(3) All committees will operate under the following rules:

(a) A quorum of a committee shall consist of a majority of the Members appointed and serving;

(b) Members of standing committees may not check in for a committee meeting and leave their vote. Members of committees may

1 only cast a vote if they are present at the meeting during the  
2 vote;

3 (c) It shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of the  
4 Members appointed to and serving on a committee in order to:

5 (i) Report a bill or resolution out of committee

6 (ii) Recommend an amendment to a bill or resolution

7 (iii) Reconsider a vote to report a bill or resolution from  
8 committee;

9 (d) Provided a quorum of a committee is present, it shall  
10 require an affirmative vote of a majority of the Members voting in  
11 order to:

12 (i) Table a bill or resolution

13 (ii) Take a bill or resolution from the table

14 (iii) Reconsider a vote, other than in subdivision (c)(iii);

15 (e) It shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of the  
16 Members voting in order to postpone action on a bill or resolution;

17 (f) The Chair of a standing committee shall determine the  
18 agenda for a committee meeting; and

19 (g) The Chair of a standing committee, in consultation with  
20 the Speaker, may create subcommittees and shall designate what is  
21 to be considered by each subcommittee. The Chair of the standing  
22 committee shall designate a Chair of the subcommittee and shall  
23 appoint Members to each subcommittee.

24 (4) The Speaker may designate additional Members to serve on  
25 any subcommittee of a standing committee as voting Members who do  
26 not serve on the full committee.

27 (5) Subcommittees shall follow the same rules as standing  
28 committees.

29 (6) Meetings or public hearings of committees may be

1 scheduled outside of Lansing with prior written approval of the  
2 Speaker. Subcommittees must have the prior written approval of the  
3 Chair of the standing committee and the Speaker in order to conduct  
4 a public hearing or meeting outside of Lansing.

5 (7) All meetings or public hearings of committees or  
6 subcommittees shall comply with the following procedures in order  
7 to assure public access (See Const 1963, Art 4 §§ 16 and 17):

8 (a) All meetings or public hearings shall be open to the  
9 public and accessible;

10 (b) The right of any person to attend a meeting or public  
11 hearing includes the right to tape-record, videotape, and/or  
12 broadcast live;

13 (c) The right of any person to attend a meeting or public  
14 hearing may not be conditioned on prior approval of, or notice to,  
15 the committee or subcommittee;

16 (d) All decisions of a committee or subcommittee shall be  
17 made at a public meeting;

18 (e) The right of a person to attend a meeting or public  
19 hearing shall not be limited by a requirement that she or he  
20 register or otherwise provide her or his name or other identifying  
21 information;

22 (f) A person shall not be excluded from a meeting or public  
23 hearing of a committee or subcommittee except for a breach of the  
24 peace or in order to protect the health and safety of persons in  
25 attendance at the meeting;

26 (g) A conference committee shall give a six-hour notice. A  
27 second conference committee shall give a one-hour notice. Notice  
28 of a conference committee meeting shall include written notice to  
29 each Member of the conference committee and the Majority and

1 Minority Leaders of each house indicating the time and place of the  
2 meeting (See 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.265);

3 (h) A rescheduled or a special meeting of a committee or  
4 subcommittee shall be posted at least 18 hours before the scheduled  
5 meeting time. No committee, subcommittee, or conference committee  
6 shall remain in session or stand in recess beyond the hour of 12:00  
7 midnight; and

8 (i) Notice of committee or subcommittee meetings or public  
9 hearings shall include notice that individuals needing special  
10 services to fully participate in the meeting or public hearing may  
11 contact the committee or subcommittee Chair to request the  
12 necessary assistance.

13 (8) Each committee shall have written minutes prepared of  
14 each meeting. The minutes shall include the date, time, place,  
15 Members present, Members absent, Members excused, and any decisions  
16 which were made. The minutes shall also include all roll call  
17 votes taken at the meeting. The proposed minutes of a meeting  
18 shall be available for inspection by the public within eight  
19 working days of the meeting. Minutes shall be approved by the  
20 committee at the next meeting. Approved minutes shall be available  
21 for public inspection no later than five working days after  
22 approval.

23 (9) Committees may excuse a Member from attending a committee  
24 meeting.

25 (10) Committees shall not meet after a session of the House  
26 has been called to order without the consent of the House.

27 (11) With approval of a majority of the Members appointed and  
28 serving on the committee, a committee may adopt additional rules  
29 provided they do not conflict with the Uniform Standing Committee

1 Rules or with the Standing Rules of the House.

2 (12) A motion for the previous question is not in order.

3

4 **Chair of Committee.**

5 Rule 34. The first named Member of any committee shall be the  
6 Chair, and the second named Member shall be Vice-Chair. In the  
7 absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair, the next named Member of  
8 the Majority party in attendance shall act as Chair. The Chair of  
9 the committee may place under oath or affirmation any person who  
10 appears to testify before the committee.

