

Agriculture and Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee Rules

1. A quorum of the joint subcommittee is defined as a majority of the members of the House subcommittee and a majority of the members of the Senate subcommittee.
2. The adoption of rules and the approval of final recommendations require, on separate roll calls, the affirmative votes of a majority of the members of the House subcommittee and a majority of the members of the Senate subcommittee. All other actions require the affirmative votes of a majority of the members of each house present.
3. A rule of this subcommittee may be suspended, altered or eliminated only upon the recorded affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the House subcommittee and a majority of the members of the Senate subcommittee.
4. Hearings on departmental appropriations requests shall be scheduled by the subcommittee chairpersons during times set aside for meetings of the appropriations subcommittees. The hearing schedule will be coordinated with the Legislative Services Agency. The appearance of any member of the House or Senate, representative of a State department, lobbyist or other person presenting information to the subcommittee that was requested by the chairperson shall not constitute a public hearing.
5. Appropriation recommendations approved by the joint subcommittee will be prepared in bill form by subcommittee staff. Bills must be approved in formal form by a majority of the members of the House subcommittee and a majority of the members of the Senate subcommittee before the bill is recommended to the full appropriations committees.
6. The chairperson of the House subcommittee and the chairperson of the Senate subcommittee shall serve as co-chairpersons of the joint subcommittee. They shall preside at joint subcommittee meetings, and shall agree upon arrangements. The secretary of the House chairperson and the secretary of the Senate chairperson shall serve as co-secretaries of the joint subcommittee. They shall keep minutes and separate records in cooperation with each other.
8. Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure shall govern in all cases not covered by these rules or by the Joint Rules.
9. The co-chairpersons in consultation with the Ranking Members may grant public hearings at any time.
10. In order to prevent disruption of subcommittee deliberations, a person shall not use a telephonic or electronic device to transmit or to receive audible communications.