

NO. 1

JOURNAL
of the
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
of the
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA



REGULAR SESSION BEGINNING TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024
(STATEWIDE SESSION)

Tuesday, December 3, 2024
(Statewide Session)

~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

The House assembled at 11:00 a.m.

Deliberations were opened with prayer by Rev. Charles E. Seastrunk, Jr., as follows:

Our thought for today is from Micah 6:8: “He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God.”

Let us pray. O Lord, looking to these Representatives and Staff, You have done a great thing. May we live in Your presence while we do the state’s business. I offer to You to follow the teachings to which You have been called each and every day and do the work promised. Bless our defenders of freedom and first responders as they care for us. God, grant them Your comfort. We ask for Your care upon our World, Nation, President, State, Governor, Speaker, Staff, and all who contribute to this great cause. Bless our Armed Forces and those who suffer and sacrifice for our freedom.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers. Amen.

MOTION ADOPTED

Rep. ERICKSON moved that when the House adjourns, it adjourn in memory of Marguerite Farrell Flanagan, which was agreed to.

APPOINTMENT OF THE TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN

The CLERK of the late House announced that the first order of business is the appointment of a Temporary CHAIRMAN.

The CLERK of the late House appointed Rep. GILDA COBB-HUNTER.

The CLERK of the late House appointed Reps. BAUER, COLLINS, ERICKSON, JONES, MCDANIEL and WHITE to escort Rep. COBB-HUNTER to the rostrum.

Rep. COBB-HUNTER presented her credentials and the oath of office was administered to her by the CLERK.

Rep. COBB-HUNTER thereupon took the Chair and offered the following statement:

Welcome to the S.C. House of Representatives. The election is now over and it is time to get to work. It still has not dawned on me about the

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significance of being No. 1, other than every two years, I have the opportunity to stand before you as the Most Senior Member in this Body. I guess I am here to offer words of wisdom, not sure how wise they are, but there will be some words, not a lot because I grew up with the notion that I would rather see a sermon than hear one any day. So let me just share with you my thoughts about being a member of this illustrious Body. I want to start by congratulating each and everyone of you. On November 5, the voters in your district thought that you were the best person to represent them here in this Body. I would remind all of us that the campaign is over and now it is time to govern. I would also like to remind each of us that, believe it or not, all 124 of us had voters who thought that we were the best person to come in here. And that is true of each of these 124 districts. I would encourage you to remember, it will be tougher for some than others. Just remember that the voters, the people who don't look like you, who are not in the same party as you, also believe that this person was the best person to do the job. I want to encourage all of us to remember that because that is the first step in civility and respect and remind people that respect is something that is earned. It is not automatic and does not come just because you have the title. And I would encourage each of us to keep that in mind.

Finally, let me just say a word or two about this Body and this Institution. I have been around a minute, so I have a deep appreciate for this Institution. The House of Representatives is an Institution and there are many days when I sat out there and looked around this room and these pictures on the wall. Because I have a very vivid imagination, at times, I have often thought about what these men, all are men, what they would think about today's General Assembly. Finally, and I have said that once and I know that there a lot of Baptist Preachers in here, as opposed to AME and all of them, so you know Baptist Preachers, Brother Jones, tend to say finally two or three times before they are finished. I am certainly not a Preacher, and don't even play one of TV, but I want to remind all of us that how you govern yourself in here is pretty much going to be determined by why you are in here. And what do I mean by that, why did you run? Because someone told you that they thought it would be a good idea for you to do it. Was it because this is just another item on your resume as you plot your next move? Was it because you want to make a difference, we all think that we want to do that? I think that is most important about being in here is service. And I would expand that to say Servant Leadership. Those of you who know the Word, they say that the greatest giver, but let he that is among us, sorry I am mangling the scripture, which I don't know much about, the point

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is Servant Leadership. It should not be about you. It should be about service and making a difference in the lives of South Carolinians. So, as I close, I want to ask you to please keep in mind that all of us are here because we have been elected and because people saw value. Please keep this in mind as we move through these two years and as you decide, on what your course of action will be. And I will end by saying to you, answer the question of “Why am I here?” “Why did I do this?” Because the reason that you are in here will determine, most likely, your conduct in here. As it says, “What good does it do a man to win the world, excuse me I am just naming all kinds of things morning, so guess what?” For those who clap, when I say, you gain the world and profit none, lose your soul, one of those kinds of things. I am just saying, Do You, Be You, there is only one person in here who can vote for you and that is you. The thing that I have always recognized that will keep me going is that in spite of all of this, there is someone that I believe who sits high and looks low. Thank you for this opportunity and I look forward to working with each and every one of you.

TEMPORARY OFFICERS

The Temporary CHAIRMAN appointed Mr. Charles F. Reid to act as Temporary Clerk, Mr. James L. Mann Cromer, Jr., as Temporary Reading Clerk, and Mr. Mitchell G. Dorman as Temporary Sergeant at Arms.

COMMUNICATION

The following was received:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

December 2, 2024
South Carolina House of Representatives
Mr. Charles F. Reid, Clerk of the House
Post Office Box 11867
Columbia, SC 29211

Dear Mr. Reid:

The State Election Commission has certified to this office by mail the winners of the State House of Representatives in the General Election held on November 5, 2024. Please find enclosed a copy of the election results as certified to this office by the State Election Commission.

[HJ]

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Please contact my office if you have any questions or need anything further.

Sincerely,
Mark Hammond
Secretary of State

SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTION COMMISSION

November 18, 2024
Honorable Mark Hammond
Secretary of State
1205 Pendleton Street, Suite 525
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Secretary,

The State Election Commission, in its capacity as the State Board of Canvassers, hereby certifies the winners of the federal offices, State Senate, State House of Representatives, solicitor, multi-county offices, countywide offices, and less than countywide offices in the General Election held on November 5, 2024, as reflected in the enclosed winner's report.

Sincerely,
Howard M. Knapp
Executive Director

**CERTIFIED ELECTION RESULTS
MEMBERS OF THE S.C. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
NOVEMBER 5, 2024**

District 1	William R. "Bill" Whitmire (R)
District 2	Adam L. Duncan(R)
District 3	Phillip Bowers (R)
District 4	David R. Hiott (R)
District 5	Neal A. Collins (R)
District 6	April Cromer (R)
District 7	Thomas Lee Gilreath (R)
District 8	Donald G. "Don" Chapman (R)
District 9	Richard B. "Blake" Sanders (R)
District 10	Thomas Beach (R)

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District 11	Craig A. Gagnon (R)
District 12	Daniel Gibson (R)
District 13	John R. McCravy III (R)
District 14	Luke Rankin (R)
District 15	JA Moore (D)
District 16	Mark N. Willis (R)
District 17	James Mikell “Mike” Burns (R)
District 18	T. Alan Morgan (R)
District 19	Patrick B. Haddon (R)
District 20	Stephen Frank (R)
District 21	Bobby J. Cox (R)
District 22	Paul B. Wickensimer (R)
District 23	Chandra E. Dillard (D)
District 24	Bruce W. Bannister (R)
District 25	Wendell K. Jones (D)
District 26	David Martin (R)
District 27	David Vaughan (R)
District 28	William C. “Chris” Huff (R)
District 29	Dennis C. Moss (R)
District 30	M. Brian Lawson (R)
District 31	Rosalyn D. Henderson-Myers (D)
District 32	W. Scott Montgomery IV (R)
District 33	Travis A. Moore (R)
District 34	Sarita L. Edgerton (R)
District 35	William M. “Bill” Chumley (R)
District 36	Robert J. Harris (R)
District 37	Steven W. Long (R)
District 38	Roy J. “Josiah” Magnuson (R)
District 39	Cally R. “Cal” Forrest, Jr. (R)
District 40	Joseph S. White (R)
District 41	Annie E. McDaniel (D)
District 42	Leon D. “Doug” Gilliam (R)
District 43	Thomas R. Ligon (R)
District 44	James M. Neese (R)
District 45	Brandon M. Newton (R)
District 46	Christopher Heath Sessions (R)
District 47	Thomas E. “Tommy” Pope (R)
District 48	Brandon Guffey (R)
District 49	John R. C. King (D)
District 50	William W. Wheeler III (D)
District 51	J. David Weeks (D)