11

12 **Committee and Auditor General Reports.**

13 Rule 35. Upon receipt of Auditor General reports, the  
14 Oversight Committee shall review the reports and, if appropriate,  
15 refer the reports to the appropriate standing committee for  
16 consideration. Consideration by the standing committee shall not  
17 impede or preclude any Member from initiating any action in  
18 response to an Auditor General report.

19

20 **Subpoena Power.**

21 Rule 36. (1) Except as provided by MCL 4.541 or subsection  
22 (2), the right of a special or standing committee to subpoena shall  
23 be granted by resolution of the House in accordance with Mason's  
24 Manual of Legislative Procedure - 2020 edition. The vote on  
25 adoption of a subpoena power resolution shall be by record roll  
26 call vote. The votes of a majority of the Members elected and  
27 serving shall be required for adoption. The right to subpoena  
28 shall not be granted to subcommittees.

29 (2) The House Oversight Committee for the One Hundred Third

1 Legislature is granted the full scope of power as authorized by MCL  
2 4.101 and MCL 4.541 to administer oaths, issue subpoenas, and  
3 examine books and records of any person, partnership, corporation,  
4 governmental entity, or political subdivision.

5  
6 **Reports of Committees.**

7 Rule 37. (1) A committee may recommend amendments, a  
8 substitute, or referral to another committee, with or without  
9 recommendation as to passage or adoption. A substitute is an  
10 amendment that replaces all of the language in a bill or  
11 resolution.

12 (2) Substitutes reported by the committee shall include all  
13 adopted amendments and shall be prepared by the Legislative Service  
14 Bureau. A majority of the Members serving on a committee shall be  
15 necessary to report a bill or resolution out of the committee. A  
16 majority of the Members appointed to a committee and serving shall  
17 constitute a quorum. Minority reports shall not be permitted or  
18 received by the House. Bills or resolutions reported without  
19 recommendation as to passage or adoption shall lie on the table.

20 (3) All bills favorably reported back to the House shall be  
21 referred to Second Reading together with amendments recommended by  
22 the standing committee. All resolutions reported back to the House  
23 shall be referred to reports of standing committees together with  
24 amendments recommended by the standing committee. If more than one  
25 standing committee has considered a bill, only the amendments  
26 recommended by the last committee to consider the bill shall be  
27 considered.

28 (4) Except as provided in subsection (5), a bill creating or  
29 revising administrative rule promulgation authority or a bill with

1 a recommended amendment that creates or revises administrative rule  
2 promulgation authority may only be favorably reported back to the  
3 House by the Rules Committee. For legislation referred to the  
4 Rules Committee under this subsection, the Committee shall limit  
5 its consideration of the bill to the scope of administrative rule  
6 promulgation authority.

7 (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this rule, the  
8 following committees may favorably report any bill back to the  
9 House:

- 10 (a) Appropriations
- 11 (b) Government Operations
- 12 (c) Rules
- 13 (d) Any special or select committee

#### 14 15 **Public Hearings.**

16 Rule 38. A committee may provide for a public  
17 hearing. Notice of such hearing, including its subject, time, and  
18 place, shall be given in writing to the Clerk of the House who  
19 shall announce the hearing and publish the notice in the House  
20 Journal prior to the meeting. (See Const 1963, Art 4 § 17)

## 21 22 **CHAPTER V** 23 **TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS**

#### 24 25 **Order of Business.**

26 Rule 39. (1) The order of business of the House shall be as  
27 follows, unless otherwise ordered by the House:

- 28 (a) Motions and Resolutions;
- 29 (b) Announcement by the Clerk of Printing and Enrollment;



- (c) Reports of Select Committees;
- (d) Reports of Standing Committees;
- (e) Messages from the Senate;
- (f) Third Reading;
- (g) Second Reading;
- (h) Notices;
- (i) Messages from the Governor;
- (j) Comments and Recommendations;
- (k) Explanation of "No" Votes;
- (l) Communications from State Officers;
- (m) Introduction of Bills;
- (n) Announcements by the Clerk; and
- (o) Presentation of Petitions.

(2) Routine business on which no vote of the House is required may be disposed of on any day, with or without a quorum present. If a quorum is not present, any item of business becoming the subject of a floor motion shall be postponed to the next legislative day.

(3) The business of the House shall not be delayed or interrupted by speeches by nonmembers, presentations, awards, ceremonies, or musical programs. Except for invocations and joint sessions of the House and Senate, nonmembers are not permitted to give speeches on the floor of the House or in the gallery.

