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8 HR _____ ADOPTING THE RULES OF THE ALABAMA HOUSE OF
9 REPRESENTATIVES.

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11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
12 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the following Rules of the
13 Alabama House of Representatives are adopted:

14 GENERAL RULES OF ORDER AND PROCEDURE

15 Rule 1. (a) The Clerk shall, on meeting days, ~~thirty~~
16 ~~minutes~~ one hour before the session begins, clear the floor of
17 the House of all unauthorized persons.

18 (b) The proceedings of the House shall be public,
19 but no person shall be admitted to the floor of the House
20 while the same is in session, except members of the
21 Legislature, the officers and employees of the two Houses, the
22 Governor and his or her representative, two representatives
23 each of the majority and minority office, ^{Text} the Lieutenant
24 Governor and his or her representative, legislative interns of
25 the Alabama Law Institute, news media representatives who
26 shall be placed by the Clerk of the House, and other persons

1 to whom the members, by unanimous vote, extend the privileges
2 of the floor.

3 (c) The families of the members of the House shall
4 have the privilege of the floor on the first legislative day
5 of any regular or special session.

6 (d) When former members are admitted to the floor,
7 they shall not engage in any lobbying activities. Former
8 members who are either registered lobbyists or who are
9 employed by registered lobbyists shall not have privileges of
10 the floor. Former members who lobby on the floor may be banned
11 from the floor for the remainder of a session, subject to a
12 recommendation from the Internal Affairs Committee.

13 Rule 2. No motion shall be deemed in order to admit
14 any person on the floor of the House to present any petition,
15 memorial, or address, or to have any such read.

16 Rule 3. Only the Speaker shall introduce visitors in
17 the House gallery. Such introductions shall be made at the
18 request of any House member, but shall be made only at such
19 time as not to interrupt or disturb the orderly transaction of
20 business.

21 Rule 4. Unless it is otherwise specifically provided
22 for by resolution or motion, the House shall meet at 10:00
23 a.m. Debate on any motion or resolution pertaining to when the
24 House will convene is limited to 30 minutes, at which time the
25 Speaker shall call for a vote on the pending substitutes or
26 amendments, or both, if there be any, in their order, and then
27 on the main question. The Speaker shall endeavor to equitably

1 apportion debate time among the various members or groups of
2 members wishing to debate.

3 Rule 5. (a) The Speaker shall take the chair every
4 day at the hour fixed on the preceding adjournment. The
5 Speaker shall immediately call the members to order, and on
6 the appearance of a quorum begin the order of business.

7 (b) If the Speaker calls the House to order and
8 there are not enough members present to constitute a quorum,
9 and the Governor has declared a state of emergency pursuant to
10 Section 31-9-8 of the Code of Alabama 1975, then the Speaker
11 may set the date and time for the House to reconvene for its
12 next day of business. The Speaker must give the members notice
13 of the next meeting time at least 12 hours before the time set
14 for the House to convene.

15 Rule 6. The order of business shall be:

16 (1) Prayer

17 (2) Pledge of Allegiance

18 (3) Roll call

19 (4) Approval of the Journal. The reading of the
20 journal may be dispensed with on motion, which motion shall be
21 decided without debate.

22 (5) Leaves of absence

23 (6) The reports of standing committees of bills,
24 which shall be read by their titles a second time. In the call
25 of committees, the Speaker shall call them in their order.

1 Standing committees may also report at any time
2 later in the same legislative day, prior to adjournment, by
3 filing their reports with the Clerk.

4 (7) Introduction of bills and resolutions and
5 recognition of members for purposes of stating points of
6 personal privilege. Points of personal privilege are limited
7 to three minutes each and are not subject to debate.

8 Bills and resolutions may also be introduced at any
9 time later in the same legislative day, prior to adjournment,
10 by filing them with the Clerk.

11 (8) The report of the Committee on Rules on
12 resolutions, which shall be read by their titles and a proper
13 disposition made of them.

14 (9) (a) The consideration of local bills that are
15 uncontested and do not involve a tax, fee, or constitutional
16 amendment.

17 (b) Uncontested local bills involving a tax, fee, or
18 constitutional amendment.

19 (10) The consent calendar as proposed by the Rules
20 Committee.

21 (11) The unfinished business in which the House was
22 engaged at its last adjournment.

23 (12) The consideration of bills in the order
24 presented on the calendar.

25 Rule 7. Executive or Senate messages shall have
26 priority over other business, and as soon as they are called
27 by the Speaker they shall be read by the Clerk and a proper

1 disposition made of them. Motions relating to Executive or
2 Senate messages relating to local bills or local
3 constitutional amendments are subject to limited debate. The
4 House shall then proceed with the business engaged in when
5 interrupted by the message.

6 Rule 8. No motion to carry over all bills on the
7 calendar to reach a certain bill shall be in order.

8 Rule 9. The rules of the House shall not be
9 suspended except by a four-fifths vote of a quorum present and
10 voting.

11 Rule 10. (a) No rule change shall be proposed
12 without one legislative day's written notice of the change
13 thereof being given to the Clerk, who shall place such notice
14 in each member's House mailbox.

15 (b) All proposed rule changes shall be considered
16 when requested by the member who filed such notice. Such
17 consideration shall be during the introduction of bills and
18 resolutions pursuant to Rule 6(7), and shall be in resolution
19 form and offered by the member, and is subject to limited
20 debate.

21 (c) Rule changes shall be enacted by a majority vote
22 of the House membership.

