

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
116TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT "C" to S.P. 11, "Joint Order Adopting the 116th Joint Rules"

Amend the Joint Order by striking out all of Joint Rule 7 and inserting in its place the following:

'7. Conventions. No business shall be transacted in convention of the two Houses unless by unanimous consent, except such as may be agreed upon by majority vote of the Legislative Council before the convention is formed.'

Further amend the Joint Order in Joint Rule 12 by striking out all of the 5th indented paragraph and inserting in its place the following:

'If members cannot be polled or do not respond, they shall be deemed not to have consented to the convening of the Legislature.'

Further amend the Joint Order in Joint Rule 13 by striking out all of that part relating to "Committee Clerks" and inserting in its place the following:

'Committee Clerks. The hiring of all committee clerks is to be mutually agreeable to both the Senate and House chairs. If not agreeable to both, the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House shall decide. The salaries of each committee clerk are established by the Legislative Council and each committee clerk serves at the pleasure thereof. The clerk shall provide equal level of service to each member of the committee.'

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2 Further amend the Joint Order in Joint Rule 13 by striking
out all of that part relating to "Committee Attendance" and
inserting in its place the following:

4
6 'Committee Attendance. Each member is responsible for
notifying the committee clerk whenever the member is unable to
attend a public hearing or work session. The attendance records
8 kept by the clerk shall be sent each week to the majority and
minority leaders of both houses.'

10
12 Further amend the Joint Order in Joint Rule 13 in that part
relating to "Scheduling Public Hearings and Work Sessions" by
striking out all of the 2nd indented paragraph and inserting in
14 its place the following:

16 'At the beginning of each regular session, each committee
shall recommend to the presiding officers specific days for its
18 public hearings and work sessions, taking into consideration the
availability of assigned staff and hearing rooms. Upon approval
20 of the schedule by the presiding officers, the chairs shall make
a good faith effort to schedule all committee work on those
22 days. Each committee shall distribute a detailed list of
hearings and work sessions that have been scheduled for the
24 following week to all committee members. This schedule must also
be posted.'

26
28 Further amend the Joint Order in Joint Rule 13 by striking
out all of that part relating to "Procedure for Public Hearings
and Work Sessions" and inserting in its place the following:

30
32 'Procedures for Public Hearings and Work Sessions. At the
beginning of each legislative biennium, all committees shall
adopt procedures that govern public hearings, work sessions and
34 confirmation hearings. Copies of the procedures must be sent to
the presiding officers, minority and majority leaders, the
36 Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House and the Executive
Director of Legislative Council upon adoption.'

38
40 Further amend the Joint Order by striking out all of Joint
Rule 17 and inserting in its place the following:

42 '17. Conference Committees. Committees of conference shall
consist of three members on the part of each House, representing
44 its vote, and their report, agreed to by a majority of each
committee or unable to agree, shall be made within 10 legislative
46 days to the branch asking the conference, and may be either
accepted or rejected, but no other action shall be had except
48 through another committee of conference. If after 10 legislative
days no report is made by the Conference Committee, the President

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2 of the Senate and the Speaker of the House shall appoint a new
committee.'

4 Further amend the Joint Order in Joint Rule 27 by striking
6 out all of the 2nd indented paragraph and inserting in its place
the following:

8 'If changes are requested, the Revisor of Statutes shall
10 notify the requestor when the changes have been made and the bill
is available for signature. The presenter and all cosponsors
12 must sign the bill within deadlines to be established in writing
and conspicuously posted by the presiding officers. Any further
14 changes must be presented to the committee of reference.'

16 Further amend the Joint Order by striking out all of Joint
Rule 28 and inserting in its place the following:

18 '28. Sponsorship and Identification of Agency. A presenter
of legislation may authorize up to 3 additional members of either
20 House to cosponsor a bill, resolve, order, resolution or
memorial. For duplicate or closely related bills or resolves,
22 the Legislative Council shall establish a policy for combination
of requests and the number of cosponsors permitted on combined
24 requests. A bill, resolve, order, resolution or memorial having
cosponsors shall originate in the House of the presenter. Each
26 bill or resolve requested by the Governor or a department, agency
or commission shall indicate the requestor below the title.'

28

30 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

32 This amendment amends the Joint Rules as follows.

34 1. It amends Joint Rule 7 by adding that a majority vote by
the Legislative Council is needed before business can be
36 transacted in convention.

38 2. It amends the Joint Rules by indicating that committee
clerks shall provide equal service to each member of the
40 committee.

42 3. It amends the Rules by requiring that the attendance
records kept by the committee clerks be forwarded each week to
44 the majority and minority leaders of both houses.

46 4. Amends the Rules by requiring committee chairs to make a
good faith effort in scheduling hearings at times recommended by
48 each committee.

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2 5. Amends the Rules by requiring that copies of procedures
must be sent to the majority and minority leaders.

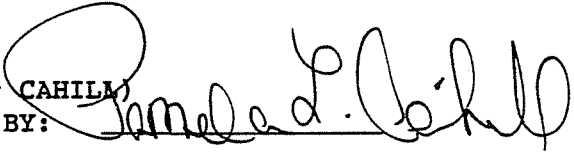
4 6. Amends the Rules by requiring that deadlines for the
6 signing of bills must be in writing and posted in a conspicuous
place.

8 7. It amends the Joint Rules by making technical changes.

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(Senator CAHILL)
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