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District 52	Jermaine L. Johnson Jr. (R)
District 53	Richard L. "Richie" Yow (R)
District 54	Jason S. Luck (D)
District 55	Jackie E. Hayes (D)
District 56	Timothy A. McGinnis (R)
District 57	Frank L. Atkinson (D)
District 58	Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Johnson (R)
District 59	Terry Alexander (D)
District 60	Phillip D. Lowe (R)
District 61	Carla M. Schuessler (R)
District 62	Robert Q. Williams (D)
District 63	Wallace H. "Jay" Jordan, Jr. (R)
District 64	Fawn M. Pedalino (R)
District 65	Cody T. Mitchell (R)
District 66	Jackie R. Terribile (D)
District 67	G. Murrell Smith, Jr. (R)
District 68	Heather Ammons Crawford (R)
District 69	Christopher S. "Chris" Wooten (R)
District 70	Robert T. Reese (D)
District 71	Jonathan C. "Nathan" Ballentine (R)
District 72	Seth C. Rose (D)
District 73	Christopher R. "Chris" Hart (D)
District 74	James T. "Todd" Rutherford (D)
District 75	Heather Bauer (D)
District 76	Leon Howard (D)
District 77	Kambrell H. Garvin (D)
District 78	Beth E. Bernstein (D)
District 79	Hamilton R. Grant (D)
District 80	Kathy Landing (R)
District 81	Charles V. Hartz (R)
District 82	William "Bill" Clyburn (D)
District 83	William M. "Bill" Hixon (R)
District 84	Melissa Lackey Oremus (R)
District 85	John Gregory "Jay" Kilmartin (R)
District 86	William W. "Bill" Taylor (R)
District 87	Paula Rawl Calhoon (R)
District 88	Robert J. May III (R)
District 89	Micajah P. "Micah" Caskey IV (R)
District 90	Justin T. Bamberg (D)
District 91	Lonnie Hosey (D)
District 92	Brandon L. Cox (R)

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District 93	Jerry N. Govan Jr. (D)
District 94	Gil A. Gatch (R)
District 95	Gilda Cobb-Hunter (D)
District 96	Donald Ryan McCabe, Jr. (R)
District 97	Robert D. “Robby” Robbins (R)
District 98	Christopher J. “Chris” Murphy (R)
District 99	Marvin M. “Mark” Smith (R)
District 100	Sylleste H. Davis (R)
District 101	Roger K. Kirby (D)
District 102	Harriet A. Holman (R)
District 103	Carl L. Anderson (D)
District 104	William H. Bailey (R)
District 105	Kevin J. Hardee (R)
District 106	Thomas Duval “Val” Guest, Jr. (R)
District 107	T. “Case” Brittain, Jr. (R)
District 108	William L. “Lee” Hewitt (R)
District 109	Tiffany Spann-Wilder (D)
District 110	Thomas F. Hartnett, Jr. (R)
District 111	Wendell G. Gilliard (D)
District 112	Joseph M. Bustos (R)
District 113	Marvin R. Pendarvis (D)
District 114	Gary S. Brewer, Jr. (R)
District 115	Elizabeth S. Wetmore (D)
District 116	James E. Teeple (R)
District 117	Jordan S. Pace (R)
District 118	William G. “Bill” Herbkersman (R)
District 119	Leonidas E. “Leon” Stavrinakis (D)
District 120	William Weston J. Newton (R)
District 121	Michael F. Rivers, Sr. (D)
District 122	William W. Hager (D)
District 123	Jeffrey A. Bradley (R)
District 124	Shannon S. Erickson (R)

The foregoing were then sworn in by the Temporary CHAIRMAN.

MEMBERS-ELECT SWORN IN

The TEMPORARY READING CLERK of the late House then commenced a call of the members-elect of the House of Representatives by roll call resulting as follows:

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ROLL CALL

The roll call of the House of Representatives was taken resulting as follows:

Alexander	Anderson	Atkinson
Bailey	Ballentine	Bamberg
Bannister	Bauer	Beach
Bernstein	Bowers	Bradley
Brewer	Brittain	Burns
Bustos	Calhoon	Caskey
Chapman	Chumley	Clyburn
Cobb-Hunter	Collins	B. J. Cox
B. L. Cox	Crawford	Cromer
Davis	Dillard	Duncan
Edgerton	Erickson	Forrest
Frank	Gagnon	Garvin
Gatch	Gibson	Gilliam
Gilreath	Govan	Grant
Guest	Guffey	Haddon
Hager	Hardee	Harris
Hart	Hartnett	Hartz
Hayes	Henderson-Myers	Herbkersman
Hewitt	Hiott	Hixon
Holman	Hosey	Howard
Huff	J. E. Johnson	J. L. Johnson
W. Jones	Jordan	Kilmartin
King	Kirby	Landing
Lawson	Ligon	Long
Lowe	Luck	Magnuson
Martin	May	McCabe
McCravy	McDaniel	McGinnis
Mitchell	Montgomery	J. Moore
T. Moore	T. A. Morgan	Moss
Murphy	Neese	B. Newton
W. Newton	Oremus	Pace
Pedalino	Pope	Rankin
Reese	Rivers	Robbins
Rose	Rutherford	Sanders
Schuessler	Sessions	G. M. Smith
M. M. Smith	Spann-Wilder	Stavrinakis
Taylor	Teeple	Terribile
Vaughan	Weeks	Wetmore

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Wheeler	White	Whitmire
Wickensimer	Williams	Willis
Wooten	Yow	

Total Present--122

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER granted Rep. GILLIARD a leave of absence for the day due to a death in the family.

ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER

The Temporary CHAIRMAN announced that nominations were in order for a SPEAKER.

Rep. PEDALINO nominated Rep. GEORGE M “MURRELL” SMITH, JR., of Sumter, as follows:

Madam Chair, ladies, and gentlemen of the House, and distinguished guests: it is a privilege to stand before you today to nominate another Sumter delegate, and my friend, Murrell Smith, for Speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives.

The role of House Speaker is both a significant honor and a considerable responsibility, and many of us in this room witnessed Murrell rise to meet that challenge during the previous session in this esteemed position.

In my time serving in this chamber, I cannot think of anyone more qualified to serve as this body's leader. He graduated from Wofford College in 1990, and from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1993. He has gone on to lead an impressive legal career, as well as be a successful business owner. He has collected countless awards and accolades in the past two decades. He has served on numerous committees, commissions, and boards, most notably as Ways and Means Chairman. Most importantly, he is a leader in the Sumter community where he raises his two wonderful children with his beautiful wife, Macaulay. I can tell you firsthand that Murrell is an exemplary public servant, a devoted husband and father, and a tireless advocate for our state.