23 Rule 11. (a) No special order for the consideration
24 of bills shall be set except by a resolution reported from the
25 Committee on Rules and adopted by a vote of a majority of the
26 members present and voting. Debate on any special order
27 calendar reported from the Rules Committee is limited to 2

1 ~~hours, at which time the Speaker shall call~~ The Speaker shall
2 determine the time allowed for debate on any special order
3 calendar reported from the Committee on Rules before calling
4 for a vote on the pending substitutes or amendments, or both,
5 if there be any, in their order, and then on the main motion.
6 The Speaker shall endeavor to equitably apportion debate time
7 among the various members or groups of members wishing to
8 debate.

9 (b) A resolution from the Committee on Rules setting
10 a special order:

11 (1) May be offered at any time.

12 (2) May specify the time of day that a bill or
13 resolution will be called for consideration.

14 (3) May, by a three-fifths majority of the members
15 present and voting, limit the length of time that a bill will
16 be considered before the Speaker shall call for a vote on the
17 pending substitutes or amendments, or both, if there be any,
18 in their order, and then on the main question.

19 (4) May be amended or substituted by a vote of a
20 three-fifths majority of the members present and voting.

21 (c) The Rules Committee may propose a consent
22 calendar of bills. A list of bills for every proposed consent
23 calendar shall be posted ~~by placing notice on the notice~~
24 ~~boards by number and short title~~ outside the Rules Committee
25 Office. Before the bills on the consent calendar are
26 considered by the House, the notice shall be posted for at
27 least two legislative days after the date the Rules Committee

1 proposed the consent calendar. A list shall also be available
2 to members electronically. A list of proposed consent calendar
3 bills, listed by number and short title and the date they were
4 posted shall be maintained in the Rules Committee office for
5 review by members and the public. Bills on a consent calendar
6 shall be removed from the consent calendar if eleven members
7 sign their names on the Rules Committee list next to the short
8 title of any bill that the members want removed. Any bill
9 removed from a consent calendar shall be so removed at least
10 one legislative day before the consent calendar is to be
11 considered by the House. The House sponsor may remove a bill
12 from the consent calendar at any time. The consent calendar
13 shall be called in the order of business specified in Rule 6.
14 Once bills have been placed on the consent calendar, they
15 shall not be amended or substituted on the floor except by a
16 committee amendment or substitute. Bills and, amendments, and
17 committee substitutes to bills on a consent calendar are not
18 subject to debate.

19 Rule 12. Upon the introduction of a bill or
20 resolution, the same shall be read by its title and referred
21 by the Speaker to a standing committee. A bill or resolution
22 offered by a member of the House shall not be accepted for
23 introduction if its title exceeds two pages.

24 Rule 12.1. (a) Official acknowledgement of
25 commendation, condolence, congratulation, recognition, and
26 sympathy may be done by certificates prepared by the Office of

1 Member Services. Each member may receive 25 certificates per
2 year, and not more than five copies of each certificate.

3 (b) Resolutions of commendation, condolence,
4 congratulation, recognition, and sympathy ~~may shall~~ be voted
5 on en masse without debate. A member may move to exclude any
6 resolution from the en masse vote when the subject matter of
7 the resolution is announced by the reading clerk. The motion
8 to exclude is not subject to debate. Excluded resolutions
9 shall remain in the Rules Committee. House resolutions and
10 House joint resolutions of commendation, condolence,
11 congratulation, recognition, and sympathy ~~will be are~~ limited
12 to 10 per member per session, and copies of each resolution
13 limited to five, with the exception of resolutions honoring
14 individuals with the Law Enforcement Medal of Honor or those
15 approved for consideration by the Rules Committee. House
16 interim resolutions are limited to five per member per year,
17 with copies limited to five per interim resolution. Members
18 seeking more than five interim resolutions must get the
19 approval of the Rules Committee chair or designee.

20 (c) The Rules Committee may correct typographical
21 errors in resolutions and joint resolutions of commendation,
22 condolence, congratulation, recognition, and sympathy.

23 Rule 12.2. A bill proposing a local constitutional
24 amendment may not be introduced unless the bill has

25 Rule 13. All bills shall be referred to a standing
26 committee in the order in which they are introduced, unless
27 the House otherwise directs.

1 Rule 14. A bill may be recommitted to the same or
2 another standing committee and on recommitment the bill shall
3 be open to amendment.

4 Rule 15. The total number of votes necessary for the
5 passage of any bill or resolution in which the Constitution of
6 the United States of America is to be amended or altered shall
7 be no less than the number of votes necessary to amend the
8 Constitution of the State of Alabama.

9 Rule 16. When a motion is made it shall be stated by
10 the Speaker; or if it is in writing it shall be read aloud by
11 the Clerk. A motion shall be reduced to writing if the Speaker
12 or any member requests it.

13 Rule 17. After a motion is stated by the Speaker or
14 read by the Clerk, it shall be deemed in possession of the
15 House, but it may be withdrawn by the member who made the
16 motion at any time before a vote is taken thereon.

17 Rule 18. When any motion, bill, or other matters are
18 before the House, it shall not be in order to entertain a
19 substitute motion for the passage of a bill, resolution, or
20 other matters not before the House.

21 Rule 19. [Reserved]

22 Rule 20. When a House bill is in position for final
23 passage, an identical Senate bill listed on the House calendar
24 may be substituted by a majority vote.

