

AS ADOPTED BY SENATE, JANUARY 13, 2021

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

Senator Lauwers offered the following concurrent resolution:

1 A concurrent resolution for the adoption of the Joint Rules of
2 the Senate and House of Representatives.

3 Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives
4 concurring), That the following rules be and are hereby adopted as
5 the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives:

6 JOINT RULES OF THE

7 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE

8 Transmission of Messages.

9 Rule 1. All messages necessary for conducting legislative
10 business between the two houses shall be communicated in writing
11 and electronically by the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of

1 the House of Representatives.

2 **Amendments.**

3 Rule 2. It shall be in the power of either house to amend
4 an amendment made by the other to any bill or resolution.

5 **Conference Committees.**

6 Rule 3. (a) The house not concurring in the amendments of
7 the other house shall appoint conferees and notify the amending
8 house of its action through written communication. The amending
9 house shall request return of the bill or resolution or appoint
10 conferees. The conference committee shall consist of three members
11 from each house, to be appointed as each house may determine. The
12 first named member of the house in which the bill or resolution
13 originated shall be chairperson of the conference committee. Upon
14 appointment of conferees by both houses, the bill or resolution
15 shall be referred to the conference committee. When one house
16 amends or substitutes a bill that has been returned for concurrence
17 from the other house, but then non-concurs in that bill as amended
18 or substituted, those amendments or that substitute shall not be
19 referred to the conference committee. The conference committee
20 shall serve until the conference report has been adopted by both
21 houses or rejected by a house.

22 (b) The conference committee shall consist of committees
23 of the two houses with those two committees voting separately while
24 in conference. The adoption of a conference report shall require
25 concurring majorities of the members of each house. The conference
26 committees of the two houses shall vote separately while in
27 conference. The majority of each committee shall constitute a
28 quorum of each committee and shall determine the position to be
29 taken toward the propositions of the conference committee. If the

1 conferees agree, a report shall be made which shall be signed by at
2 least a majority of the conferees of each house who were present
3 and voted in the conference committee meeting to adopt the report.
4 The bill or resolution, including the original signed conference
5 report and three copies, shall be filed in the house of origin
6 where the question shall be on the adoption of the conference
7 report. If the conference report is adopted in the house of origin,
8 the bill or resolution, including the original signed conference
9 report, and two copies of the conference report shall be
10 transmitted to the other house where the question shall be on the
11 adoption of the conference report. If the conference report is
12 adopted in the other house, the bill or resolution and the original
13 signed copy of the conference report shall be returned to the house
14 of origin and referred for enrollment printing and presentation to
15 the Governor, filing with the Secretary of State, or filing for
16 record with the Secretary of the Senate or Clerk of the House of
17 Representatives.

18 **Conference Committee Clerk.**

19 Rule 4. The conference committee clerk shall be from the
20 house of origin, who shall notify the Secretary of the Senate and
21 the Clerk of the House of Representatives of all scheduled meetings
22 for public posting and shall deliver written notice to each member
23 of the conference committee and the majority and minority leaders
24 of each house indicating the time and place of all scheduled
25 meetings. Conference committees on appropriation bills may use
26 fiscal agency personnel from the same house as the Chairperson for
27 clerks.

28 **Conference Report: Rejection.**

29 Rule 5. If the conference report is rejected by the house

1 of origin, it shall appoint second conferees and notify the other
2 house of its action. The procedure shall then be the same as for an
3 original conference.

4 If the conference report is rejected by the other house,
5 it shall appoint second conferees, notify the house of origin of
6 its action, and transmit the bill or resolution to the house of
7 origin. Upon receipt of the bill or resolution, the house of origin
8 shall appoint second conferees and refer the bill or resolution to
9 the second conference committee. The procedure shall then be the
10 same as for an original conference.

11 **Disagreement of Conferees.**

12 Rule 6. If the conferees are unable to agree, a report of
13 that fact shall be made to both houses. The report, that the
14 conferees were unable to agree, shall be signed by at least a
15 majority of the conferees of each house who were present and voted
16 in the conference committee meeting to adopt the report. The bill
17 or resolution, including the original signed conference report that
18 the conferees were unable to agree, and three copies shall be filed
19 in the house of origin. Both houses shall appoint second conferees,
20 and the house of origin shall refer the bill or resolution to the
21 second conference committee. The procedure shall then be the same
22 as for an original conference.