But I don't need to tell many of you that. You've seen it for yourselves. Murrell has spent his time in this body doing two things: bringing people to the table and leading on transformative reforms. Murrell is tireless when it comes to ensuring that we are focused on legislation that moves South Carolina forward. And he is skilled in accomplishing

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this goal by bringing anyone who is willing- no matter political affiliation, geographic representation, gender, or race -to the table. He sees the power and the necessity in listening to all of us, because together everyone in this room reflects all of South Carolina's citizens. With that in mind, he always aims to lead on policy for the good of the state. And that, I believe, is what truly moves the state forward.

Murrell also makes time to engage with everyone-from the seasoned legislators to the freshmen. I can speak from experience when I say that no one is too small, no concern too trivial for him to address. He's always ready to listen and offer advice. And if you ever find yourself unsure about something-whether it's a piece of legislation or navigating a tough decision - I know I can always pick up the phone and call him. He is exceptionally responsive, despite the many demands that come with serving as Speaker of the House.

And when it comes to making sure any legislator can accomplish something that benefits their district, you can count on Murrell. If there is a way for him to help, he will move mountains to get it done. He genuinely wants to see every district thrive, and his commitment to our state's progress is unmatched.

Rep. PACE nominated Rep. WILLIAM M. "BILL" CHUMLEY, of Spartanburg, as follows:

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise today to nominate my friend, Bill Chumley, as Speaker of the House. Bill Chumley is known not only as a father, and grandfather, but a farmer, statesman, and conservative leader. The reality is that the voters of this State and this Nation gave us a mandate, particularly in South Carolina, gave us a mandate, super majority in the House and in the Senate to accomplish conservative policies that have languished for too long. Now I am all about being congenial and civil, many of you know me, we have not known each other that long, but within the last couple of years I hope that you know that about me. Just because we disagree, doesn't mean that we have to be disagreeable. But you also know about policy. Bill Chumley began that many years ago and has inspired a new generation of legislators to come to the House and push for conservative policies that align with the Republican platform. For too long in South Carolina, it has the highest taxes in the southeast. We have lacked in school choice; we have none as it stands. It took us too long to pass constitutional carry, ban transgender surgeries for children, and still to this day we do not have closed primaries. That Bill has been filed for 18 years straight and Bill

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is the one who has filed it for many years. It has not even received a subcommittee hearing. We need conservative leadership, bold leadership, not malicious, willing to work with everyone and be fair, but to move the needle. Part of that mandate is having the majority party Chair, not only on the committees but also the subcommittees. Particularly the subcommittees that write our budget that has grown year after year, while our taxes have gone down a smidge, another smidge, and a smidge, point one percent, I think is the total, year after year while the budget grows by nearly a billion dollars of other people's money. So, I hope that you will support my friend, Bill Chumley, to move the conservative needle in the right direction, to accomplish these policies that the super majority of us ran on and not delay getting it done, quickly, maybe as quickly as we handed 1.3 billion dollars to a foreign company to make electric trucks. Which I don't know if you've noticed, but that market is not doing well. I think that took us nine days. So once again I ask that you vote for my friend, Bill Chumley. So that we as the majority party can chair the committees, chair the subcommittees, reduce spending in this State, eliminate the immoral income tax that has made us uncompetitive with our neighbors and get it done quick. Thank you for your time. It is a pleasure to be up here with you again and I am looking forward to the next two years of working together. I think that we will all work together well under Bill Chumley. Thank you.

The nominations were closed, and the House preceded with a vote.

The following named Representatives voted for G.M. Smith:

Alexander	Anderson	Atkinson
Bailey	Ballentine	Bamberg
Bannister	Bauer	Bernstein
Bowers	Bradley	Brewer
Brittain	Bustos	Calhoon
Caskey	Chapman	Clyburn
Cobb-Hunter	Collins	B. J. Cox
B. L. Cox	Crawford	Davis
Dillard	Erickson	Forrest
Gagnon	Garvin	Gatch
Gibson	Gilliam	Govan
Grant	Guest	Guffey
Haddon	Hager	Hardee
Hart	Hartnett	Hartz
Hayes	Herbkersman	Hewitt

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Hiott	Hixon	Holman
Hosey	Howard	J. E. Johnson
J. L. Johnson	W. Jones	Jordan
King	Kirby	Landing
Lawson	Ligon	Long
Lowe	Luck	Martin
McCrary	McDaniel	McGinnis
Mitchell	Montgomery	J. Moore
T. Moore	Moss	Murphy
Neese	B. Newton	W. Newton
Oremus	Pedalino	Pope
Rankin	Reese	Rivers
Robbins	Rose	Rutherford
Sanders	Schuessler	Sessions
G. M. Smith	M. M. Smith	Spann-Wilder
Stavrinakis	Taylor	Teeple
Vaughan	Weeks	Wheeler
Whitmire	Wickensimer	Williams
Willis	Wooten	Yow

Total—102

The following named Representatives voted for Chumley:

Beach	Burns	Chumley
Cromer	Edgerton	Frank
Gilreath	Harris	Huff
Kilmartin	Magnuson	May
McCabe	T. A. Morgan	Pace
Terrible	White	

Total—17

RECAPITULATION

Total number of Representatives voting	119
Necessary to a choice.....	60
Of which G.M. Smith received	102
Of which Chumley received	17

Whereupon, Rep. G.M. SMITH was duly elected as Speaker of the House.

[HJ]

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STATEMENT FOR JOURNAL

I was temporarily out of the Chamber during the vote to elect the Speaker of the House. I would like for the record to show that I would have voted for G.M. Smith for Speaker.

Rep. Spencer Wetmore

STATEMENT FOR JOURNAL

Today, I arrived on the House floor moments after the vote for Speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives had concluded. Unfortunately, I missed the opportunity to cast my vote due to an unavoidable scheduling delay. While I deeply regret missing this important moment I was present for his speech immediately afterwards detailing his views and desires for the upcoming legislative session. I remain fully committed to serving the people of our district, our state, and to ensuring their voices are represented in all legislative matters.

Let me be clear: my arrival was not due to negligence or a lack of respect for this institution but rather an unforeseen circumstance of which I take full responsibility. The record that day reflects my vote for all other officers. I encourage everyone to focus on the important work ahead for our state rather than distractions from our shared goals.

My dedication to the people of South Carolina is unwavering, and I look forward to continuing my efforts to build a better future for all.

Respectfully,

Representative Rosalyn Henderson Myers, PhD, JD
SC House District 31

The Temporary CHAIRMAN appointed Reps. BANNISTER, DAVIS, ERICKSON, HERBKERSMAN, HIXON, W. NEWTON, and WEEKS to escort SPEAKER-elect GEORGE M. "MURRELL" SMITH, JR., to the desk where the oath of office was administered to him by the Temporary CHAIRMAN.

SPEAKER SMITH thereupon took the Chair and addressed the House as follows:

Good morning, colleagues, friends, family, and honored guests.

It is, once again, the honor of my lifetime to be chosen by the men and women in this chamber to serve as Speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives. I am deeply humbled by your confidence and the trust you have placed in me to continue to lead this body. Thank you.

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First and foremost, I must express my gratitude to the people of District 67. You have entrusted me with the privilege of representing you in this House for 24 years now, and I remain committed to serving you and our community back home in Sumter.

To Speaker *Pro Tempore* Tommy Pope: your leadership, wit, and unwavering work ethic are invaluable. For those who are new to the House, you'll soon learn that Tommy is as entertaining as he is dedicated—though you might need to plan for a few extra minutes when he takes over the podium! Thank you, Tommy, for your partnership and service to this body.

To our Clerk, Charles Reid, my friend since our Wofford College days, I am still in awe that we get to spend our days together serving South Carolina alongside one another. If you asked me where I thought we'd be 34 years ago, I couldn't have imagined this! It is a testament to how life's path often leads to places we never expect. Thank you for your friendship over the years and your service to our state.

