

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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bill tracking database:**

<p>Filing No. H-2 House Amendment A</p>
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L.D.

2
4
DATE:

(Filing No. H-)

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the House.

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10 **STATE OF MAINE**
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
12 **119TH LEGISLATURE**
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

14
16 HOUSE AMENDMENT " " to S.P. 9, "JOINT ORDER to Enact the
Joint Rules"

18 Amend the order by striking out all of Joint Rule 304 and
inserting in its place the following:

20 **'Rule 304. Procedures for Public Hearings and Work Sessions.**

22
24 At the beginning of each legislative biennium, all
committees shall adopt procedures that govern public hearings,
26 work sessions and confirmation hearings. Copies of the
procedures must be sent to the presiding officers, the Secretary
28 of the Senate, the Clerk of the House and the Executive Director
of the Legislative Council upon adoption and must be posted and
30 made available upon request at all public hearings and work
sessions.

32 The rules of procedure in committee are the same as the
34 rules of the Senate and the House of Representatives to the
extent applicable. Committee procedures must be consistent with
these rules.

36
38 The presiding chair shall decide all questions of order,
subject to appeal to the committee. The chair's ruling stands
40 unless overruled by a majority vote of the committee membership.

42 Scheduling of bills to be considered in public hearings and
work sessions must be arranged by the Senate chair with the
44 agreement of the House chair; if agreement is not reached, the
committee shall decide by majority vote of the membership.

2 At public hearings, the chair may limit testimony as
3 necessary for the orderly conduct of the hearing. The chair
4 shall limit the discussion of one side of an issue to one hour
5 and then shall allow the other side one hour of discussion.
6 After that time, each side may continue its discussion of an
7 issue. Members may question witnesses to clarify testimony and
8 to elicit helpful and pertinent information. While aggressive
9 and probing questions may sometimes be appropriate, members shall
10 exhibit respect for the witnesses and for one another. Members
11 shall refrain from interrogation that is argumentative,
12 oppressive, repetitive or unnecessarily embarrassing to hearing
13 participants. Advocacy and discussion among members are not
14 appropriate at public hearings. A committee member who is the
15 primary sponsor of a bill and any member who testifies for or
16 against the bill should ordinarily refrain from questioning other
17 witnesses.'

18
19 **SUMMARY**

20 This amendment amends the Joint Rules by amending Joint Rule
21 304.

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26 SPONSORED BY: _____
27 (Representative PERKINS)

28 TOWN: Penobscot
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