23 **Second Conference: Failure.**

24 Rule 7. When a second conference committee fails to reach
25 agreement, or when a second conference report is rejected by either
26 house, no further conference is in order.

27 **Power of Conferees.**

28 Rule 8. The conference committee shall not consider any
29 matters other than the matters of difference between the two

1 houses.

2 For all bills making appropriations, adoption of a
3 substitute by either house shall not open identical provisions
4 contained in the other house-passed version of the bill as a matter
5 of difference; nor shall the adoption of a substitute by either
6 house open provisions not contained in either house version of the
7 bill as a matter of difference.

8 When the conferees arrive at an agreement on the matters
9 of difference that affects other parts of the bill or resolution,
10 the conferees may recommend amendments to conform with the
11 agreement. In addition, the conferees may also recommend technical
12 amendments to the other parts of the bill or resolution, such as,
13 necessary date revisions, adjusting totals, cross-references,
14 misspelling and punctuation corrections, conflict amendments for
15 bills enacted into law, additional anticipated federal or other
16 flow through funding, and corrections to any errors in the bill or
17 resolution or the title.

18 **Adoption of Conference Report.**

19 Rule 9. Conference reports shall not be subject to
20 amendments or division. The vote on conference reports shall be
21 taken by "yeas" and "nays" and shall require the same number of
22 votes constitutionally required for passage of the bill or adoption
23 of the resolution. Conference reports shall not be considered until
24 printed in the Journal. The Journal printing requirement may be
25 suspended by a house by a majority vote in that house, provided
26 that a copy of the conference report has been made available to
27 each Member.

28 **Conference Reports: Points of Order.**

29 Rule 10. Points of order regarding conference reports

1 shall be decided by the presiding officer, subject to an appeal,
2 which appeal shall be determined by a majority vote. When a
3 conference report is ruled out of order, the conference report is
4 returned to the originating conference committee with instructions
5 to eliminate from the report such matters as have been declared not
6 within the powers of the conferees to consider.

7 **Either House May Recede.**

8 Rule 11. At any time while in possession of the bill or
9 resolution, either house may recede from its position in whole or
10 in part, and the bill or resolution upon request may be returned to
11 the other house for that purpose. If this further action is agreed
12 to by both houses, the bill or resolution shall be referred for
13 enrollment printing and presentation to the Governor, filing with
14 the Secretary of State, or filing for record with the Secretary of
15 the Senate or Clerk of the House of Representatives.

16 **Correction of Errors.**

17 Rule 12. If errors are found in a bill or resolution
18 which has been passed or adopted by both houses, the house in which
19 the bill or resolution originated may make amendments to correct
20 the errors and shall notify the other house of its action. If the
21 corrective amendments are agreed to by the other house, the
22 corrected bill or resolution shall be referred for enrollment
23 printing and presentation to the Governor, filing with the
24 Secretary of State, or filing for record with the Secretary of the
25 Senate or Clerk of the House of Representatives.

26 In addition, the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the
27 House of Representatives, as the case may be, shall correct obvious
28 technical errors in the enrolled bill or resolution, including
29 adjusting totals, misspellings, the omission or redundancy of

1 grammatical articles, cross-references, punctuation, updating bill
2 or resolution titles, capitalization, citation formats, and plural
3 or singular word forms.

4 **Bills and Joint Resolutions.**

5 Rule 13. Upon introduction, no bill shall include catch
6 lines, a severing clause, or a general repealing clause, as
7 distinguished from a specific or an express repealing clause. The
8 Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of
9 Representatives shall delete such catch lines and clauses from all
10 bills.

11 The same joint resolution shall not propose an amendment
12 to the Constitution on more than one subject matter. However, more
13 than one section of the Constitution may be included in the same
14 joint resolution if the subject matter of each section is germane
15 to the proposed amendment.