Most importantly, to my family, Macaulay, Bee, and Little Murrell (who are in school right now): you are my foundation and my greatest joy. Public service requires sacrifice, and much of that sacrifice is borne by our families. I know mine is no exception. However, the way that they continue to support me is truly exceptional. Thank you for your patience, understanding, and, most importantly, your love.

Finally, I want to acknowledge my colleague and delegation member, Fawn Pedalino, and thank her for her kind words in nominating me. Fawn, you are a rising star in this body and I am honored to work beside you as we serve our communities back home.

Today, I'd like to take a few minutes to reflect on how special it is to serve in this body. Our chamber is unique, and for that, we should be proud. Unlike Washington, D.C., where partisanship too often gives way to dysfunction and chaos, South Carolina's House of Representatives has stood as a model for what government should be. Here, we respect one another. We debate vigorously, but we do not disparage. As President Ronald Reagan once said, "Peace is not absence of conflict, it is the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means."

Let us reaffirm today that we will continue to uphold civility and decorum in this chamber. This is not an ask from me, as your Speaker. It is the ask of the 5.3 million South Carolinians we serve. It is our duty to show the people of South Carolina that their government works for them—that we can disagree without being disagreeable, and that collaboration, not division, is the foundation of our success.

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As we gather here today, South Carolina stands at a transformational moment in its history. The past decade has seen our state experience an economic renaissance. Consider these remarkable statistics:

In 2023, South Carolina announced over \$9.2 BILLION in capital investment, the second-largest amount in state history, behind 2022. That investment represents over 14,000 jobs.

South Carolina's population grew by 1.7% between 2022 and 2023, making it the fastest-growing state in terms of percentage during that period, with our population increasing by nearly 15% over the past decade. We continue to consistently rank as one of the top states for population growth.

Our state's GDP has grown by an astonishing 30% since 2018, outpacing many other states.

We have been recognized as one of the best states (and many times as THE best) for manufacturing; we are the No. 1 tire-producing state in the country and among the top three for automotive exports.

These numbers tell a story of a state on the rise. People and businesses are moving to South Carolina in droves. Our business-friendly policies, growing opportunities, and unmatched quality of life make South Carolina a place where families want to live, work, and thrive.

But with growth comes responsibility. As Winston Churchill once said, "To each, there comes in their lifetime a special moment when they are figuratively tapped on the shoulder and offered the chance to do a very special thing." I believe wholeheartedly that this is our moment. It is time for us to embrace the challenges and opportunities before us and set the stage for South Carolina's continued success for decades to come.

Let us not forget that over the last few years, we have worked hard to "set the table", so to speak, for the successes we have enjoyed and will continue to enjoy. I'm especially proud of the years we have diligently recognized the need for reserve funds. As our state still recovers from the devastation brought by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, we will have the opportunity to help every struggling community with their financial challenges in part thanks to the foresight we had in prioritizing reserves. This foresight will now pay dividends in a very real way to countless citizens of our state who desperately need it. A majority of members here in the House and Senate worked together to create these emergency accounts. The issue was presented to the voters of our state to change our state constitution to allow these reserve accounts, and our citizens approved this measure overwhelmingly. These are the types of monumental wins we can accomplish when we work together – with a shared vision of prosperity - for the betterment of our state.

[HJ]

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With that said, we must spend this next legislative session focusing on policies that will sustain and build upon our momentum. My priorities for this legislative session center on three key areas: delivering historic tax reform, promoting business-friendly policies, and fueling our booming economy.

South Carolina has made great strides in reducing the tax burden on our citizens. Over the past 30 years, we have delivered more than \$50 billion in tax cuts. But we can do more. We will work to simplify our tax code, ensure fairness, and create an environment that continues to attract businesses and reward hard work. Our Southeastern neighbors are our greatest competition; it is time we significantly lower our income tax rate to become competitive in our own region. No longer will South Carolina top the list of highest income taxes in the Southeast.

South Carolina is booming in part because we believe in the power of business, big and small. It is time we reduce government red tape and sunset costly and burdensome regulations that stifle growth. We must remove barriers for small businesses across this state and continue to secure our spot as a national leader in job creation.

South Carolina has become a global leader in manufacturing and innovation, producing everything from planes to automobiles. Yet, there are still communities across our state that have not fully shared in this prosperity – and now is the time we must continue to harness our momentum as we grow the South Carolina of tomorrow. We must invest in infrastructure—roads, broadband, water, and sewer—to ensure that every corner of South Carolina is ready to compete in the 21st-century economy. We must support rural communities and shovel-ready site development.

And, most importantly, we cannot forget that a modern, reliable, and sustainable energy infrastructure is critical to the future of our state. Last year, this body worked diligently to develop a path to solve this issue. I want to give credit to the Senate who has spent much of the off-season working on the same issue. Now, we must re-engage in talks about energy reform so that we can ensure South Carolina remains a leader in innovation while providing accessible and affordable power to families and businesses alike.

As I said before, I truly believe this is a pivotal moment for our state. The challenges before us are significant, but so are the opportunities. Let us approach our work with purpose, humility, and a shared commitment to the people we serve. Remember: we each serve about 41,300 South Carolinians in our respective districts. No one of us is greater than the other. We must act collectively as the sum of our equal parts.

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As we embark on the 126th General Assembly, let us remember the words of President Theodore Roosevelt:

"Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure... than to rank with those timid spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat."

I am confident that this session, we will do something together that no General Assembly has ever done. This will be our legacy to our children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors. I'm excited to lead the charge.

In this chamber, we have the power to make history—not for ourselves, but for the generations of South Carolinians who will come after us. Together, we can create a brighter, stronger, and more prosperous future for our beloved state.

May God bless you all, and may God continue to bless the great state of South Carolina.

Thank you.

ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER *PRO TEMPORE*

The SPEAKER announced that nominations were in order for SPEAKER *PRO TEMPORE*.

Rep. SESSIONS nominated Rep. TOMMY POPE as follows:

Good morning, Members and guests. I come to you this morning with the honor and privilege of nominating my friend and fellow York county delegate, Mr. Tommy Pope, for Speaker *Pro Tempore* of the House of Representatives. Mr. Pope is a proud father, husband and grandfather of four wonderful grandchildren. Before joining this Body in 2010, he served the state in law enforcement and also the 16th Circuit as our Solicitor. He has a proven track record of supporting law enforcement and he became *Pro Tempore*, back in 2014. In those ten years, he has exhibited fair-minded leadership, in the absence of our Speaker. So, I humbly ask for your support of my friend and colleague, Tommy Pope, for the position of Speaker *Pro Tempore*.

On motion of Rep. SESSIONS, nominations were closed, and with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

The SPEAKER appointed Reps. MOSS, GUFFEY, GILLIAM, HADDON, WETMORE and CLYBURN to escort the SPEAKER *PRO*

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TEMPORE-elect to the Desk where the oath of office was administered to him by the SPEAKER.

SPEAKER *PRO TEMPORE* POPE thereupon took the Chair and addressed the House as follows:

To the chagrin of the Ladies on the Desk, I never write down my speech, which as Murrell has pointed out, can make it a little bit longer, but I want to thank Sessions for that non-comical nomination. I appreciate it. So, I want to thank the Lord for what he has done in my life, what he has done for me and my family. I battle with depression sometimes. And you wouldn't think that Tommy the fun guy would battle with depression, but the most depressing thing is when you are depressed and you don't have nothing to be depressed about because God has blessed you so richly. I just want to say that I am blessed. Thank you to my family, thank you to the voters of House District 47, the members here voting for me here today and I want to thank Mr. Chumley. I want to thank Bill and his team for affirming that the Speaker *Pro Tempore* job is so powerless that it is not even worth running against anyone, so thank you.

