

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 18 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY ULLMAN, SOLOMON, McNEILL, FREEMAN, RABB,  
 DONATUCCI, KENYATTA, KINSEY, ISAACSON, FRANKEL, HILL-EVANS,  
 D. MILLER, WEBSTER, DeLUCA, SAPPEY, SAMUELSON, DALEY,  
 SCHWEYER, WARREN, CONKLIN, DAVIDSON, NEILSON, McCARTER,  
 CIRESI, SHUSTERMAN, SANCHEZ, DeLISSIO, HANBIDGE, MULLINS,  
 KIRKLAND, STURLA AND OTTEN, MARCH 5, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, MARCH 5, 2019

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.

1 (Constitution, Article III, Section 4).

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

16 (c) If the amendment cannot be submitted in accordance with  
17 the above subsection because it is still being prepared by the  
18 Legislative Reference Bureau, the member must provide the Office  
19 of the Chief Clerk with a statement, by the above-noted 1:00  
20 P.M. deadline, prepared by the member containing the factual  
21 content of said amendment along with certification from the  
22 Legislative Reference Bureau that the amendment was submitted to  
23 the Legislative Reference Bureau for drafting prior to the  
24 above-noted 1:00 P.M. deadline. The Legislative Reference Bureau  
25 may not issue a certificate for an amendment to a bill as  
26 amended by another amendment unless the requesting member can  
27 identify by number the underlying amendment.

28 (d) In cases where an amendment alters a bill so as to  
29 effectively rule out of order an amendment which was timely  
30 filed pursuant to the provisions of this rule, a replacement

1 amendment may be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk  
2 provided that the subject matter of the replacement amendment is  
3 not substantially different from the intent of the original  
4 amendment. The replacement amendment shall be deemed to have met  
5 the timely filed conditions provided for in this rule. The  
6 member shall notify the Speaker of the member's intent to file a  
7 replacement amendment and shall file a certificate with the  
8 Office of the Chief Clerk. The bill in question may continue to  
9 receive consideration but shall not be moved to third  
10 consideration until the replacement amendment is available for a  
11 vote. If consideration of the bill is delayed to a new  
12 legislative day due solely to delay in receipt of replacement  
13 amendments, then only amendments timely filed for the date of  
14 the originally scheduled vote and replacement amendments shall  
15 be considered. This limitation on amendments shall not apply to  
16 the bill in question if consideration of the bill is rescheduled  
17 beyond the new legislative day.

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

26 A brief description of every bill on concurrence shall be  
27 given prior to a vote. Additionally, members shall be notified  
28 and conference committee reports shall be available to members  
29 at least 24 hours prior to the adoption of all conference  
30 committee reports. When these reports are considered on the

1 first legislative day of the week, said notice shall be provided  
2 no later than the close of business on the last business day  
3 preceding the vote. Notwithstanding notice provided, members  
4 may, by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the members elected to the  
5 House, indicate that they have had sufficient time to review a  
6 conference committee report and that they approve proceeding  
7 with a vote.

8 (f) A bill amended in committee after second consideration,  
9 except for a bill on concurrence amended by the Committee on  
10 Rules, shall revert to second consideration upon the bill's  
11 return to the House.