16 **Yeas and Nays.**

17 Rule 14. The yeas and nays shall be taken and printed in
18 the Journal of the house taking action upon the passage or adoption
19 of any bill, joint resolution, conference report, and amendments
20 made by the other house to a bill or joint resolution.

21 **No Members Present.**

22 Rule 15. In the event the presiding officer and all
23 members are absent on a day scheduled for meeting, the Secretary of
24 the Senate or the Clerk of the House of Representatives, as the
25 case may be, shall call that house to order at the designated time
26 and announce the absence of a quorum. That house shall be declared
27 adjourned until the succeeding legislative day and hour previously
28 designated.

29 In any event where either or both houses of the

1 Legislature adjourns to a date certain for more than two days, the
2 Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
3 Representatives may, by a unanimous agreement, convene either or
4 both houses of the Legislature at any time in case of emergency.

5 If a gubernatorial appointment that is subject to the
6 advice and consent process is made at a time such that 60 days
7 would lapse during an extended recess of the Senate, the Senate
8 Majority Leader may schedule a session of the Senate for the sole
9 purpose of carrying out the Senate's constitutional duties to
10 advise and consent on gubernatorial appointments. No other action
11 shall be taken by the Senate during session convened under this
12 provision. The Senate Majority Leader shall notify the Secretary of
13 the Senate at least 10 calendar days prior to the date of the
14 scheduled session, and the Secretary of the Senate shall take all
15 reasonable steps to notify the members of the Senate of the
16 scheduled session.

17 **Passage, Adoption, and Enrollment Printing.**

18 Rule 16. Every bill passed or joint resolution adopted by
19 both houses and returned to the house of origin shall forthwith be
20 enrolled and signed by the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of
21 the House of Representatives. Enrolled bills shall be presented to
22 the Governor, and enrolled joint resolutions that propose an
23 amendment to the Constitution shall be filed with the Secretary of
24 State with a certificate attached to the effect that the joint
25 resolution has been adopted by the Senate and House of
26 Representatives, respectively, in accordance with the provisions of
27 the Constitution. If the house having last passed the bill or
28 adopted the joint resolution requests its return and such request
29 is granted or a motion is made in the house of origin to amend

1 errors in the bill or joint resolution or to give the bill
2 immediate effect, the enrollment printing shall not occur.

3 Every bill, joint resolution, and concurrent resolution
4 passed or adopted by either house shall be transmitted to the other
5 house unless a motion for reconsideration is pending.

6 **Immediate Effect.**

7 Rule 17. Whenever both houses, by the constitutional
8 vote, order that a bill take immediate effect, a statement shall be
9 added at the enrollment of the bill in words to this effect: "This
10 act is ordered to take immediate effect."

11 **Joint Resolutions.**

12 Rule 18. Joint resolutions shall be used for the
13 following purposes:

- 14 1. Amendments to the Constitution of Michigan.
15 2. Ratification of amendments to the Constitution of the
16 United States submitted by the Congress.
17 3. Matters upon which power is solely vested in the
18 Legislatures of the several states by the Constitution of the
19 United States.

20 Joint resolutions proposing amendments to the
21 Constitution of Michigan shall require a 2/3 vote of the members
22 elected and serving in each house for adoption. Other joint
23 resolutions shall require a majority of the members elected and
24 serving in each house for adoption. All joint resolutions shall
25 require a record roll call vote.

26 **Veto Override: Filing with Secretary of State.**

27 Rule 19. When a bill is passed by both houses over the
28 objections of the Governor or a bill is not filed by the Governor
29 with the Secretary of State within the constitutionally mandated

1 14-day period, and the Legislature continues in session, an
2 official enrolled bill with a letter from the house of origin
3 signed by the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House of
4 Representatives, as appropriate, shall be filed with the Secretary
5 of State for a public act number to be assigned. The letter shall
6 certify that the Governor's veto has been overridden by both houses
7 of the Legislature or that the bill has not been returned within
8 the specified time, as the case may be, in accordance with the
9 provisions of the Constitution.

