



RULE 1: DEFINITIONS

RULE 1-1. *FLOOR PRIVILEGES*. Floor privileges shall be defined as the right of a member to make motions, both main and incidental, and to speak in debate as to the merit of motions, legislation, etc.

RULE 1-2. *CHAMBER PRIVILEGES*. Chamber privileges shall be defined as the right of a member or guest to enter the Congress Chambers. Delegates not abiding by the Conference dress code shall automatically forfeit this privilege.

RULE 1-3. *SPEAKING PRIVILEGES*. Speaking privileges shall be defined as the right of a speaker to address the Congress for any reason deemed appropriate by the Presiding Officer.

RULE 2: CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

RULE 2-1. *MEMBERS*. For the purpose of these rules, a member of the Congress shall be any individual, voting or alternate, representing their institution within the definition of the Constitution and members of the Board of Directors.

RULE 2-2. *VOTING MEMBERS*. For the purpose of these rules, a voting member shall be any individual who is designated as such by their institution. Members of the Board of Directors shall be considered ex-officio voting members, except where prohibited by the Constitution.

RULE 2-3. *CHANGE OF STATUS*. Any member wanting to transfer their voting status to another member must submit written intent to such change to the State Secretary. Voting status may only be transferred to another member from the same institution.

- a. Written intent must have the name of the voting delegate and the alternate wishing to take their place, as well as signatures from both parties involved.

RULE 3: COMMITTEES

RULE 3-1. *COMMITTEES*. Congressional Committees shall have the duty of considering legislation prior to its consideration before the Congress. Each committee shall consider each piece of legislation assigned to it and render a recommendation.

RULE 3-2. *MEMBERSHIP*. The following will be guidelines for Committee Membership:

1. The Congress Chair and Vice Chair shall be ex-officio voting members of all Congressional Committees, except wherein their status is under consideration at that time by that committee.

2. The Congress Chair shall appoint the members of all committees.

RULE 3-3. *PROCEDURES*. The following will be guidelines for committee business:

1. Congressional Committees shall meet at a time and place as designated by the Chair of Congress.
2. A quorum of the committee is required to be present before the committee can transact business. Any member of the committee may request a quorum call at any time the committee is meeting. A number equal to a majority of the regular members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.
3. The chair, or in their absence the vice-chair of the committee, or their designee shall preside at meetings of the committee.
4. No amendment shall be introduced which alters the intention of the author of the legislation being considered.
5. After the author's explanation and questions, the Committee shall assign a recommendation of "DO FAIL" , "NO RECOMMENDATION" or "DO PASS" to each piece of assigned legislation.
 - a. DO FAIL - Does not come before Congress as written.
 - b. NO RECOMMENDATION - Comes before Congress as written, with any amendments as recommended by the committee.
 - c. DO PASS - Goes before Congress during Consent Calendar.

RULE 4: LEGISLATION

RULE 4-1. *GENERAL ORDER*. The following order will be used for seeing legislation.

1. First Reading of the Short Title
2. Author's Explanation: three (3) minutes
3. Questions: five (5) minutes
4. Amendments
5. Debate
6. Second Reading of the Short Title
7. Advancement

RULE 4-2. *ORDER OF CONSIDERATION*. The Floor Leader, at the discretion of the Chair of Congress, shall determine the order in which legislation is considered by the Congress.

RULE 4-3. *CONSENT CALENDAR*. Items deemed necessary by the Floor Leader, at the discretion of the Chair of Congress, shall be placed on the Consent Calendar for consideration. Items placed on Consent Calendar shall not be open to questions, amendments, or debate. The Chair shall ask for unanimous consent, and provided there is no objection from the membership,

the legislation will be considered adopted unanimously by the Congress. If an objection is heard, there shall be an immediate roll call vote taken on the consideration.

RULE 5: ADVANCEMENT

RULE 5-1. *METHOD.* The final method of advancement for legislation shall be a roll call vote.

RULE 5-2. *CONDUCT.* Once a vote has been called for final advancement, chambers shall be sealed by the Sergeant at Arms and members must remain in their seats during the period of voting. Votes shall only be cast from the floor of the Congress chamber. No motions shall be in order, except for a point of privilege concerning technology errors.

In the case of a tie on the vote of final passage, after the vote of the Chair, President Herman will perform his exclusive flag dance before adjournment on the first day of the Legislative Session.

RULE 6: CONCERNING VETO

RULE 6-1. *OVERTURNING A VETO.* Once a bill or resolution has been vetoed by the State President and delivered to the State Secretary, **the author** of the bill or resolution may make a motion to overturn the veto. This motion shall only be in order when there are no other items on the floor. Once seconded, a simple majority vote will be required to reintroduce the bill or resolution. A $\frac{2}{3}$ affirmative vote during advancement will be required to overturn the veto.

RULE 7: PRESIDING OFFICERS AUTHORITY

RULE 7-1. *AUTHORITY OF THE CHAIR.* The Presiding Officer shall maintain order in the Congress. No member or other person shall be permitted to address the Legislative Body without first having been recognized by the Presiding Officer. No member or other personnel shall approach the Presiding Officer in the chair (dais) without the Presiding Officer's invitation or approval. The Presiding Officer shall interpret these rules, with the Congress having the ability to overturn any ruling by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote.

RULE 7-2. *SUSPENSION OF PRIVILEGES.* The Presiding Officer shall maintain order in the Congress. At the discretion of the Presiding Officer, any member disturbing decorum may have their floor and/or speaking privileges revoked. The Presiding Officer's decision may be appealed by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the Congress.

RULE 8: CONDUCT & DECORUM

RULE 8-1. *SPEAKING.* No member shall address the body without first being recognized by the Presiding Officer. All statements and questions should be directed to the Presiding Officer and made over the microphone system.

RULE 8-2. *PROHIBITED SPEECH.* The following shall be considered out of line and will be punished at the discretion of the Presiding Officer:

1. Profane, obscene, and indecent language
2. Personal or ad hominem attacks
3. Slander or defamation of character
4. Any other speech deemed inappropriate by the Presiding Officer.

RULE 8-3. *DECORUM ON THE FLOOR*. The following standards shall be established to ensure the Congress is able to conduct its business quickly and in an orderly fashion:

1. Keep caucusing on the floor away from a speaking member.
2. Refrain from passing between the Presiding Officer and the speaking member.
3. Return to your seat for the duration of a vote of final passage.
4. Do not clap or otherwise applaud during debate, except at the conclusion.

RULE 9: CHAMBER ETIQUETTE

RULE 9-1. *SEATING & DESKS*. Each voting delegate will have a reserved seat on the floor. Additionally, each institution will have two (2) additional reserved seats for their alternate delegates to utilize. All other seats on the floor will be on a first come, first serve basis and may not be reserved. Any delegate who does not have a desk on the floor should be seated in the balcony or other designated area where they are able to extend their privileges.

RULE 9-2. *PROHIBITED ACTIONS*. The following behaviors are strictly prohibited and will result in being immediately escorted out of the Chambers. Subsequent infractions will result in the suspension of floor, chamber, and speaking privileges at the discretion of the Chair:

1. Horseplay
2. Rearranging or moving any furniture.

RULE 10: AMENDING AND SUSPENSION

RULE 10-1. *AMENDING*. These standing rules may be amended upon a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of the total voting delegates.

RULE 10-2. *SUSPENDING RULES*. Suspension of these rules shall be given instance and purpose and shall require a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of all delegates, voting and alternate.