## BILLS

### Introduction.

Rule 40. (1) All bills to be introduced shall be approved as to form and numbering of sections by the Legislative Service Bureau

1 and be signed by the Member introducing them. Four copies of each  
2 shall be delivered to the office of the Clerk by the sponsoring or  
3 co-sponsoring Member not later than three hours prior to calling  
4 the House to order, unless permitted by a simple majority vote of  
5 those voting. If the sponsoring or co-sponsoring Member is unable  
6 to deliver the four copies to the office of the Clerk due to a  
7 family or medical exigency, then the leader of that Member's caucus  
8 may deliver the copies on his or her behalf. The Clerk shall  
9 number bills in the order of receiving, and present the same to the  
10 House at the next session of the House. All bills shall be  
11 introduced in printed form.

12 (2) Once a bill has been turned in to the Clerk's office for  
13 introduction, up to three hours prior to calling the House to  
14 order, a Member may add his or her signature as a co-sponsor only  
15 with the permission of the sponsor.

16 (3) No person may add or remove any signature, other than his  
17 or her own, from a bill being introduced.

18 (4) The Speaker shall refer all bills and joint resolutions  
19 to a standing committee no later than one House legislative day  
20 after being submitted to the Clerk.

21 (5) The Speaker may change the original referral of a bill or  
22 resolution by written communication submitted to the Clerk before  
23 the end of session on the next House legislative day following the  
24 day of the original referral. Notice of the referral shall be  
25 announced by the Clerk and printed in the Journal.

26

27 **Order of Consideration.**

28 Rule 41. (1) The order to be taken by bills introduced in  
29 the House shall be as follows:

- 1 (a) Notice of introduction;
- 2 (b) Introduction, First Reading of title, order printed or  
3 reproduced, and reference to a standing committee designated by the  
4 Speaker;
- 5 (c) Report by the committee(s), pursuant to Rule 37, and  
6 placing on Second Reading;
- 7 (d) Consideration of Second Reading;
- 8 (e) Third Reading and vote on passage;
- 9 (f) Transmission to Senate if passed;
- 10 (g) Returned by the Senate, and, if not amended by the  
11 Senate, reference to the Clerk for enrollment printing; if amended  
12 by the Senate, laying over one day, and consideration under the  
13 same order of business (Messages from the Senate); and (if  
14 amendments are concurred in) reference to the Clerk for enrollment  
15 printing;
- 16 (h) Returned by the Governor with a line-item or a full veto,  
17 and such bill shall be taken immediately unless a quorum is not  
18 present, in which case it will lay over one day; and
- 19 (i) Report by Clerk of enrollment printing and presentation  
20 to the Governor.
- 21 Senate bills shall, as far as possible, take the same course as  
22 House bills.
- 23 (2) All joint resolutions shall take the same course as bills  
24 and shall be identified by letter, i.e., "A", "B", "C", etc.
- 25 (3) Nothing in these rules shall prevent a majority of the  
26 Members elected to and serving in the House from discharging a  
27 committee from further consideration of any measure. (See Const  
28 1963, Art 4 § 16) A notice of one session day shall be given of a  
29 motion to discharge any such committee, the notice to be in writing

1 and entered upon the House Journal. If a committee of the House is  
2 discharged from further consideration of a bill, the bill shall be  
3 placed on the order of Second Reading, and if a committee of the  
4 House is discharged from further consideration of a resolution, the  
5 resolution shall be placed on the order of Motions and Resolutions.

6  
7 **Reading.**

8 Rule 42. (1) Every bill shall be read three times in the  
9 House before its final passage. (See Const 1963, Art 4 § 26) The  
10 First and Second Readings may be by its title only; the Third  
11 Reading may be by its title unless there is a motion to read the  
12 bill in full supported by one-third of Members voting.

13 (2) No bill shall be passed or become a law at any regular  
14 session until it has been printed or reproduced and in the  
15 possession of the House for at least five days. (See Const 1963,  
16 Art 4 § 26)

17 (3) The Speaker or his or her designee may direct that a bill  
18 be printed or reproduced out of order.

19  
20 **Commitment and Amendment.**

21 Rule 43. No bill shall be referred to a committee until it  
22 has been read a first time. No bill shall be altered or amended on  
23 its passage through the House so as to change its original purpose  
24 as determined by its total content and not alone by its  
25 title. (See Const 1963, Art 4 § 24)

26  
27 **Referral to Second Reading.**

28 Rule 44. All bills reported favorably by a committee of the  
29 House in accordance with Rule 37 shall be referred to the order of

1 Second Reading. Such bills shall be kept on file in the order of  
2 referral for consideration, and the file shall be called "Second  
3 Reading".

4  
5 **Second Reading.**

6 Rule 45. When the House is under the order of "Second  
7 Reading", it shall consider the bills in such order as may be  
8 determined by a majority of those voting.

