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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 118 Session of  
2003

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INTRODUCED BY PERZEL, S. H. SMITH, ARGALL, CORNELL, PHILLIPS AND  
E. Z. TAYLOR, MARCH 4, 2003

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, MARCH 4, 2003

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A RESOLUTION

1 Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives, further  
2 providing for the general appropriation bill and for non-  
3 preferred bills.

4 RESOLVED, That Rule 19(b) of the Rules of the House of  
5 Representatives be amended to read as follows:

6 [RULE 19 (b)

7 General Appropriation Bill and Non-Preferred Bills

8 This rule shall apply to all amendments offered to the  
9 General Appropriation Bill for each proposed fiscal year  
10 including any amendments offered to or for supplemental  
11 appropriations to prior fiscal years contained within the  
12 General Appropriation Bill, and shall also apply to all  
13 amendments offered to any non-preferred appropriation bill for  
14 the same fiscal year.

15 Any amendment offered on the floor of the House to the  
16 General Appropriation Bill that proposes to increase spending of  
17 State dollars for the Commonwealth's proposed fiscal year or  
18 prior fiscal years above the levels contained in the General

1 Appropriation Bill as reported from the Appropriations Committee  
2 plus any aggregate if certified each year by the Appropriations  
3 Committee shall not be in order and may not be considered unless  
4 the same amendment contains sufficient reductions in line items  
5 of that General Appropriation Bill so that the amendment offered  
6 does not result in a net increase in the total proposed spending  
7 contained within the General Appropriation Bill plus any  
8 aggregate if certified by the Appropriations Committee.

9 Any amendment offered on the floor of the House to any non-  
10 preferred appropriation bill that proposes to increase spending  
11 of State dollars for the current fiscal year above the levels  
12 contained in that non-preferred appropriation bill as reported  
13 from the Appropriations Committee shall not be in order and may  
14 not be considered unless the same amendment contains sufficient  
15 reductions in that non-preferred appropriation bill so that the  
16 amendment offered does not result in a net increase in the total  
17 proposed spending contained within that non-preferred  
18 appropriation bill.

19 In order to be considered, amendments to the General  
20 Appropriation Bill must be submitted to the Office of the Chief  
21 Clerk by 2:00 P.M. of the Monday of the week prior to the  
22 scheduled vote of the General Appropriation Bill. The  
23 Appropriations Committee for special and proper reason and by  
24 majority vote, may waive this deadline. Members shall be  
25 notified of the scheduled vote on the General Appropriation Bill  
26 no later than 4:30 P.M. of the Wednesday preceding the above  
27 noted Monday on which the amendments must be filed to the Bill.  
28 Rule 21 of the Rules of the House, insofar as it applies to the  
29 filing deadline for amendments and notice requirements for the  
30 voting schedule for the General Appropriation Bill, shall not

1 apply to this rule. Rule 21 shall, however, apply to the non-  
2 preferred appropriation bills.

3 If the amendment cannot be submitted in accordance with the  
4 provision of the previous paragraph because it is still being  
5 prepared by the Legislative Reference Bureau, the member must,  
6 by 2:00 P.M. on the Monday of the week prior to the scheduled  
7 vote, provide the Office of the Chief Clerk with a statement,  
8 prepared by the member containing the factual content and exact  
9 amounts of increases and decreases in line items which would be  
10 proposed in the amendment, along with certification from the  
11 Legislative Reference Bureau that the amendment was submitted to  
12 the Legislative Reference Bureau prior to 2:00 P.M. on the  
13 aforementioned Monday. This filing deadline does not apply to  
14 amendments to any non-preferred appropriation bill.

15 Debate on any debatable question related to the General  
16 Appropriation Bill shall be limited to five minutes each time a  
17 member is recognized. On the bill a sponsor of an amendment  
18 shall be entitled to be recognized twice, a maker of a debatable  
19 motion shall be entitled to be recognized twice, any other  
20 members shall be entitled to be recognized once.

21 This rule may be temporarily suspended only by two-thirds  
22 vote of the members elected to the House by a roll call vote.  
23 Rule 77 of the Rules of the House of Representatives, insofar as  
24 it applies to the temporary suspension of the rules of the  
25 House, shall not apply to this rule.]