25 Rule 21. [Reserved]

1 Rule 22. (a) (1) A bill that is before the House
2 shall be carried over temporarily at the request of the
3 sponsor of the bill.

4 (2) A sponsor of a bill may move to carry over a
5 bill to the call of the chair. Approval of a motion to carry
6 over to the call of the chair is not subject to debate and
7 requires unanimous consent of the House. Upon approval of the
8 motion, the bill shall be temporarily carried over and may be
9 brought back up for consideration only during the same
10 legislative day at the discretion of the Speaker.

11 (b) Any bill temporarily carried over and not
12 brought back up for consideration during the same legislative
13 day in which it was carried over shall resume its regular
14 place on the calendar unless it is unfinished business.

15 Rule 23. Any local bill may be contested by one or
16 more member(s) filing a written statement of contest with the
17 clerk.

18 Rule 24. A motion to adjourn shall always be in
19 order, even in the absence of a quorum.

20 Rule 25. (a) The previous question shall be in the
21 following form, and shall be in writing: "I move the previous
22 question."

23 (b) If adopted by a vote of a three-fifths majority
24 of the members present and voting, its effect shall be to cut
25 off all debate and bring the House to a direct vote, first
26 upon the pending substitutes or amendments, or both, if there
27 be any, in their order, and then on the main question.

1 (c) Unless otherwise specified in the motion, a
2 motion "I move the previous question" shall be construed to
3 apply to all pending amendments, pending substitutes, related
4 matters, and the main question. The motion may be restricted
5 to lesser application and may, when appropriately expressed,
6 be applied to particular pending amendments, substitutes, and
7 related matters.

8 (d) If the call of the previous question is
9 sustained, the opponents of the bill or resolution, or the
10 pending amendment, substitute, or other matter, as the case
11 may be, shall have the right to speak for not more than a
12 cumulative total of ten minutes before the member having
13 charge of the bill or resolution, or the pending amendment,
14 substitute, or other matter, as the case may be, shall close
15 the debate.

16 Rule 26. The following are classified as procedural
17 motions and are not subject to substitute motions or debate:
18 to adjourn, to lay on the table, to remove from the table, and
19 the previous question. A motion to recess is not debatable. It
20 is not subject to subsidiary motions, except to amend as to
21 the length of recess. The motion to suspend the rules is not
22 subject to substitute motions, but is subject to limited
23 debate. A motion to adjourn to a time certain and a motion to
24 carry over to a time certain are subject to limited debate.

25 Rule 27. Debate on Reports from Committees on
26 Conference shall be limited to one hour.

1 Rule 28. Any member may call for a division of the
2 question when the sense of the proposition will admit it.

3 Rule 29. If the House is equally divided on a
4 recorded vote, the question shall be lost.

5 Rule 30. (a) When a vote has been announced by the
6 Speaker--except on a previous question, or on a motion to lay
7 on the table, or to remove from the table--it shall be in
8 order for any member to move for a reconsideration thereof;
9 provided, that the motion is made on the same day, or by
10 filing a written motion with the Clerk within one hour after
11 the House convenes on the succeeding day.

12 (b) Such motion shall be considered forthwith after
13 disposition of any business then before the House or any
14 business taking precedence thereto.

15 (c) When a motion for reconsideration is decided,
16 that decision shall not be reconsidered and no question shall
17 be reconsidered more than once.

18 Rule 31. No member shall be permitted to explain his
19 or her vote after a vote has been ordered upon any question
20 except by unanimous consent.

21 Rule 32. (a) When taking the yeas, nays, and
22 abstentions, the electrical roll call system shall be used.

23 (b) When the electrical roll call system is not
24 operable, votes shall be viva voce and names of members shall
25 be called alphabetically and each member shall answer from his
26 or her seat.

1 (c) When the House is ready to vote upon any
2 question requiring a roll call, the Speaker shall announce:
3 "The question is on (as the question may be). Those in favor
4 shall vote 'yea', and those opposed, 'no'. The Clerk will
5 unlock the machine and the members will vote."

6 (d) Members may vote yea, no, or may indicate
7 abstention by pressing the appropriate button on the
8 vote-recording equipment.

9 (e) The Clerk shall immediately start the
10 vote-recording equipment and when the Speaker has determined
11 that every member who wishes to has voted, the Clerk shall
12 lock the machine and record the vote and the Speaker shall
13 announce the vote to the House.

14 (f) No member shall vote for another member, except
15 by unanimous consent; nor shall any person not a member cast a
16 vote for a member.

17 Rule 33. The members of the House shall vote by
18 recorded vote on any motion to suspend the rules to consider a
19 contested local bill.

20 Rule 34. A resolution of local application, as
21 provided for in subdivision (b) (2) of Section 284.01 of
22 Article XVIII of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, is
23 ~~subject to limited debate, but not any motion, other than a~~
24 ~~motion to adopt and a motion to reconsider not subject to~~
25 ~~debate or any motion, other than a motion to adopt and a~~
26 ~~motion to reconsider.~~

1 Rule 35. (a) When any person sitting in the balcony
2 gallery attempts to attract attention of any one anyone on the
3 floor by word, deed, or otherwise, or when any person in the
4 balcony gallery makes gestures to attract attention from the
5 floor and by his or her engages in conduct or commits any
6 other action deemed by the Speaker to be detrimental to the
7 orderly business of the House, such person shall be ousted
8 from the balcony gallery pursuant to instructions from the
9 Speaker. Signs, banners, placards, and posters shall not be
10 displayed in the balcony gallery and shall be confiscated by
11 House Security.