9  
10 **Second Reading Amendment.**

11 Rule 46. (1) Under the order of Second Reading, bills shall  
12 be read a second time by their title. Committee recommendations,  
13 including amendments and substitutes, shall be considered  
14 first. Amendments to committee substitutes or committee amendments  
15 shall not be considered until such committee substitutes or  
16 amendments have been adopted by the House. Amendments offered from  
17 the floor shall be submitted to the Clerk and shall be approved as  
18 to form by the Clerk before consideration.

19 (2) When a substitute is offered, amendments to the proposed  
20 substitute shall not be considered before the proposed substitute  
21 is adopted.

22 (3) A bill may be advanced to the order of Third Reading by a  
23 vote of a majority of the Members voting. Such motion shall take  
24 precedence following the motion to amend.

25  
26 **Amendment; Vote.**

27 Rule 47. No bill shall be amended prior to its Second  
28 Reading. Bills which have been considered on Second Reading shall  
29 be advanced to the order of Third Reading, either by motion and

1 concurrence of a majority of the Members voting or in the absence  
2 of objection. Bills shall be subject to all subsidiary motions on  
3 Third Reading. Amendments offered on Third Reading shall not be  
4 considered, nor printed in the House Journal, unless seconded by a  
5 majority of the Members voting. Amendments on Second or Third  
6 Reading shall require a majority of the Members elected and serving  
7 for adoption. This requirement shall apply to amendments in the  
8 first and second degree and no further degree shall be permitted.  
9

10 **Third Reading.**

11 Rule 48. (1) Bills may not be considered for final passage  
12 without having been considered on Second Reading. Bills considered  
13 on Second Reading may be placed on Third Reading for immediate  
14 passage by motion and concurrence of a majority of the Members  
15 elected and serving.

16 (2) Bills failing of passage are subject to reconsideration  
17 and if reconsidered are subject to consideration on the order of  
18 Third Reading.  
19

20 **Amendment; Co-sponsors.**

21 Rule 49. After an amendment has been turned in to the Clerk,  
22 a Member may not add his or her name as a co-sponsor without the  
23 approval of the sponsor.  
24

25 **Majority Vote on Bills.**

26 Rule 50. (1) No bill shall become a law without the  
27 concurrence of a majority of the Members elected to and serving in  
28 the House. On the final passage of bills, the votes and names of  
29 the Members voting thereon shall be entered in the House

1 Journal. (See Const 1963, Art 4 § 26)

2 (2) After a House bill has been passed, or upon final action  
3 on a House bill returned from the Senate, a Member may add his or  
4 her name as a co-sponsor to a bill with the approval of the  
5 sponsor.

6

7 **Extraordinary Vote Requirements.**

8 Rule 51. (1) Action by the House on any of the following  
9 matters shall require the vote of two-thirds of the Members elected  
10 and serving:

11 (a) Expulsion of Member (See Const 1963, Art 4 § 16);

12 (b) Immediate Effect (See Const 1963, Art 4 § 27);

13 (c) Local or Special Act (See Const 1963, Art 4 § 29);

14 (d) Private or Local Purpose Appropriation (See Const 1963,  
15 Art 4 § 30);

16 (e) Overriding Veto or Line-Item Veto (See Const 1963, Art 4  
17 § 33);

18 (f) Bank and Trust Company Laws (See Const 1963, Art 4 § 43);

19 (g) Create Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (See Const 1963,  
20 Art 6 § 1);

21 (h) Removal of Judges (See Const 1963, Art 6 § 25);

22 (i) Long Term State Borrowing (See Const 1963, Art 9 § 15);

23 (j) State Land Reserve Designation (See Const 1963, Art 10  
24 § 5);

25 (k) Rejection or Reduction of Civil Service Pay Increases  
26 (See Const 1963, Art 11 § 5);

27 (l) Constitutional Amendment (See Const 1963, Art 12 § 1);

28 (m) Exceed Revenue Limits (See Const 1963, Art 9 § 27); and

29 (n) Mackinac Bridge Bonds Refunding (See Const 1963, Schedule

1 § 14).

2 (2) Action by the House on any of the following matters shall  
3 require the vote of three-fourths of the Members elected and  
4 serving:

5 (a) Any law which increases the February 1, 1994, statutory  
6 limits on the maximum amount of ad valorem property taxes that may  
7 be levied for school district operating purposes (See Const 1963,  
8 Art 9 § 3); and

9 (b) Amendment or Repeal of Initiated Law (See Const 1963, Art  
10 2 § 9).

11

## 12 **Appropriations**

13 Rule 52. No appropriations bill containing enhancement grants  
14 shall be brought for a vote without proper disclosure of the  
15 sponsor and the intended recipient, and a description of the grant  
16 in a form and manner established by the House by resolution.

