
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 957 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY EVANKOVICH, JULY 7, 2016

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, JULY 7, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Amending House Rule 21, further providing for consideration of
2 bills.

3 RESOLVED, That House Rule 21 be amended to read:

4 RULE 21

5 Consideration of Bills

6 (a) Every bill and every joint resolution shall be
7 considered on three different days. All amendments made thereto
8 shall be printed for the use of the members before the final
9 vote is taken thereon, and before the final vote is taken, upon
10 written request addressed to the presiding officer by at least
11 25% of the members elected to the House, any bill shall be read
12 at length. No bill shall become law and no joint resolution
13 adopted unless, on its final passage, the vote is taken by yeas
14 and nays, the names of the persons voting for and against it are
15 entered on the Journal, and a majority of the members elected to
16 the House is recorded thereon as voting in its favor.
17 (Constitution, Article III, Section 4).

18 (b) Members shall be notified of bills and resolutions

1 scheduled to be voted no later than prior to the close of
2 business at 4:30 P.M. of the second legislative day prior to the
3 date of second consideration for legislation that has no legal
4 deadline. (The General Appropriation Act and non-preferred bills
5 are included within the definition of legislation that has no
6 legal deadline.) Except as provided in subsection (d), all
7 amendments shall be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk
8 by 2:00 P.M. of the last legislative day preceding the scheduled
9 date of second consideration. Members shall be notified of bills
10 scheduled to be voted on third consideration. A change in the
11 printer's number as a result of third consideration shall not
12 require an additional notice of final passage. No vote on final
13 passage can occur before the date of the scheduled vote.

14 (c) If the amendment cannot be submitted in accordance with
15 the above paragraph because it is still being prepared by the
16 Legislative Reference Bureau, the member must provide the Office
17 of the Chief Clerk with a statement, by the above-noted 2:00
18 P.M. deadline, prepared by the member containing the factual
19 content of said amendment along with certification from the
20 Legislative Reference Bureau that the amendment was submitted to
21 the Legislative Reference Bureau for drafting prior to the
22 above-noted 2:00 P.M. deadline.

23 (d) In cases where an amendment alters a bill so as to
24 effectively rule out of order an amendment which was timely
25 filed pursuant to the provisions of this rule, a replacement
26 amendment may be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk
27 provided that the subject matter of the replacement amendment is
28 not substantially different from the intent of the original
29 amendment. The replacement amendment shall be deemed to have met
30 the timely filed conditions provided for in this rule. The

1 member shall notify the Speaker of the member's intent to file a
2 replacement amendment and shall file a certificate with the
3 Office of the Chief Clerk. The bill in question may continue to
4 receive consideration but shall not be moved to third
5 consideration until the replacement amendment is available for a
6 vote. If consideration of the bill is delayed to a new
7 legislative day due solely to delay in receipt of replacement
8 amendments, then only amendments timely filed for the date of
9 the originally scheduled vote and replacement amendments shall
10 be considered. This limitation on amendments shall not apply to
11 the bill in question if consideration of the bill is rescheduled
12 beyond the new legislative day.

13 (e) A bill may not receive action on concurrence until at
14 least 24 hours have elapsed from the time the bill and its
15 amendatory language was available to the public, unless the
16 amendment was a technical amendment as described under the first
17 paragraph of Rule 24 or an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the
18 members elected to the House indicates they have had sufficient
19 time to review the language and thereby approve proceeding with
20 the bill. A brief description of every bill on concurrence shall
21 be given prior to a vote.

22 [A brief description of every bill on concurrence shall be
23 given prior to a vote.] (f) Additionally, members shall be
24 notified and conference committee reports shall be available to
25 members at least 24 hours prior to the adoption of all
26 conference committee reports. When these reports are considered
27 on the first legislative day of the week, said notice shall be
28 provided no later than the close of business on the last
29 business day preceding the vote. Notwithstanding notice
30 provided, members may, by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the

1 members elected to the House, indicate that they have had
2 sufficient time to review a conference committee report and that
3 they approve proceeding with a vote.

4 (g) From the first Monday in March to the third Monday in
5 July, the House shall not consider any bill for raising revenue
6 which is subject to Article III, Section 10 of the Constitution
7 of Pennsylvania.