12 (b) Any member of the House who deems any person
13 guilty of conduct described above in subsection (a) may
14 request the Speaker to oust such person from the balcony
15 gallery. If the Speaker does not agree with the member, the
16 member shall be entitled to a vote.

17 Rule 36. The following provisions shall apply to
18 budget isolation resolutions (BIRs) that are provided for in
19 Section C of Section 1 of Amendment 448 to the Constitution of
20 Alabama of 1901:

21 (1) The Speaker shall determine the time allowed for
22 debate before calling for a vote.

23 (2) If the resolution receives the three-fifths
24 majority of the members present and voting required by the
25 Constitution of the State of Alabama, the Clerk shall call the
26 attached bill.

1 (3) If the resolution is not adopted, the House
2 shall proceed with other business.

3 (4) Each resolution is subject to one motion for
4 reconsideration.

5 (5) Pertaining to local bills and notwithstanding
6 Rule 31, following adoption of the resolution, any member may
7 make a motion to provide for an expression of local courtesy
8 on the resolution. Such motions, which are not subject to
9 debate or reconsideration, may only be voted on by members who
10 represent areas outside the counties or municipalities
11 affected by the bill associated with the resolution. Yea votes
12 on the motion shall be reflected in the Journal as those
13 members who voted for the resolution only as a matter of local
14 courtesy and not as a position for or against the bill. All
15 votes on motions to express local courtesy must be recorded
16 votes.

17 Rule 37. Every bill the principal purpose of which
18 is to make an appropriation from state revenue shall be
19 referred to either the standing Ways and Means Education
20 Committee or Ways and Means General Fund Committee, as
21 appropriate, before being placed on the calendar.

22 Rule 38. Any bill that makes an appropriation from
23 state revenue shall be treated as a general bill.

24 Rule 39. (a) Any bill providing for or dealing with
25 pari-mutuel betting, gambling, or games of chance, any bill
26 providing for or dealing with an environmental issue, and any
27 bill providing for or dealing with inter-county annexation

1 shall also be treated as a general bill. Further, a local bill
2 creating a new pari-mutuel betting or gambling facility, or
3 affecting an existing facility, shall first be assigned to the
4 appropriate local legislation committee, and if receiving a
5 favorable report from the committee, shall then be assigned to
6 an appropriate standing committee.

7 (b) Any bill proposing a local constitutional
8 amendment shall first be assigned to the appropriate local
9 legislation committee, and if receiving a favorable report
10 from the committee, shall then be assigned to the
11 Constitution, Campaigns, and Elections Committee.

12 Rule 40. (a) Any bill which adds a group or
13 individual to an existing state retirement fund and which
14 allows members of the group or the individual to purchase
15 credit for previous service or any bill which allows a current
16 member of any state retirement fund to purchase credit for
17 previous service shall not be considered on third reading
18 unless the bill requires the individual or group to pay the
19 total cost (employer and employee costs as determined by the
20 actuary for the retirement fund) for the previous service
21 purchased.

22 (b) The ~~Legislative Fiscal Office~~ Legislative
23 Services Agency, Fiscal Division shall notify the Clerk,
24 before third reading, of any bills that are covered by this
25 rule.

26 RULES RELATING TO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE

1 Rule 41. No member shall absent himself or herself
2 from the sessions of the House unless he or she is unable to
3 attend.

4 Rule 42. ~~No member of the House or any person who
5 has privileges of the floor, except television camera
6 operators, shall be admitted upon the floor of the House while
7 the House is in session unless properly attired.~~

8 ~~Minimum standards of dress shall consist of the
9 wearing of a coat and tie by males and the wearing of a
10 suitable dress or an appropriate blouse and skirt or pants
11 suit by females. Minimum attire for pages shall be the same as
12 for members. House pages shall be at least 12 years old and no
13 older than 23 years of age.~~

14 (a) ~~During House sessions and committee meetings
15 during legislative weeks, any person having privileges of the
16 floor shall dress in a suitable manner. Men shall wear a coat
17 and tie and women shall wear a dress, or skirt or pants with a
18 blouse and jacket.~~

19 (b) ~~The Speaker may authorize exceptions to this
20 rule based on health or religious reasons, and the clerk may
21 authorize exceptions for television camera operators and sound
22 technicians.~~

23 (c) ~~Minimum standards of dress for members shall be
24 enforced by the Speaker and minimum standards for all other
25 individuals shall be enforced by the Clerk.~~

1 Rule 43. Only members shall sit in a seat assigned
2 to a member except on the first day of any Regular or Special
3 Session.

4 Rule 44. ~~No food shall be consumed on the floor of~~
5 ~~the House except from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to~~
6 ~~7:30 p.m.~~ (a) Pages authorized through the official Page
7 Program of the House have privileges of the floor and shall be
8 admitted upon the floor of the House while the House is in
9 session.

10 (b) House pages shall be at least 10 years of age
11 and not older than 18 years of age and shall comply with the
12 minimum standards of dress requirements in Rule 42.

13 Rule 45. No lobbyist or lobbying group shall have
14 food delivered to the House membership while the House is
15 actually in Session.

16 Rule 46. There shall not be any smoking or other use
17 of tobacco or alternative nicotine products on the floor of
18 the House or anywhere ~~on the fourth, fifth, and sixth floors~~
19 ~~of in~~ the State House.

20 Rule 47. Complimentary items, souvenirs, or gifts of
21 food shall not be placed or distributed on the floor of the
22 House.