17

## 18 **Title; Object; Reference to Compiler's Sections.**

19 Rule 53. No bill shall embrace more than one object, which  
20 shall be expressed in its title. No bill shall be altered or  
21 amended on its passage through the House so as to change its  
22 original purpose as determined by its total content and not alone  
23 by its title. (See Const 1963, Art 4 § 24) If the bill proposes  
24 any amendment to existing laws, the sections of which have been  
25 assigned compiler's section numbers in the last general compilation  
26 of public acts, the title shall contain also a reference to the  
27 compiler's sections.

28

29

## **MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**



**IN GENERAL****3 Stating Motions.**

4 Rule 54. When a motion is made, and when necessary under the  
5 rules, seconded, it shall be stated by the Presiding Officer. The  
6 Presiding Officer may require that a motion be submitted in  
7 writing. The motion shall be entered upon the House Journal,  
8 together with the name of the Member making it, unless withdrawn  
9 upon request of the Member making it and by a majority vote of  
10 those voting, or ruled out of order by the Presiding Officer. If  
11 in writing, the motion shall be read aloud by the Clerk before  
12 being debated.

**14 Procedural Motions.**

15 Rule 55. Except as otherwise provided in the rules, all  
16 procedural motions, including, for purposes of this rule, those for  
17 immediate effect, record roll call, and division, shall be made  
18 orally after recognition by the Presiding Officer.

**20 When in Possession; Withdrawal.**

21 Rule 56. After a motion has been stated by the Presiding  
22 Officer, or read by the Clerk, it shall be deemed to be in the  
23 possession of the House, but may be withdrawn at any time before  
24 decision or amendment upon request of the Member making it and by a  
25 majority vote of those voting.

**27 Precedence of Motions.**

28 Rule 57. (1) When a question is under debate, no motion  
29 shall be received except:

- 1 (a) To adjourn;
- 2 (b) To take a recess;
- 3 (c) To reconsider;
- 4 (d) To lay on the table;
- 5 (e) For the previous question;
- 6 (f) To postpone to a day certain;
- 7 (g) To commit;
- 8 (h) To amend; and
- 9 (i) To postpone indefinitely.

10 (2) Such motions shall take precedence in that order, and  
 11 shall be decided by a majority vote of those Members voting, except  
 12 the motion to postpone indefinitely and the motion to amend shall  
 13 be decided by a majority vote of the Members elected and  
 14 serving. When a recess is taken with a question pending, the  
 15 consideration of the question shall be resumed upon reassembling  
 16 unless otherwise determined. No motion to postpone to a day  
 17 certain, or to commit, being decided shall be again allowed on the  
 18 same day and at the same stage of the question. A motion to  
 19 postpone indefinitely having been decided shall not be subject to  
 20 reconsideration. When a bill is up for consideration at any stage  
 21 of procedure, and a motion is made to postpone indefinitely, or to  
 22 strike out all after the style clause, amendments shall be in order  
 23 before taking a vote on any such motion.

24

25 **Always in Order; Not Debatable.**

26 Rule 58. (1) The following motions are not debatable:

- 27 (a) Adjourn;
- 28 (b) Call of the House;
- 29 (c) Recess;

- 1 (d) Previous Question;
- 2 (e) Table or take from the table; and
- 3 (f) Decision of Presiding Officer unless an appeal is taken.
- 4 (2) The following motions are debatable but do not open the
- 5 main question to debate:
- 6 (a) Commit;
- 7 (b) Discharge a committee;
- 8 (c) Postpone to a time certain; and
- 9 (d) Suspension of the Rules.

10

11 **Order of Putting Questions.**

12 Rule 59. All questions shall be put in the order they were  
 13 moved, except in the case of privileged questions which take  
 14 precedence as follows:

- 15 (a) Call of the House when quorum is not present;
- 16 (b) Make or give notice of a motion to reconsider;
- 17 (c) Adjourn;
- 18 (d) Recess; and
- 19 (e) Raise a question of privilege.

20

21 **Amendments to be Germane.**

22 Rule 60. No independent or new proposition or new question  
 23 shall be introduced under color of an amendment. All amendments  
 24 must be germane to the main question. When the question of  
 25 germaneness is raised, the Presiding Officer shall rule on the  
 26 question.

27

28 **Division of Question.**

29 Rule 61. Any Member may call for a division of the question,

1 and if supported by a majority vote of the Members voting, the  
 2 question shall be divided if its components are so distinct that if  
 3 one is taken away a substantive proposition shall remain. A motion  
 4 to strike out and insert shall be deemed indivisible.