10 **Section Numbers of Compiled Laws - Amendments.**

11 Rule 20. The title of every bill to amend or repeal
12 existing laws shall be clear and explicit so as to definitely fix
13 what is proposed to be done. Such title shall refer to the act
14 number and the year in which it was passed. If the bill was passed
15 at an extra session of the Legislature, the title shall designate
16 which extra session.

17 Such title shall contain the last title of the act it is
18 proposed to amend. However, the short title (e.g., This act shall
19 be known and may be cited as "The revised judicature act of 1961,")
20 shall be used in acts where it has been defined by legislative
21 enactment. The title shall also contain the chapter, part numbers
22 and compiler's section numbers, if any, and the year of the
23 compilation containing the same.

24 Following the passage of a bill with a short title, the
25 house other than the house of origin shall replace the short title
26 with the last full title of the act it is proposed to amend or
27 repeal. Other corrective amendments to the title shall be made as
28 may be necessary. The full title and amended title shall be agreed
29 to by both houses.

1 When an amendment to a bill or a bill to amend an
2 existing law is printed, words proposed to be added to such law
3 shall be printed in upper case bold type, and the words to be
4 omitted shall be printed in stricken-through type. This style
5 requirement also applies to joint resolutions that amend the
6 Constitution of Michigan.

7 All bills and joint resolutions introduced, amendments to
8 joint resolutions, substitute bills and joint resolutions, and
9 conference committee reports shall be approved as to form and
10 section numbers by the Legislative Service Bureau.

11 **Tie-bars.**

12 Rule 21. A bill or resolution that is tie-barred to a
13 request number shall not be considered for passage or adoption
14 unless that tie-barred request item has been introduced. No bill
15 or resolution shall be passed or adopted by either house until the
16 tie-barred item has been designated in the appropriate blank space
17 provided.

18 **Elections in Joint Convention.**

19 Rule 22. Whenever there is an election of any officer in
20 joint convention, the result shall be certified by the President of
21 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The
22 results shall be announced by the presiding officers to their
23 respective houses, printed in the Journal of each house, and
24 communicated to the Governor by the Secretary of the Senate and the
25 Clerk of the House of Representatives.

26 **Legislative Handbook.**

27 Rule 23. The initial appointment of the standing
28 committee members of the two houses shall be printed in their
29 respective Journals as soon as possible after the announcement. The

1 Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of
2 Representatives shall prepare and have printed a legislative
3 handbook containing these appointments and other information they
4 deem appropriate.

5 **Compensation.**

6 Rule 24. Compensation for members, officers, and
7 employees of the Legislature shall be delivered to the Secretary of
8 the Senate or Clerk of the House of Representatives, as the case
9 may be, and transmitted directly to the payee.

10 If the office of a member of the Legislature becomes
11 vacant, the compensation for the elected successor shall begin on
12 the date of his or her oath of office.

13 **Committee Expenses.**

14 Rule 25. No committee created by concurrent resolution
15 shall incur expenses in excess of \$2,500.00 unless authorized in
16 the resolution creating that committee.

17 **Final Adjournment of Regular Sessions.**

18 Rule 26. In the regular session in each year, this rule
19 for adjournment shall govern.

20 The Majority Floor Leader of the Senate and/or the
21 Majority Floor Leader of the House of Representatives shall
22 introduce a concurrent resolution providing for an adjournment
23 schedule for the Legislature for that regular session.

24 **Daily Adjournment.**

25 Rule 27. Neither house shall remain in session on any
26 legislative day beyond 12:00 midnight. If either house is in
27 session at 12:00 midnight, the presiding officer shall declare that
28 house adjourned until a fixed hour for meeting on the next
29 legislative day. That house shall stand adjourned until the next

1 fixed meeting time.

2 **Pending Business.**

3 Rule 28. Any business, bill, or joint resolution which
4 has not been defeated by either house shall be considered pending
5 under the provisions of Article 4, Section 13 of the Constitution.

6 It shall not be in order for either house, by suspension
7 of rules or any other means, to reconsider in a subsequent year the
8 vote by which any business, bill, joint resolution, or veto
9 override was defeated in a previous year unless there is a pending
10 motion to reconsider offered in the odd-numbered year.