23 Rule 48. Personal computer printers shall not be
24 used on the floor of the House. Cellular telephones and paging
25 devices may be used only if the ring modes and ring styles are
26 set to silent or vibrate.

1 Rule 48.1. Prior to display of any information,
2 picture, video, or other media on the video boards on the
3 House floor, a member shall obtain the approval of the Chair
4 of the Committee on Rules during a legislative session or the
5 House Clerk during any interim period. The Chair of the
6 Committee on Rules shall notify the House Clerk of such
7 approvals at least one hour before the media is to be
8 displayed.

9 Rule 49. A majority of the House shall be a quorum
10 to transact business and no business shall be transacted
11 except on the appearance of a quorum. If those who vote are
12 sufficient in number to show that a majority constituting a
13 quorum so acted, those who thus voted only shall be counted as
14 constituting the House for the purpose of that vote; but when
15 any question is put to the House, and a quorum is not recorded
16 as voting, the Speaker shall, before announcing the vote,
17 instruct the Clerk to record as present a sufficient number of
18 those members physically present in the House to constitute a
19 quorum, though all present are not participating.

20 Rule 50. (a) Members shall act with decorum at all
21 times on the House floor and in committee meetings. ~~and shall~~
22 ~~be mindful that children are often present when the House is~~
23 ~~in session.~~ Every member shall observe decency of speech;
24 never use language or engage in activity that is profane,
25 obscene, tasteless, vulgar, or morally crude; and confine
26 remarks to the question under consideration. Members may not

1 make statements that reflect upon the character or conduct of
2 any member person.

3 (b) Members shall refrain from making personal,
4 insensitive, derogatory, contemptuous, or disrespectful
5 comments regarding the ethnicity, economic status, race, or
6 social characteristics or demographics of the constituents of
7 a member's district.

8 Rule 51. (a) When a member desires to speak he or
9 she shall so indicate by pressing the speak button at his or
10 her desk and respectfully request requesting recognition from
11 the Speaker.

12 (b) When a member has been recognized by the
13 Speaker, the member, unless physically impaired, shall speak
14 from the podium.

15 Rule 52. No member shall speak more than ten minutes
16 at any one time and no more than twice on the same question
17 without leave of the House, unless the member is the mover
18 proposing the matter pending, in which case the member shall
19 be permitted to speak in reply.

20 Rule 53. (a) Any member who requests that a bill be
21 read at length on third reading must stay in the well during
22 the entire reading. Departure from the well is considered the
23 same as a withdrawal of the request to read the bill. In such
24 a circumstance, the member cannot make another request to read
25 or to continue to read the bill.

1 (b) When a bill is to be read at length, the Speaker
2 may set the manner and the speed at which the bill is to be
3 read.

4 Rule 54. When a vote is taken by recorded vote and a
5 member who has been absent returns before the question is
6 decided, he or she may make inquiry of the subject before the
7 House and have his or her vote recorded without discussion.

8 Rule 55. If any member ~~transgresses~~ violates the
9 rules, in speaking or otherwise, the Speaker shall, or any
10 member may request the Speaker to, call him or her to order
11 citing this rule by number, in which case the member called to
12 order shall immediately sit down, unless allowed by the
13 Speaker to explain; and the House shall, if appealed to,
14 decide on the case without debate. If the decision is in favor
15 of the member called to order, the member may proceed; if
16 otherwise, and the case requires it, he or she shall be liable
17 to censure or other disciplinary action.

18 Rule 56. All correspondence or communications placed
19 in members' mailboxes, offices, or on desks shall have the
20 author or sponsor identified. Anonymous correspondence or
21 communications placed in the members' mailboxes or offices, or
22 placed on the members' desks, shall be investigated by the
23 House Clerk upon the receipt of a written complaint from any
24 member. Any member found responsible for distributing
25 anonymous correspondence or communications that are the
26 subject of a complaint may be censured, and any other
27 individual found responsible for placement of anonymous

1 correspondence or communications may be banned from the floors
2 of the State House where members' offices are located,
3 pursuant to a recommendation from the Internal Affairs
4 Committee.

5 RULES RELATING TO THE PRESIDING OFFICER

6 Rule 57. (a) The Speaker shall preserve order and
7 decorum when the House is in session. In the case of any
8 disturbance or disorderly conduct in the chamber by any person
9 or a breach of the peace by any member, the Speaker may have
10 the person or member engaging in such conduct removed from the
11 chamber. For members, the removal may be for no more than one
12 legislative day; provided, however, a member may be admitted
13 sooner upon satisfaction of any terms and conditions
14 prescribed by the Speaker.

15 Rule 57.1. (a) In ~~doing so~~ preserving order and
16 decorum, the Speaker:

17 (1) May speak to points of order in preference to
18 other members.

19 (2) ~~The Speaker shall~~ Shall decide questions of
20 order, subject to an appeal to the House at the request of any
21 member, which appeal shall be decided without debate.

22 (b) Provided, however, if the Speaker desires to
23 make an editorial comment concerning the merits of an issue
24 under consideration, the Speaker shall leave the ~~Chair~~ chair
25 for that purpose.

