

JOINT RULES, Sixty-fourth General Assembly

Rule 11

Amendments by Other House

I. When a bill which originated in one house is amended in the other house, the house originating the bill may amend, concur, or refuse to concur in the amendment. Precedence of motions shall be in that order.

A. If the house originating the bill amends the amendment, the bill shall be read for the last time as amended, shall be placed on final passage, and shall be returned to the other house. The other house cannot further amend the bill.

1. If the other house concurs in the amendment to the amendment, the bill shall then be read for the last time as finally amended, and placed upon its final passage.

2. If the other house refuses to concur, the bill shall be returned to the house originating the bill. If the house originating the bill insists, the bill then shall go to a conference committee.

3. If the other house refuses to concur and the house originating the bill then recedes from its amendment, the bill shall be read a last time as amended in the house originating the bill and placed upon its final passage.

B. If the house originating the bill concurs in the amendment, the bill shall then be read for the last time as amended, and placed upon its final passage.

C. If the house originating the bill refuses to concur in the amendment, the bill shall be returned to the other house which shall either:

1. Recede, after which the bill shall be read for the last time and placed upon its final passage; or
2. Insist, which will send the bill to a conference committee.

II. A motion to recede has precedence over a motion to insist. Failure to recede, if by a constitutional majority, means to insist; and failure to insist, if such negative vote is by a constitutional majority, means to recede.

III. A motion to lay on the table or to indefinitely postpone shall be out of order with respect to motions to recede from or insist upon and to amendments to bills which have passed both houses.

IV. A motion to concur, refuse to concur, recede, insist, or adopt a conference committee report is in order even though the subject matter has previously been acted upon.

RULE 12

Conference Committees

1. Within one legislative day after either house insists upon an amendment to a bill, the presiding officer of each house shall appoint four members to a conference committee.

2. The conference committee shall meet before the end of the next legislative day after their appointment, shall select a chairman and shall discuss the controversy.

3. The authority of the committee shall be limited to recommendations regarding the subject matter of the amendment or amendments which were insisted upon by the house requesting the conference committee.

4. An agreement on recommendations must be approved by at least three members from each house. The committee shall submit a report, together with five copies, two of which shall be signed by members of the committee, one for each house. The report and papers referred shall be returned to the house that refused to concur and shall be acted upon. Such action, including all papers, shall be immediately referred by the secretary or the chief clerk to the other house.

5. The report of agreement is debatable, but cannot be amended. If the report contains recommended amendments to the bill, adoption of the report shall automatically adopt all amendments contained therein. After the report is adopted,

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there shall be no more debate, and no more amendments may be considered, and the bill shall be placed upon its final passage.

6. Refusal of either house to adopt the conference committee report has the same effect as if the committee had disagreed.

7. If the conference committee fails to reach agreement, a report of such failure shall be given promptly to each house. Members of the committee shall be immediately discharged and a new conference committee appointed by the presiding officers from members who have not previously served on a conference committee on the bill under consideration. The papers shall remain with the house which insisted on the amendment.

January 6, 1972

PROPOSED CHANGES TO JOINT RULES

RULE 4

PRESENTATION OF MESSAGES

All messages between the two houses shall be sent by the secretary or chief clerk, shall be announced by the READING CLERK and shall be communicated to the chair.

RULE 11

AMENDMENTS BY OTHER HOUSE

A. Proposed change in Paragraph A - change in caps:

If the house originating the bill amends the amendment, THAT HOUSE SHALL CONCUR IN THE AMENDMENT AS AMENDED, the bill shall be read for the last time as amended, shall be placed on final passage, and shall be returned to the other house. The other house cannot further amend the bill.

B. Page 27 of the Joint Rules, Paragraph II, shall read as follows:

II. A motion to recede has precedence over a motion to insist. Failure to recede, means to insist; and failure to insist, means to recede.

(The above change omits any reference to a "constitutional majority". Vote is taken on an amendment and consequently should fail or pass by a simple majority.

This change would avoid the problem we had at the end of the First Session of the 64th G.A. on House File 739. Refer to page 2022 of the Senate Journal of that session.)

RULE 12

Change in Paragraph 4:

4. An agreement on recommendations must be approved by at least three members from each house. The committee shall submit TWO ORIGINALS OF THE REPORT SIGNED BY AT LEAST THREE MEMBERS OF EACH HOUSE. ONE SIGNED ORIGINAL AND THREE COPIES TO BE SUBMITTED TO EACH HOUSE. The report shall first be acted upon in the house ORIGINATING THE BILL. Such action, including all papers, shall be immediately referred by the secretary or the chief clerk to the other house.

Change in Paragraph 7:

7. If the conference committee fails to reach agreement, a report of such failure shall be given promptly to each house. Members of the committee shall be immediately discharged and a new conference committee appointed by the presiding officers from members who have not previously served on a conference committee on the bill under consideration. The BILL AND ORIGINAL COPY OF THE REPORT shall be RETURNED TO the house which ORIGINATED THE BILL.

STATUS REPORT OF TEXT SYSTEM

TEXT I. The first phase including building the Iowa Code data base, code retrieval for bill drafting, and all ATS entry, editing, and formatting capabilities will be completed by January 1, 1973.

TEXT II. The completion of the first phase and the subsequent capture of all session data (bills, amendments, etc.) will allow the implementation of the second phase. The second phase will include the programming necessary to update all levels of data (amendments to bills, bills to code, etc.) on-line. This task should be completed by December of 1973 so that the code may be prepared for drafting purposes in the second session as necessary.

This second phase is of considerable importance to following phases and to the continued operation of phase one. The task is also one of considerable difficulty to program and implement and will require the continued cooperation of all involved agencies. Procedural methods must be established and followed for the 1973 session to assure the usability of data generated during the session.

TEXT III. This phase will encompass code and session laws printing functions and should be completed by June 1, 1974. The new code from the 65th General Assembly may then be printed.

TEXT IV. The fourth phase will facilitate on-line code searches from the update code data base. This phase should be completed by January 1, 1975.

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