## 5 6 **MOTIONS FOR THE PREVIOUS QUESTION**

### 7 8 **Method of Ordering.**

9 Rule 62. (1) The method of ordering the previous question  
 10 shall be as follows: Any Member may move the previous question,  
 11 and the motion shall apply to the pending question only. If the  
 12 motion is seconded by at least ten Members, the Presiding Officer  
 13 shall put the question of whether the main question shall be  
 14 put. After the seconding of the motion for the previous question  
 15 and prior to ordering the same, a Call of the House may be moved  
 16 and ordered, but after ordering the previous question nothing shall  
 17 be in order prior to the decision of the pending question, except:

- 18 (a) Demands for the ayes and nays;
- 19 (b) Points of order;
- 20 (c) Appeals from the decision of the Presiding Officer; and
- 21 (d) A motion to adjourn or to take a recess, which shall be  
 22 decided without debate.

23 (2) The effect of the previous question shall be to put an  
 24 end to all debate and bring the House to a direct vote upon the  
 25 pending question. If the House shall refuse to order the pending  
 26 question, the consideration on the subject shall be resumed.

## 27 28 **MOTION TO RECONSIDER**

**1 Motions for Reconsideration.**

2 Rule 63. Any Member may move for a reconsideration of any  
3 question on the same or next succeeding legislative session day, if  
4 the bill or resolution is still in the possession of the  
5 House. Reconsideration of the vote by which a bill passed the  
6 House, or any proposition requiring a vote in excess of a majority  
7 of Members elected and serving, shall require a majority of the  
8 Members elected and serving. The motion to reconsider shall not be  
9 renewed the same day. A motion to reconsider any question shall  
10 not be subject to any subsidiary motion except to postpone for the  
11 day. The question of passing a bill the objections of the Governor  
12 notwithstanding shall not be reconsidered more than twice.

13

**14 Notice of Reconsideration.**

15 Rule 64. A notice of intention to move for a reconsideration  
16 of any bill that is still in the possession of the House may be  
17 given by any Member from the floor or in writing to the Clerk, with  
18 the support of one-third of the Members elected and serving, which  
19 shall be immediately announced by the Clerk, entered upon the House  
20 Journal, and the bill shall be retained by the Clerk of the House  
21 until after the time expires during which under Rule 63 the motion  
22 can be made, either by the Member serving such notice or by any  
23 other Member. Notice of intention shall not be in order on the day  
24 preceding a recess of one week or more or at a time which would  
25 prevent passage of the bill. No other Members may move for  
26 reconsideration on the same day that notice of intention to move  
27 for a reconsideration is given.

28

29

**MOTIONS FOR CALLS OF THE HOUSE**

1

**2 Ordering Calls of the House.**

3 Rule 65. Calls of the House may be ordered upon motion by a  
4 majority of the Members present but the total vote in favor of such  
5 Call shall not be less than fifteen in number. A motion for a Call  
6 of the House shall not be entertained after the previous question  
7 is ordered.

8

**9 Procedure.**

10 Rule 66. After a Call of the House is ordered, the doors  
11 shall be closed and the Members shall not be allowed to leave the  
12 floor of the House without permission of the Speaker or the  
13 Speaker's designees. The roll of the House shall be called by the  
14 Clerk. The Sergeant at Arms may be dispatched after the  
15 absentees. In such case, a list of the absentees shall be  
16 furnished by the Clerk to the Sergeant at Arms, who shall deliver  
17 such absentees at the bar of the House with all possible speed. In  
18 case the Sergeant at Arms shall require assistance in addition to  
19 the regularly appointed Assistant Sergeants at Arms of the House,  
20 during an authorized Call of the House, the Speaker or Presiding  
21 Officer may, upon motion, deputize any person properly qualified,  
22 including any member of the Michigan State Police, as a special  
23 assistant Sergeant at Arms. The House may proceed to business  
24 under a Call of the House pending the arrival of any absentees.

25

26

**APPEALS**

27

**28 Form of Question.**

29 Rule 67. On all appeals from the decisions of the Presiding

1 Officer, the question shall be decided by a majority vote of those  
2 voting, by a roll call vote. A tie vote sustains the judgment of  
3 the Presiding Officer.

4  
5 **Tabling Appeals.**

6 Rule 68. An appeal may be laid on the table but shall not  
7 carry with it the subject matter before the House at the time such  
8 appeal is taken.

9  
10 **Amendment or Suspension of Rules.**

11 Rule 69. (1) Any rule of the House may be amended by a  
12 majority vote of the Members elected and serving. No rule shall be  
13 amended unless the amendment is in writing and in possession of the  
14 House five days prior to its consideration. A rule may be  
15 suspended by a vote of three-fifths of the Members shown to be  
16 present by the House Journal entries.

17 (2) Suspension of the rules as applied to matters pertaining  
18 to order of business, schedule of legislative sessions, and  
19 adjournment may be by a majority vote of the Members elected and  
20 serving.