26 Rule 58. (a) The Speaker may direct House Security
27 to remove any member who is engaging in a breach of the peace

1 ~~from areas of the State House that are under the control of~~
2 ~~the House.~~

3 (b) ~~The Clerk may direct House Security to remove~~
4 ~~any individual or groups of individuals who are engaging in a~~
5 ~~disturbance or disorderly conduct from areas of the State~~
6 ~~House that are under the control of the House.~~

7 (c) Whenever necessary to provide safety and
8 security for the members and staff, or upon the written
9 request of eleven members, the Speaker shall direct the Clerk
10 to clear ~~the fifth floor halls and offices~~ all areas of the
11 State House under the control of the House ~~of all unauthorized~~
12 ~~persons~~ everyone except members and legislative staff.

13 Provided, however, a member may authorize the use of his or
14 her office by any individual(s) of his or her choosing.

15 Rule 59. The Speaker, when the Speaker Pro Tem
16 either declines or is absent, may name any member to perform
17 the duties of the Chair, but such substitution shall not
18 extend beyond an adjournment.

19 Rule 60. The Speaker Pro Tem shall serve as Speaker
20 in the Speaker's absence.

21 Rule 61. ~~When two or more members seek recognition~~
22 ~~at the same time, the Speaker shall name the person who is to~~
23 ~~speak first.~~ [Reserved.]

24 Rule 62. All questions subject to voice vote shall
25 be distinctly put in the following form: "Those in favor (as
26 the question may be) say 'aye'," and after the affirmative
27 voice is expressed, "Those opposed say 'no'." If the Speaker

1 doubts, or if requested by a member and sustained by ten other
2 members before a decision is announced, the members shall vote
3 by recorded vote.

4 Rule 63. The Speaker shall appoint all committees
5 and their subcommittees and may designate who shall be chairs
6 and vice-chairs. The Speaker shall proportion, as reasonably
7 as possible, committee appointments in a manner which is
8 inclusive and reflects the racial diversity, gender, and
9 political party affiliation of the members of the body.
10 Political party affiliation and racial diversity should be
11 considered in instances where at least ten members of the body
12 are affiliated with a political party or are members of the
13 same race.

14 Rule 64. ~~After the House of Representatives has~~
15 ~~adjourned sine die at the end of any regular session, the~~
16 ~~Speaker may rename the membership of each standing committee~~
17 ~~and subcommittee thereof. Such constituted standing committees~~
18 ~~and subcommittees shall take effect at the next regular or~~
19 ~~special session or at the time of the assignment thereto.~~
20 [Reserved.]

21 RULES RELATING TO COMMITTEES

22 Rule 65. The following shall constitute the standing
23 committees of the House:

24 (1) Rules

25 Subcommittees

26 (a) Special Order Calendars

27 (b) Consent Calendars

1 (c) Resolutions
2
3 (2) Ways and Means Education
4 Subcommittees
5 (a) K-12 Appropriations
6 (b) Higher Education Appropriations
7 (c) Taxes, Exemptions, and Benefits
8
9 (3) Ways and Means General Fund
10 Subcommittees
11 (a) Appropriations
12 (b) Taxes, Exemptions, and Benefits
13
14 (4) Judiciary
15 Subcommittees
16 (a) Civil Justice
17 (b) Criminal Justice
18
19 (5) State Government
20 Subcommittees
21 (a) Government Regulations
22 (b) Government Services
23
24 (6) Ethics and Campaign Finance
25 Subcommittees
26 (a) Ethics
27 (b) Campaign Finance

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2 (7) Transportation, Utilities, and Infrastructure
3 Subcommittees
4 (a) Transportation and Infrastructure
5 (b) Utilities
6
7 (8) Technology and Research
8 Subcommittees
9 (a) Energy and Green Technology
10 (b) BioMedical and Manufacturing
11
12 (9) Commerce and Small Business
13 Subcommittees
14 (a) Environmental Issues
15 (b) Small Business and Labor
16
17 (10) Agriculture and Forestry
18 Subcommittees
19 (a) Agribusiness
20 (b) Sporting Issues
21 (c) Petroleum and Waterways
22
23 (11) Economic Development and Tourism
24 Subcommittees
25 (a) Economic Development and Incentives
26 (b) Regulations
27

1 (12) Health
2 Subcommittees
3 (a) Health Care Costs
4 (b) Health Care Professionals and Procedures
5
6 (13) Constitution, Campaigns, and Elections
7 Subcommittees
8 (a) Constitutional Issues
9 (b) Campaigns and Elections
10
11 (14) Public Safety and Homeland Security
12 Subcommittees
13 (a) Public Safety
14 (b) Homeland Security and Immigration
15
16 (15) Boards, Agencies, and Commissions
17 Subcommittees
18 (a) Professional Qualifications
19 (b) Agency and Commission Issues
20
21 (16) County and Municipal Government
22 Subcommittees
23 (a) Government Regulations
24 (b) Government Services
25
26 (17) Financial Services
27 Subcommittees

1 (a) Regulations
2 (b) Services
3
4 (18) Insurance
5 Subcommittees
6 (a) Regulations
7 (b) Services
8
9 (19) Education Policy
10 Subcommittees
11 (a) Higher Education
12 (b) K-12
13
14 ~~(20) Internal Affairs~~
15
16 ~~(21)~~ (20) Military and Veterans' Affairs
17
18 ~~(22)~~ (21) Children and Senior Advocacy
19 Subcommittees
20 (a) Children's Affairs
21 (b) Senior Advocacy
22
23 ~~(23)~~ (22) Fiscal Responsibility
24
25 ~~(24)~~ (23) Urban and Rural Development
26
27 ~~(25)~~ (24) Local Legislation

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~~(26)~~ (25) Baldwin County Legislation

~~(27)~~ (26) Jefferson County Legislation

~~(28)~~ (27) Lee County Legislation

~~(29)~~ (28) Limestone County Legislation

~~(30)~~ (29) Madison County Legislation

~~(31)~~ (30) Mobile County Legislation

~~(32)~~ (31) Montgomery County Legislation

~~(33)~~ (32) Shelby County Legislation

~~(34)~~ (33) Tuscaloosa County Legislation

Rule 66. No committee, except for the Committee on Rules, shall meet when the House is convened in session without special permission.