I do want to congratulate my friend Bill. When I shared with the Freshman members, that when I first came, we had a contested Speaker race and John King, Nathan Ballentine, me and Gary and Ralph are gone, we were known as the Norman 5. I will say Mr. Chumley, that the Chumley 17 has a little better jive to it so I think we are making some progress here. I congratulate you for offering yourself. Particularly to the Freshmen, they always worry, nothing worse than a lawyer with a Bible, but this is my opportunity, and I always like to share this verse particularly with the Freshmen. Kim said today maybe I can come up with a new one, but this one is important. Philippians 2: 3-4, "Do nothing out of selfish ambition, or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. And that verse goes on to talk about how Christ was the equivalent of God, but he humbled himself. It is a tremendous honor to be elected in our community, but remember you are here to serve and not to be honored. So, I want to point out to all of us that it is important that we humble ourselves and remember that as we are working with each other.

With that being said, on my church theme, how many of you have been on a church committee? Okay, we are all Christians, and we can't agree on what color to paint the vestibules, so why do you suddenly think

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that 124 people from all around the state, representing all these different groups, are going to suddenly magically agree. That is the nature of our representative government and that is why we are here to try to work together, not to bulldoze over each other, but to hear all sides and work through our issues. But we can disagree. It is okay to disagree, but the one thing I have seen that I believe is getting worse and we need to work on, is disagreeing with the truth. I have seen us spiral down into half-truths. I mean just today there was a text, from my local area, complaining about Rules that we have not even started on. The best one was to vote for Bill Chumley for House Speaker today or I'll assume that you still remain on the side of the Satanic Deep State repeated by taking courageous action against evil. I don't have any doubt that whoever sent that, that it was heartfelt to them, but they are basing this on misinformation. Last year, I stood up here and I will do it again and say when you take a picture of the Board, are you doing it to educate your constituents or are you doing it because you are trying to get a one up on somebody? Within a day, that had been turned into, "Leadership said that you cannot take a picture of the Board." That is just not true. If you want to differ, there is no problem with that, but let's differ in truth. I remember one time there was a member, whose spouse was going to be in the balcony, that day. It was a contested election. The spouse was late, therefore, there was not room for her to be seated in the balcony. By the time we arrived home, it was transformed into the Speaker prevented that Spouse from sitting in the balcony. It just wasn't true and the member knew that it was not true. And we were talking to a group of people back home and I said tell them that I was there and that was not what happened. He said that I should not worry about that. We have got to quit letting these fires on both sides, all sides, we have to quit letting these fires of misinformation burn up the time and energy for the work we could do to get done for the people that we were sent here to serve.

I think that this will help us all, actually the late Judge Frank Epps, everybody that has practiced law that ever knew Judge Frank Epps, knows that if I start telling Frank Epps stories, we will be here all day. But he actually sent me this back 30 years ago when I was trying the Smith case in Union, and it has gone from Susan the Monster to why would Susan be prosecuted at all, because Poor Susan. And Judge Epps sent me this quote from Abraham Lincoln: "If I were to try to read, much less answer, all the attacks made on me, this shop may well be closed, for any other business. I do the very best I know how, the very best I can and I mean to keep doing so until the end. If the end brings me out

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alright, what is said against me won't amount to anything. If the end brings me out wrong, ten angels swear I was right, would make no difference." That is what we need to do here. Quit battling the voices of social media and half-truths and slights. Let's focus on doing our work here.

My final verse, going to Kim, as she told me to mix it up, I want to share with you "Do not conform, Romans 12:2, to the pattern of the world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." We don't have to be like everybody else, we don't have to be the torch and pitchfork crowd, we don't have to burn things down. We can do the things for the good of the people that the Speaker delineated for us today. And I pledge to you that to the best of my ability, I am going to work to get that done. So as we work here in the coming months, let us renew our minds. If we disagree, let us disagree in truth. Let us find commonality for the benefit of the people that we represent. And to paraphrase what Mrs. Cobb Hunter said, so many times from this same podium, let us govern. It is an honor to be here and I look forward to working with every single one of you. Thank you very much.

ELECTION OF THE CLERK

The SPEAKER announced that nominations were in order for the Clerk of the House.

Rep. CASKEY nominated MR. CHARLES F. REID of Columbia as follows:

I rise today to nominate a man with unmistakable flare for the dramatics who can best be described as eccentric. Who posts some of the craziest stuff on social media. Oh wait, this is the wrong person. I am here today, dear Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to nominate Mr. Charles Reid, to once again serve as the Clerk of the House of Representatives. Now I know what you are all thinking, Charles Reid needs no introduction, but as the saying goes, "Why use 10 words when you can use 679." Born and raised in the Palmetto State, Charles is the son of Rev. and Mrs. George E. Strait and the late Rev. William C. Reid. Charles and his wife, the former Miss Taj Burnside have three daughters, Callie, Emily and Lilly. He has lived all over South Carolina but spends most of his life here in Richland county. In fact, he and his family reside in Columbia. He is a proud graduate of Dreher High School and a proud graduate of Wofford College, where he didn't just succeed,

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he excelled, graduating Magnum Cum Laude and earning membership in Phi Beta Kappa. As you heard earlier from our Speaker, Wofford College is where the Speaker and Charles met and as has often been the joke during these nomination speeches, they came to know each other and neither would have suspected that the other would have brought them here together as the “Oddest Couple in South Carolina Politics” with collectively the “Biggest Heads Imaginable at this date.” That is particularly funny to me as a big-headed person now Chair. Charles is a South Carolinian, as Sweet Tea and SEC Football, well Southern Conference, that is. After Wofford, Charles took his talents to the University of South Carolina School of Law where he earned his degree with honors. He is a member of the prestigious Order of the Whig and Robe, which for those that are unfamiliar with it, is both a legal honor society and a mood board for a Renaissance Fair. Charles has had a legal career as varied as the issues that we debate here in the House of Representatives. He has handled Administrative Law, Regulatory Law, Criminal Prosecution, Civil Litigation and Constitutional Law. He has appeared in Federal and State Courts and has argued nearly two dozen cases before the South Carolina Court of Appeals and the South Carolina Supreme Court. And while I cannot confirm this, I would suspect that he has even argued his way out of a speeding ticket or two. Since the OJ Simpson trial began in 1995, Charles has been an active part of this Institution, serving not just as the Clerk of the House, but also as Chief of Staff and Legal Counsel to the Speaker, and as Chief Staff Attorney for Legislative Redistricting and as Legal Counsel to the House Rules Committee, the House Ethics Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee. In 2004, back when Facebook was invented, Charles was first elected to the position he now holds as Clerk of the SC House of Representatives. And as you know, it is in this position, that he oversees the daily Legislative Administrative Research and Legal Services that we all utilize on a regular basis. Charles is also the person who can help you if you want to understand the Rules of this Chamber. Although, and what will surely disappoint some, he is less fluent in made-up, nonexistent, Pelosi-style rules. Charles, you see, is grounded in the real world. In fact, for 20 years Charles has taught

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a class at the University of South Carolina School of Law called the “Legislative Process.” But fear not, dear colleagues, you don’t have to actually know anything about the legislative process unlike the students do there, and Charles will remain available to you at any point with questions as they arise. In any event, I did want to know that some of those students have gone on to staff positions in the House and in varied government agencies. Some have become lobbyists, and a few have even taken the plunge into elected service themselves. Charles is not just a teacher, he is a cultivator of Public Service. Charles Reid is more than a Clerk, he is the steady hand that keeps this ship from veering off course, most of the time. He loves this Institution, the people who work here and the mission that we serve. And that, Mr. Speaker, is why it is my pleasure to nominate Charles Reid for another term as the Clerk for the South Carolina House of Representatives. Thank you.