21  
22 **Practice.**

23 Rule 70. In all cases not provided by the Constitution,  
24 statute, the House Rules, the Joint Rules of the Senate and House  
25 of Representatives, or the consistent practice of the House, the  
26 authority shall be Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure - 2020  
27 edition.

28  
29 **House and Concurrent Resolutions.**

1 Rule 71. (1) The order to be taken by resolutions introduced  
2 in the House and received from the Senate shall be as follows:

3 (a) Every resolution, both House and Concurrent, shall be  
4 read to the House and shall either be referred by the Speaker to a  
5 committee or may be taken up immediately if agreed to by both the  
6 Speaker and Minority Leader.

7 (b) Reported by the committee and placed on reports of  
8 standing committees.

9 (c) Consideration on reports of standing committees unless  
10 discharged from further consideration under Rule 41(3) and placed  
11 on the order of Motions and Resolutions.

12 (d) Transmission to Senate if a concurrent resolution is  
13 adopted.

14 (e) Concurrent resolutions returned with amendment may be  
15 taken up or remain on the order of Messages from the Senate.

16 (2) Commemorative resolutions must be received in the Clerk's  
17 office at least one day in advance.

18 (3) Resolutions of sorrow may be considered immediately upon  
19 presentation.

20 (4) The adoption of any concurrent resolution approving any  
21 intertransfer or transfer of any appropriation shall be by record  
22 roll call vote.

23 (5) Each Member shall be limited to introduction of two  
24 commemorative resolutions per calendar year. By written agreement,  
25 a Member may allow another Member to use that Member's yearly  
26 commemorative resolution allotment.

27  
28 **CHAPTER VI**  
29 **PUBLIC ACCESS**



**FINANCIAL RECORDS****Access to Financial Records.**

Rule 72. (1) The financial records of the House of Representatives shall be open for public inspection. Upon a written request which describes the financial record sufficiently to enable the House of Representatives to find the financial record, a person has a right to inspect, copy, or receive copies of that financial record of the House of Representatives. Documents shall be available for inspection during normal business hours.

(2) A copy of the House financial records shall be on file with the House Business Office, which shall have overall authority to administer the House financial records under the direction of the Speaker of the House.

(3) As used in this section, "financial record" means a budget, contract, purchase order, expenditure authorization, voucher, check, warrant, lease, audit report, balance sheet, travel voucher, or allotment account.

(4) The following information contained in legislative financial records is exempt from disclosure under this rule:

(a) Information of a personal nature contained in financial records where the public disclosure of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of an individual's privacy. Such information would include, but not be limited to, the following:

(i) An employee's social security account number, financial institution record, electronic transfer fund number, deferred compensation, savings bonds, W-2 and W-4 forms, and any court-enforced judgments.

1           (ii) An employee's health care benefit selection.

2           (iii) Telephone bill detail including the telephone number and  
3 name of individual called.

4           (iv) Unemployment Compensation and Workers' Disability  
5 Compensation records.

6           (b) Records and information specifically described and  
7 exempted from disclosure under statute or subject to attorney-  
8 client privilege;

9           (c) A bid or proposal by a person to enter into a contract or  
10 agreement, until the time for the public opening of bids or  
11 proposals, or if a public opening is not to be conducted, until the  
12 time for the receipt of bids or proposals has expired;

13           (d) Commercial or financial information or trade secrets  
14 voluntarily provided to the House of Representatives;

15           (e) Communications, notes, and electronic data within the  
16 House of Representatives or between the Legislature and other  
17 public bodies of an advisory nature;

18           (f) Internet-use records; and

19           (g) Any other document or record protected from public  
20 disclosure by agreement, contract, House rule, or law.

21           (5) The House of Representatives may charge a reasonable fee  
22 for providing a copy of a financial record. The fee shall be  
23 limited to actual mailing costs and to the actual incremental cost  
24 of duplication or publication including labor, the cost of search,  
25 examination, review, and the deletion of exempt from nonexempt  
26 information.

27           (6) The House of Representatives may also charge a reasonable  
28 fee for providing for the inspection of financial records. This  
29 fee may include the actual incremental cost of supervising the

1 inspection including labor, the cost of search, examination,  
2 review, and the deletion of exempt from nonexempt information.

3  
4 **Televising of House Session.**

5 Rule 73. (1)(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b),  
6 nothing in these rules shall prohibit the televising of sessions or  
7 committee meetings of the Michigan House of Representatives.

8 (b) During session, Members, staff, and guests shall not  
9 tape-record, videotape, video record, audio record, broadcast live,  
10 or livestream on the House floor without having obtained prior  
11 consent from either the Clerk or any Member(s) depicted or heard in  
12 such recording, broadcast, or livestream.

13 (2) The televised coverage of sessions and committee meetings  
14 of the Michigan House of Representatives by House television shall  
15 be made available for dissemination, pursuant to subsection (4).