Rule 67. No standing committee shall meet and take action on any bill assigned to it on the same calendar day the bill is assigned to it, except a committee that considers local legislation.

Rule 68. No committee or subcommittee shall meet outside the Capitol complex in Montgomery without the prior

1 approval of the Speaker. No committee shall vote on bills or
2 resolutions outside the Capitol complex in Montgomery.

3 Rule 69. [Reserved]

4 Rule 70. (a) When the chair of a committee is
5 absent, the vice-chair, if present, or if the chair and
6 vice-chair are both absent, the member designated as the
7 ranking minority member by the Speaker, during the absence of
8 the chair or vice-chair, or both, shall become chair, and have
9 power to call together the committee for the consideration of
10 bills.

11 (b) A majority of the committee shall constitute a
12 quorum for the transaction of business. If a committee lacks a
13 quorum, it may meet to consider the same agenda, anytime
14 within the next four hours without posting notice, as long as
15 the chair, at the time the lack of quorum is determined,
16 announces the time and place for the meeting.

17 Rule 71. (a) The chair of a committee shall preserve
18 order and decorum in committee meetings and hearings,
19 including periods immediately before and after a committee
20 meeting or hearing, and may order House Security to remove any
21 disorderly person or member engaging in a breach of the peace
22 from the committee room.

23 (b) The chair shall report any disorderly conduct or
24 breach of the peace to the Speaker. If the violation is by a
25 member, the Speaker may consider discipline of the member,
26 including removal from the committee.

1 Rule 72. A committee shall not take action on a bill
2 except when the committee is in session, and this **provision**
3 **rule** shall not be waived by a majority signing petitions or
4 other procedural documents.

5 Rule 73. The chair of any standing committee,
6 excepting the Committee on Rules and a committee that
7 considers local legislation, shall give notice in writing to
8 the members of the committee at least 24 hours prior to the
9 meeting; and such notice shall include a listing by number of
10 all bills to be considered at the meeting. Notice shall be
11 accomplished by placing the notice in the committee members'
12 mailboxes located outside the Chamber and by posting the
13 notice on the notice boards. Notice may be posted for
14 consideration of bills in committee on the second calendar day
15 of a special session four hours prior to the meeting. Notice
16 may be posted four hours before the meeting after the 27th
17 legislative day of a regular session for a bill received from
18 the Senate after the 27th legislative day of a regular
19 session.

20 Rule 74. The chair of a standing committee shall
21 honor a written request for a public hearing on a bill if such
22 request is received by the chair prior to the posting of the
23 notice of the committee meeting at which the bill is to be
24 considered.

25 Rule 75. The chair of a standing committee shall
26 take a recorded vote on any motion if requested **prior to the**

1 call of the question by a committee member and sustained by
2 one additional committee member.

3 Rule 75.1. Committee clerks or other legislative
4 staff shall not accept proposed amendments or substitutes for
5 inclusion on any committee agenda from any individual other
6 than a member of the House of Representatives, a member of the
7 Senate, or a legislative staff person authorized by a member
8 to submit the proposed substitute or amendment. Substitutes
9 and amendments may be submitted, upon request from a member,
10 by persons employed by the Legislative Services Agency. Any
11 person submitting a substitute or amendment in violation of
12 this rule is subject to discipline by the House upon the
13 filing of a written complaint with the House Clerk.

14 Rule 76. Subcommittees of a standing committee may
15 meet solely for the purpose of researching and studying bills,
16 resolutions, and other matters assigned to it. Each
17 subcommittee may make recommendations to its respective
18 standing committee.

19 Rule 77. The chair of the standing Committee on
20 Local Legislation may report any bill out of the Committee
21 without a meeting of that Committee if he or she has the
22 unanimous consent of all members whose districts are affected
23 by the proposed legislation.

24 Rule 78. The rules of procedure in the House shall
25 be observed in standing committees as far as they may be
26 applicable and shall not be suspended by a standing committee.
27 Provided, that Rules 25 and 31 shall not be applicable.

1 Rule 78.1. The Internal Affairs Committee shall be
2 created as a special committee of the House.

3 Rule 79. If a law or executive order refers to the
4 Chair of the Ways and Means Committee as a member or ex
5 officio member of a committee, council, task force, or
6 commission, the Speaker shall designate whether the position
7 shall be filled by the Chair of the Ways and Means Education
8 Committee or the Chair of the Ways and Means General Fund
9 Committee.

10 Rule 79.1. (a) Articles of impeachment, as provided
11 in Section 173 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, shall
12 be filed in the form of a House resolution. Upon the filing of
13 articles of impeachment ~~co-sponsored~~ signed by at least 21
14 members, or if the House is not in session, upon petition of
15 21 members to the Speaker of the House, the articles shall be
16 referred to the House Judiciary Committee for the following
17 purposes:

18 (1) To investigate the allegations asserted in the
19 Articles of Impeachment, as provided in Section 173 of the
20 Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

21 (2) To make a recommendation to the body as to
22 whether cause exists to impeach the official.

