
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 834 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY CUTLER, MARCH 16, 2020

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MARCH 16, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Adopting temporary Rules of the House of Representatives
2 relating to roll call votes, to voting meetings of
3 committees, to consideration of bills, to third consideration
4 and final passage bills, to conference committee reports and
5 to electronic mass communication.

6 RESOLVED, That this resolution adopts temporary rules to
7 apply notwithstanding provisions in the Rules of the House of
8 Representatives; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a member who is not present in the Hall of the
10 House may designate either the Majority or Minority Whip to cast
11 the member's vote on any question as to which there has been
12 consultation between the Majority Leader and the Minority
13 Leader; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That, after consultation between the Majority
15 Leader and the Minority Leader, if the process permitted for
16 designated voting under this temporary rule is not agreed upon,
17 the vote shall be cast pursuant to the Rules of the House of
18 Representatives in existence on March 15, 2020; and be it
19 further

20 RESOLVED, That if a designated Whip is on leave, that

1 designated Whip may appoint another member to cast all votes
2 designated to that Whip; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That a designation shall be accomplished by filing
4 an attestation with the Chief Clerk which affirms that the
5 member will not be present in the Hall of the House and
6 identifies either the Majority or Minority Whip as the designee;
7 and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a designation shall also include a
9 commencement date and an expiration date; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That a member may revoke the member's designation
11 by notifying the Chief Clerk in writing of the revocation; and
12 be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a member voting by designation under this
14 temporary rule shall be counted in determining whether a quorum
15 is present; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That a designation shall be effective until the
17 designation expires or is revoked or until this temporary rule
18 expires; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That, at any voting meeting of a committee of the
20 House of Representatives, a member of the committee who is not
21 present may designate the chair or minority chair to cast the
22 member's vote on any question; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the designation shall be accomplished by
24 filing an attestation with the chair or minority chair which
25 affirms that the member will not be present at the voting
26 meeting; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That a member voting by designation under this
28 temporary rule shall be counted in determining whether a quorum
29 is present; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That a bill may not receive action on concurrence

1 until at least three hours have elapsed from the time the bill
2 and its amendatory language was available to the public, unless
3 the amendment was a technical amendment as described under the
4 first paragraph of Rule 24 or an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the
5 members elected to the House indicates that they have had
6 sufficient time to review the language and thereby approve
7 proceeding with the bill; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That members shall be notified and conference
9 committee reports shall be made available to members at least
10 three hours prior to the adoption of all conference committee
11 reports; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a bill may not receive action on final passage
13 until at least three hours have elapsed from the time the bill
14 and its amendatory language was available to the public, unless
15 the amendment was a technical amendment permitted under the
16 first paragraph of Rule 24 or an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the
17 members elected to the House indicates that they have had
18 sufficient time to review the language of the bill and thereby
19 approve proceeding with the bill; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That electronic mass communication shall be
21 permitted during a restricted period if the electronic mass
22 communication is limited to information concerning the
23 Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) obtained from the Centers
24 for Disease Control and Prevention, the Pennsylvania Emergency
25 Management Agency, the Department of Health, a health department
26 of a political subdivision or a Federal, State or local agency
27 responsible for emergency management or public health; and be it
28 further

29 RESOLVED, That, unless amended or revoked by the House, the
30 temporary rules adopted in this resolution shall expire when the

1 declaration of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on
2 March 6, 2020, is terminated by executive order, proclamation or
3 operation of law.