16 (3) All televised coverage of House session and committee  
17 meetings shall be unedited.

18 (4) No portion of any coverage (either live or taped),  
19 recording, broadcast, or livestream authorized pursuant to  
20 subsection (2) or subsection (1)(b) may be utilized in any fashion  
21 for campaign or political purposes or to promote or oppose a ballot  
22 issue or the candidacy of any person for any elective office. Only  
23 accredited news organizations, educational institutions, and non-  
24 profit public affairs documentary programs may utilize any portion  
25 of the House television feed. No part of the House television feed  
26 may be used in any paid commercial advertisements.

27  
28 **CHAPTER VII**  
29

**1 Personal Privilege and Conduct.**

2 Rule 74. (1) Matters involving personal privilege are  
3 limited and include only the following:

4 (a) Anything tending to subject a Member to ridicule or  
5 contempt;

6 (b) Charges in news media accounts relating to a Member in  
7 his or her representative capacity only;

8 (c) News media accounts attributing to a Member remarks he or  
9 she has not made;

10 (d) Accusation by another Member in debate of intentional  
11 misrepresentation;

12 (e) Assault on a Member for words spoken in debate; and

13 (f) Arrest of a Member except for treason, felony, or breach  
14 of the peace.

15 (2) Sexual harassment of Members or House employees is  
16 prohibited and will not be tolerated by the House.

17 (3) A Member shall not use his or her position in any manner  
18 to solicit or obtain anything of value for himself or herself,  
19 House employees, or any other Member which tends to influence the  
20 manner in which the Member performs his or her official duties.

21 (4) A Member shall not convert for personal, business, and/or  
22 campaign use, unrelated to House business, any supplies, services,  
23 facilities, or staff provided by the State of Michigan. This  
24 includes, but is not limited to, telephones, telecopy machines,  
25 computers, postage, and copy machines.

26 (5) A Member shall not solicit or accept any type of campaign  
27 contribution in any House or Capitol facility or building.

28 (6) A Member shall conduct himself or herself to justify the  
29 confidence placed in him or her by the people and shall, by

1 personal example and admonition to colleagues, maintain the  
2 integrity and responsibility of his or her office.

3 (7) A Member shall not engage in any conduct that materially  
4 impairs the ability of the Member to perform the duties of his or  
5 her office or substantially impair the public confidence in the  
6 House.

7 (8) A Member shall adhere to these rules and all applicable  
8 laws. Any violation of law or these rules by a Member is subject  
9 to the House's plenary authority to reprimand, censure, or expel  
10 its Members. A reprimand, censure, or expulsion is in addition to  
11 any potential civil or criminal penalties otherwise provided by  
12 law.

13  
14 **Expungement of Records and Petitions.**

15 Rule 75. (1) Any Member may dissent from and protest against  
16 any act, proceeding, or resolution which he or she deems injurious  
17 to any person or the public and have the reason for such dissent  
18 entered in the House Journal. Any matter may be expunged from the  
19 record as not being privileged by order of the House by a majority  
20 of the Members elected and serving. When any matter is ordered  
21 expunged from the record, as above provided, no mention shall be  
22 made of the same, nor of the action of the House in ordering such  
23 expungement.

24 (2) No memorial, remonstrance, or petition, except recount  
25 petitions, shall be printed in the House Journal without having  
26 been read to the House and ordered printed in the House Journal by  
27 a majority vote.

28  
29 **QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS**

1

2 **Oath of Office.**

3 Rule 76. Upon objection by any Representative or  
4 Representative-elect, no Representative-elect shall be given the  
5 oath of office or be permitted to be seated as a Member if he or  
6 she fails to meet any of the qualifications for office. (See,  
7 e.g., Const 1963, Art 4 § 7) Upon a finding by a majority vote of  
8 the Members elected and serving in the House that such  
9 Representative-elect fails to meet any of the qualifications for  
10 office, that person shall be declared to be not qualified for  
11 membership in the House, and the office shall be declared  
12 vacant. The question of a Member's qualifications shall be  
13 presented only by a Member.

14

15

**CHAPTER VIII**

16

17 **Equally Divided House.**

18 Rule 77. If at any time during the One Hundred Third  
19 Legislature there are 55 Members duly elected and serving as  
20 Democrats as evidenced by the party he or she represented on the  
21 general or special election ballot from which he or she was elected  
22 to the One Hundred Third Legislature, and 55 Members duly elected  
23 and serving as Republicans as evidenced by the party he or she  
24 represented on the general or special election ballot from which he  
25 or she was elected to the One Hundred Third Legislature, then the  
26 House of Representatives shall proceed with the election of a  
27 Speaker and other officers provided for in Rule 1 by at least 56  
28 votes.