On motion of Rep. CASKEY, nominations were closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

The oath of office was administered to him by the SPEAKER.

ELECTION OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS

The SPEAKER announced that nominations were in order for the Sergeant at Arms.

Rep. MITCHELL nominated MR. MITCHELL G. DORMAN as follows:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I rise today to speak about a man who is an institution in this body, our Sergeant at Arms, Mitchell Glen Dorman. I was honored and a little surprised when Mitch asked me at breakfast back in the summer if I would nominate him for reelection as our Sergeant at Arms. Most nomination speeches talk about one’s qualifications, but that would only take thirty seconds as Mitch has only had one job for the last 42 years. To put his tenure in perspective, Mitch has served this chamber for four more years than I have been alive.

Now we all love Mitch, but I have a different relationship with Mitch than all other members because not only is Mitch my friend, but he is

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my constituent. Thus, I want to take this opportunity to educate the membership a little bit about our beloved Boo Boo.

So the new members may be asking themselves now, what is a Boo Boo? The easy answer would be to say he is a 6'1" man who is often lurking by the main entrance to the chamber, but I think we need to go a little deeper than that.

So I pose the question, what is a Boo Boo? To answer this question, we have to start in the little town in Lancaster county known as Kershaw, South Carolina. Yes, Kershaw is located in Lancaster county which I know is confusing, but we will save that for another day. Most don't know that a lot of the House staff is either from Kershaw, lives in Kershaw, or has familial ties to Kershaw.

In Kershaw you will hear names like Turkey, Moose, Hoppy, a man named Kevin Sims who knows everything and if you don't believe it, just ask him. There is also another man named Bryant Neal who put up over six thousand campaign signs to run unopposed for county council, but there is only one Boo Boo. Boo Boo can be found most mornings at the front circle table of the 521 Filling Station eating bacon, runny grits, and solving the world's problems. There is a standing invite to come join us on Friday mornings, but I'll warn you to wear Muck boots because it gets pretty deep, real early.

Boo Boo does have qualifications. He's a pretty good driver and can often be found dodging bullets between Kershaw and Sumter. Boo Boo also always knows when the "Hot n Ready" sign is on at any Krispy krème doughnut shop he is near. Doughnuts are normally on him because he's going to eat at least half of them. Boo Boo also is an honorary chief at Harrah's Cherokee in North Carolina. I don't know what one has to do to accomplish that title, but he's definitely treated like royalty up there. Boo Boo is also the head of the Lancaster County Volunteer SWAT team. They've never been deployed into action, but if anything major goes down, he's on the scene.

Boo Boo is also always just a phone call away. 24/7, he's available. That's 24 hours a week, seven months out of the year. Outside of that, call Tyler.

In all seriousness, the members in this body do not have a better friend than Boo Boo. He is always just a phone call away. He is quick to respond and happy to serve. The unwavering commitment and high standards which Mitch sets are evident in the officers he selects to serve alongside him. He and his staff are true law enforcement professionals. They are dedicated and loyal to all members of the House, regardless of party, position, or length of service. Under Mitch's leadership, each

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member of this body is treated with the utmost professionalism and respect. We are truly thankful for all of our dedicated officers who serve with our Sergeant at Arms.

Speakers may come and go, but Boo Boo is forever. Thus, Mr. Speaker, at this time, it is my honor and pleasure to place the nomination of Mitchell Glen “Boo Boo” Dorman for Sergeant at Arms for the South Carolina House of Representatives. I move that the nominations be closed, and Mitch be elected by acclamation.

On motion of Rep. MITCHELL, nominations were closed and, with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

ELECTION OF THE READING CLERK

The SPEAKER announced that nominations were in order for the Reading Clerk.

Rep. J. L. JOHNSON nominated MR. JAMES L. MANN CROMER, JR., as follows:

Good morning, Speaker. I arise today to nominate somebody who really needs no introduction. This is a man who will not only sing with you but will sing to you. I arise to nominate a man who has welcomed us into his home and opened up his doors. A person who has not only fed us, but he has also housed us and served us, he houses the least of these and he feeds the least of these.

When we have those days that we are here, closed off for budget, somebody who not only makes sure that we are doing okay, but somebody who actually brings snacks to us. This is an unselfish leader of the State of South Carolina. I am so proud and humble to have this opportunity to stand before you to nominate South Carolina’s only true Independent. An individual who has the

ability to call a middle-aged white woman, Shanenee, and it be received as a term of endearment, to be received in love. Back when I was 16 years old, I was living in a motel and I was hungry and going through some situations. I went to school one day and my teacher found out that I was going through, the trials and tribulations, and she came to school the next day with a bag full of toiletries, soap, shampoo and things. I cannot remember everything that she said to me, but I can remember how she made me feel, and this is exactly what James L. Mann

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Cromer “Bubba” does for us. We don’t always remember what he says to us, but we always remember how he makes us feel. And he has made us all feel so special, so welcomed, so loved in this General Assembly, and I am honored and humbled and proud to stand before you today to say that I want to nominate my friend, James L. Mann “Bubba” Cromer for Reading Clerk again for another term. I ask that the nominations be closed and that he be elected by acclamation. Thank you.

Rep. MOSS requested a roll call resulting as follows:

The yeas and nays were taken resulting as follows:

Yeas 88; Nays 13

Those who voted in the affirmative are:

Alexander	Anderson	Atkinson
Ballentine	Bamberg	Bannister
Bauer	Beach	Bernstein
Bradley	Brewer	Brittain
Bustos	Calhoon	Caskey
Clyburn	Cobb-Hunter	Collins
B. L. Cox	Crawford	Davis
Dillard	Erickson	Forrest
Gagnon	Garvin	Gatch
Gibson	Gilliam	Govan
Grant	Guest	Guffey
Hager	Hardee	Hart
Hartnett	Hartz	Hayes
Henderson-Myers	Herbkersman	Hewitt
Hiott	Hixon	Holman
Hosey	Howard	J. L. Johnson
W. Jones	Jordan	King
Kirby	Landing	Ligon
Lowe	Luck	Martin
McDaniel	McGinnis	Mitchell
Montgomery	J. Moore	T. Moore
Murphy	Neese	B. Newton
W. Newton	Oremus	Pope
Reese	Rivers	Robbins
Rose	Rutherford	Schuessler
Sessions	G. M. Smith	M. M. Smith

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Spann-Wilder	Stavrinakis	Taylor
Teeple	Weeks	Wheeler
Whitmire	Williams	Wooten
Yow		

Total--88

Those who voted in the negative are:

Bailey	Bowers	Harris
Long	Magnuson	McCabe
McCrary	T. A. Morgan	Moss
Pace	Rankin	White
Wickensimer		

Total--13

Whereupon, James L. Mann "Bubba" Cromer was duly elected as the Reading Clerk of the House.

STATEMENT FOR JOURNAL

I was temporarily out of the Chamber during the vote to elect the Reading Clerk of the House. I would like for the record to show that I would have voted for Bubba Cromer as Reading Clerk.

Rep. Spencer Wetmore

ELECTION OF THE CHAPLAIN

The SPEAKER announced that nominations were in order for the Chaplain.

Rep. WHITE nominated Rev. Charles E. Seastrunk, Jr, of Columbia, as follows:

Thank you, Mister Speaker.