23 (b) All meetings of the committee for the purposes
24 provided in subsection (a) shall be open to the public and
25 advance notice shall be given to the public for all meetings
26 consistent with notice requirements of other House committee

1 meetings and shall include publication of the agenda for the
2 meeting.

3 (c) The committee shall adopt rules to govern the
4 proceedings before it in order to ensure ~~due process,~~
5 ~~fundamental fairness, and~~ a thorough investigation, provided
6 that the rules are not inconsistent with this rule.

7 (d) The committee shall gather information and may
8 hear testimony relating to the question of whether cause
9 exists to impeach the official. The gathering of information
10 or the hearing of testimony may occur at any location within
11 this state designated by the chair of the committee.

12 (e) The Clerk of the House shall assign staff to
13 assist the committee as required. The ~~Alabama Law Institute,~~
14 ~~Legislative Fiscal Office, and Legislative Reference Service~~
15 ~~Legislative Services Agency~~ shall provide assistance to the
16 committee as requested.

17 (f) Upon the conclusion of its investigation, the
18 committee shall submit its report and recommendation regarding
19 impeachment to the Clerk of the House for consideration by the
20 body. The Clerk of the House shall provide a copy of the
21 report to all members of the House within three days after
22 submission of the report. As part of its report and
23 recommendation, the committee, by majority vote, may offer
24 amendments to the impeachment resolution. If the
25 recommendation of the committee is not unanimous, the members
26 in opposition to the recommendation shall submit a

1 consolidated report outlining the recommendation of the
2 members opposed to the majority recommendation.

3 (g) (1) If the House is in session when the committee
4 submits its report and recommendation, the impeachment
5 resolution, along with any committee amendments, shall be
6 considered by the House on the third legislative day following
7 its submission if 63 members of the House vote in favor of
8 consideration. Consideration of the Articles of Impeachment
9 shall be during the introduction of bills and resolutions
10 pursuant to Rule 6(7) and shall be in resolution form and
11 offered by one of the resolution's sponsors.

12 (2) If the House is not in session when the
13 committee submits its report and recommendation, or if the
14 House adjourns prior to consideration of the report and
15 recommendation submitted under subdivision (1), the House may
16 convene as provided in Section 173 of the Constitution of
17 Alabama of 1901, to consider the report and recommendation.

18 (3) Passage of the resolution shall require a
19 majority vote of the House membership.

20 RULES RELATING TO THE CLERK AND THE JOURNAL

21 Rule 80. A member who introduces a bill or joint
22 resolution shall endorse the same, and the member's name shall
23 be inscribed by the Clerk upon the engrossed and enrolled
24 copies when transmitted to the Senate or the Governor.

25 Rule 81. The Clerk shall, upon introduction of a
26 bill, immediately make a photocopy to be designated as a

1 second official copy and to be used as a replacement in the
2 event the original bill is lost, misplaced, or destroyed.

3 Rule 82. When a bill passes, it shall be certified
4 by the Clerk, who shall note the date of its passage at the
5 foot thereof.

6 Rule 83. Communications from the House to the Senate
7 shall be under the signature of the Clerk. When House Bills
8 are signed by the Speaker, the Clerk shall, by message, notify
9 the Senate and request the signature of the President.

10 Rule 84. All bills acted upon by the committees
11 shall be endorsed as follows:

12 This bill having been referred by the House to its
13 standing Committee on _____ was acted upon by such
14 committee in session and returned therefrom to the House with
15 the recommendation that it be passed.

16 Rule 85. The Clerk shall furnish to the members
17 daily a calendar of all bills on third reading and a listing
18 and description of all resolutions which have been reported
19 from the Committee on Rules, which bills and resolutions shall
20 be arranged in the order in which they are entitled to
21 consideration.

22 Rule 86. Any member may receive a copy of a bill
23 from the Clerk's Office upon request.

24 Rule 87. Every bill making an appropriation from the
25 State Treasury or increasing or decreasing state revenue
26 shall, before any vote is taken thereon by a committee, have
27 endorsed thereon or attached thereto a fiscal note prepared by

1 a legislative fiscal officer estimating the amount of money
2 involved, and the anticipated increase or decrease in public
3 spending or the increase or decrease in revenue collections
4 under the provisions of the bill. The fiscal note shall be
5 part of the calendar of bills on third reading following the
6 title of the bill.

7 Rule 88. There shall be listed on the calendar of
8 bills on third reading, immediately following the title of
9 every bill which would amend a section or part of the code by
10 reference to its number only, a brief statement of the general
11 subject to which such section or part of the code relates.

12 Rule 89. Whenever the House calendar contains more
13 than twenty-five pages, either the first or last page thereof
14 shall have listed thereon a numerical list of all House bills
15 and all Senate bills on the day's calendar with the number of
16 the page on which the bill appears listed opposite the number
17 of the bill.

18 Rule 90. If a resolution or a substitute to a bill
19 or resolution is not adopted, it shall be printed in the
20 journal by title only.

21 Rule 91. If the office of Clerk is vacant, the
22 Speaker shall designate an Acting Clerk who shall serve until
23 the House elects a Clerk.

24 Rule 92. Rules shall be enforced either by the
25 Speaker or by the Clerk, as appropriate.

1 Rule 93. On all matters not specifically addressed
2 in these rules, Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure, 2010
3 Edition, shall apply.