I rise to nominate the Reverend Charles E. Seastrunk to be chaplain of the 126th session of the South Carolina House of Representatives.

Sixty-nine years ago, Reverend Seastrunk graduated from Newberry College. That fall, in November 1955, he married the love of his life, Sarah.

What an adventure Charles Seastrunk and his help meet have enjoyed. With Sarah by his side, Reverend Seastrunk received his Master of Divinity from tie Lutheran-Southern Seminary in 1958.

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In 1979, Charles earned his Master of Arts Degree from Pepperdine University. He served in the National Guard for ten years and as a chaplain in the United States Air Force for an additional twenty years. It is my sincere honor to nominate the Reverend Charles E. Seastrunk as our Chaplain for the 126th South Carolina House of Representatives session.

I ask that the nominations be closed, and Reverend Seastrunk be elected by acclamation.

On motion of Rep. WHITE, nominations were closed, and with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominee.

OFFICERS SWORN IN

The SPEAKER administered the oath of office to the Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Mitchell G. Dorman, the Reading Clerk, Mr. James L. Mann Cromer, Jr., and the Chaplain, Rev. Charles E. Seastrunk, Jr.

HOUSE RESOLUTION

The following was introduced:

H. 3000 -- Rep. G. M. Smith: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE A PROCEDURE FOR ALLOTING SEATS TO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE 2025 AND 2026 SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The Resolution was adopted.

ALLOTMENT OF SEATS

The SPEAKER then announced that the House would proceed to the allotment of seats, the names of the counties being drawn from a container by Mr. Kaleb Josiah Carter, a student at the Center of Knowledge North, and son of Mr. Lewis Carter, Research Director of the House Legislative Oversight Committee.

ALLOTMENT OF SEATS

Alexander	31	Anderson	32
Atkinson	100	Bailey	86
Ballentine	37	Bamberg	16
Bannister	69	Bauer	106
Beach	25	Bernstein	107

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Bowers	4	Bradley	123
Brewer	60	Brittain	104
Burns	71	Bustos	74
Calhoon	36	Caskey	39
Chapman	41	Chumley	59
Clyburn	94	Cobb-Hunter	15
Collins	17	Cox, B.J.	72
Cox, B.L.	44	Crawford	116
Cromer	34	Davis	51
Dillard	66	Duncan	55
Edgerton	21	Erickson	124
Forrest	1	Frank	11
Gagnon	40	Garvin	96
Gatch	48	Gibson	8
Gilliam	113	Gilliard	47
Gilreath	35	Govan	77
Grant	63	Guest	117
Guffey	24	Haddon	70
Hager	111	Hardee	102
Harris	19	Hart	108
Hartnett	80	Hartz	12
Hayes	101	Henderson-Myers	109
Herbkersman	119	Hewitt	14
Hiott	5	Hixon	3
Holman	45	Hosey	46
Howard	62	Huff	18
Johnson, J.E.	105	Johnson, J.L.	76
Jones, W.	67	Jordan	114
Kilmartin	26	King	79
Kirby	30	Landing	75
Lawson	7	Ligon	43
Long	58	Lowe	115
Luck	92	Magnuson	20
Martin	52	May	56
McCabe	82	McCrary	9
McDaniel	78	McGinnis	103
Mitchell	122	Montgomery	23
Moore, JA	28	Moore, T.	22
Morgan, T.A.	57	Moss	6
Murphy	61	Neese	88
Newton, B.	89	Newton, W.	120

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Oremus	13	Pace	43
Pedalino	83	Pope	42
Rankin	112	Reese	29
Rivers	33	Robbins	49
Rose	90	Rutherford	91
Sanders	54	Schuessler	87
Sessions	64	Smith, G. M.	Rostrum
Smith, M.M.	50	Spann-Wilder	97
Stavrinakis	99	Taylor	2
Teeple	81	Terribile	53
Vaughan	73	Weeks	85
Wetmore	98	Wheeler	84
White	27	Whitmire	110
Wickensimer	65	Williams	35
Willis	68	Wooten	38
Yow	121		

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER granted Rep. PEDALINO a leave of absence for the remainder of the day.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER granted Rep. MURPHY a leave of absence for the remainder of the day.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER granted Rep. ANDERSON a leave of absence for the remainder of the day.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The SPEAKER granted Rep. J. MOORE a leave of absence for the remainder of the day.

Rep. FORREST moved that the House recede until 3:00 p.m., which was agreed to.

THE HOUSE RESUMES

At 3:00 p.m. the House resumed, the SPEAKER *PRO TEMPORE* in the Chair.

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POINT OF QUORUM

The question of a quorum was raised.
A quorum was later present.

SPEAKER IN CHAIR

HOUSE RESOLUTION

The following was introduced:

H. 3001 -- Rep. G. M. Smith: A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE 2025 AND 2026 SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the following rules are adopted as the Rules of the House of Representatives for the 2025 and 2026 Sessions of the General Assembly:

“Rule 1

The Speaker

Speaker Pro Tempore

1.1 The Speaker shall take the chair on every legislative day precisely at the hour to which the House adjourned at the last sitting, immediately call the members to order, cause prayer to be said, the Journal of the previous proceedings to be corrected, and if a quorum be present, proceed to other business.

1.2 The Speaker shall preserve order and decorum pursuant to the rules of the House of Representatives, and, in case of disturbance or disorderly conduct in the galleries, or in the lobby, may cause the same to be cleared. The Speaker shall take measures to strictly enforce the provisions of House Rule 3.6 and will ensure that every member takes his seat, acts with decorum at all times, refrains from disrespect to the institution of the House or the Senate and to all personalities, observes decency of speech, and confines himself to the question under consideration when the House is in session. Any person guilty of contempt of the House may be ordered into custody by the House and

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dealt with as it deems proper.

1.3 If any member, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the Rules of the House, the Speaker shall call him to order, or any member may call such transgressions to the attention of the Speaker who shall call the transgressor to order. If repeated cries of order are ineffective, the Speaker may call a member by name, and if the Speaker deems it necessary, he shall state the offense committed. The member may be heard in his exculpation and shall withdraw, and the House shall consider his punishment or any further proceedings to be had.

1.4 The Speaker shall sign all acts, joint resolutions, memorials, writs, warrants, and authorizations for payment or other papers authorized by the House.

1.5 The Speaker shall decide all points of order, subject to an appeal by any member, and he may require the member raising a point of order to cite the rule or other authority in support of the question. A member may withdraw a point of order the member has raised. Upon appeal, no member shall speak more than once and for no longer than twenty minutes each, except by permission of the House.

1.6 The Speaker may vote in all cases (except when he may be personally or pecuniarily interested). If the House be equally divided, the question shall be decided in the negative. The presiding officer may give information or explain any matter before the House; he may speak on points of order in preference to other members, and as often as he may deem necessary, but he shall not enter into any debate or endeavor to influence any question before the House while presiding. Provided, the Speaker, in his discretion, may address the body concerning matters of importance to the House.

1.7 The Speaker shall be elected on the opening day of the organizational session by the membership of the House. Pursuant to this rule a person elected Speaker may not serve more than five consecutive terms in that office.

1.8 The Speaker *Pro Tempore* shall be elected on the opening day of the organizational session and shall preside in the absence of the Speaker. If a conflict of interest arises involving the Speaker and the performance of his duties the Speaker *Pro Tempore* shall perform the

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duties of the Speaker to the extent that the conflict of interest exists. *Provided*, the Speaker or the Speaker *Pro Tempore*, whoever may be presiding at the time, may name a member to preside, but such substitution shall not extend beyond an adjournment. In the absence of the Speaker and the Speaker *Pro Tempore* for more than one day, the House may elect a Speaker *Pro Tempore* to serve until the return of the Speaker or Speaker *Pro Tempore*. When the Speaker *Pro Tempore* is absent for more than three consecutive statewide legislative days, the House of Representatives may elect an acting Speaker *Pro Tempore* who shall serve until the return of the Speaker *Pro Tempore*. The acting Speaker *Pro Tempore* may continue to serve on any committee to which he has been appointed.

1.9 All committees shall be appointed by the Speaker, unless otherwise provided for by rule or by law, except Senatorial and Gubernatorial appointees and *ex officio* members of the House. The Speaker shall name the members constituting each committee in alphabetical order. The Chairman shall be elected by the respective committees during the organizational session. If any subsequent vacancy shall occur in a committee's chairmanship, the election of a new committee chairman shall take place at the time and date to be set by the presiding officer of the respective committee. The committees may at their discretion elect a Vice-Chairman and such other officers as they may choose.

Provided, when appointing members to a Committee on Conference or Free Conference, the Speaker shall consult with the majority and minority political party leaders and appoint at least one member of the minority political party represented in the House.

1.10 The Speaker is responsible that all amendments ordered by the House be correctly made and that the attention of the House be called to all amendments made by the Senate since the matter was before the House. All Senate amendments to matters previously considered by the House and all House amendments to matters previously considered by the Senate shall, after adoption, be printed by use of distinctive type interlineation in such a manner as to reflect in one text the original version and the language of the amendment.

1.11 If the Speaker or Speaker *Pro Tempore* resigns from such position, he shall submit his resignation to the Clerk of the House in writing. This procedure shall be followed in the case of the resignation

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of any elected officer of the House.

1.12 In case of emergency, the Speaker has the authority, when, in his opinion, it is impractical or dangerous to hold a regularly scheduled session(s) of the House of Representatives, to declare the body adjourned to some other time. Such actions are to be taken only in times of great emergency including, but not limited to, natural disasters, severe weather, and Acts of God.

When, due to great emergency or through inadvertence, the House is adjourned without provision for the next meeting, the Speaker may issue a call specifying the time for the next meeting.

1.13 Section 2-3-110 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, designates the Speaker of the House as the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives, and as such, the Speaker is authorized to initiate or otherwise participate in litigation on behalf of the House. The Speaker shall comply with the applicable rules of civil procedure in the relevant jurisdiction when taking action on behalf of the House.

Rule 2

Elected Officials

Clerk, Reading Clerk, Chaplain, and Sergeant At Arms

2.1 The Clerk shall be elected by the membership of the House for a term of two years. This election will take place on the opening day of the organizational session.

2.2 The Clerk of the preceding session shall, at the beginning of the organizational session of the House, call the members to order, proceed to call the roll of members in alphabetical order, and pending election of a Speaker, Speaker *Pro Tempore*, or temporary officers, preserve order and decorum, and decide all questions of order subject to appeal by any member. The duties of this section may be delegated by the Clerk to any member of the House.

2.3 The Clerk shall cause to be kept a correct Journal of the proceedings of the House, and this Journal shall be numbered serially from the first day of each session of the Legislature. He shall not permit

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any books or papers belonging to the House to be taken out of his custody other than in the regular course of business and then upon receipt when he deems necessary. He shall report any missing papers to the Speaker.

2.4 The Clerk of the House shall cause to be prepared and laid on the desks of the members every morning an itinerary of the day's business to be called the Calendar. This Calendar shall include the orders of the preceding day and all continued matters arranged according to priority, and numbered from the commencement of the session, every matter being introduced and newly numbered after every new order upon it.

2.5 The Clerk shall assist, under the direction of the Speaker, in taking roll call or division votes.

2.6 The Clerk shall issue all pay certificates for *per diem* and mileage and incidental expenses upon the order of the Speaker, the signature of the Speaker being attested by the Clerk. The Clerk shall also attest to all writs and warrants and to the passage of all bills, resolutions, and memorials.

2.7 The Clerk shall prepare in writing and send all messages to the Senate and elsewhere as ordered by the House.

2.8 The Clerk shall also be charged with the duty of having executed, in a prompt and accurate manner, all the printing required by the Rules or orders of the House.

2.9 The Reading Clerk shall be elected by the membership of the House for a term of two years. This election will take place on the opening day of the organizational session.

2.10 The Reading Clerk shall read all papers to be read at the desk, which the Speaker may direct him to read and shall assist in taking any roll call votes at the Speaker's direction. Upon ordering of a roll call vote, or upon a quorum call, the electronic roll call system is to be used following the procedure of Rule 7.3. When the electronic roll call system is not operating in any manner, the Reading Clerk shall call the roll and take the names of all who vote 'aye' and all who vote 'nay' which shall be entered in the Journal and the provisions of Rule 7.3 shall not apply. If, during the course of an ordered electronic roll call, the electronic roll system malfunctions, in such a manner that the number of

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aye votes and the number of nay votes are recorded but the names of the members so voting are not recorded, the vote shall stand, and any member desiring to publish a record of his individual vote may submit a statement which shall be printed in the House Journal. If, during the course of an ordered electronic roll call, the electronic roll call system malfunctions in such a manner as to record no accurate information as to the vote totals, the question shall be resubmitted and the Reading Clerk shall call the roll of the members as hereinabove specified.

Provided, however, in the case of a malfunction in the electronic roll call where the roll call to be taken is mandated by the Constitution or Statutes, any malfunction will void the roll call and it will be retaken.

Provided, that whether the ayes and nays are taken by electronic roll or otherwise, they shall be recorded by the Clerk in the Journal.

2.11 The Chaplain shall be elected by the membership of the House for a term of two years. This election will take place on the opening day of the organizational session.

2.12 The Chaplain shall provide spiritual guidance for the membership of the House.

2.13 The Sergeant at Arms shall be elected by the membership of the House for a term of two years and shall be under the direct supervision of the Speaker of the House. This election will take place on the opening day of the organizational session.

2.14 The Sergeant at Arms shall assist the Speaker in maintaining order and decorum.

2.15 The duties of the Sergeant at Arms, shall be as provided for in Chapter 3 of Title 2, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended.

2.16 The Sergeant at Arms may designate, subject to the approval of the Speaker, other staff members of the House to assist the Speaker and the Sergeant in performing such duties as they may direct, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Title 2, Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976.

Rule 3

Members and Membership

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3.1 Every member shall be within the House Chamber during its sittings unless excused or necessarily prevented, and may vote on each question put, except that no member shall be permitted to vote on any question immediately concerning his private rights as distinct from the public interest.

3.2 The Speaker may excuse any member from attendance on the House and its committees for any stated period upon reason shown, and such excused absence shall be noted in the Journal.

3.3 Any member absenting himself from attendance on the House or its committees and having in his possession any original papers relating to the business before the House, shall leave such original papers with the Clerk before departing from the Capitol.

3.4 Any member who enters after the roll call at the opening of the daily session and notifies the Clerk in writing shall thereafter be shown as present for such day. *Provided*, that no person except those recorded present shall be eligible for subsistence for that day.

3.5 In cases of contest for a seat in the House, notice setting forth the grounds of such contest shall be given by the contestant to the House within three calendar days after the House first convenes, and in such case, the contest shall be determined by majority vote as speedily as reasonably possible.

3.6 When the House is called to order, every member shall take his seat and shall act with decorum at all times when the House is in session. Every member, when about to speak, shall rise from his seat and respectfully address himself to 'Mr. Speaker' and shall avoid disrespect to the House or the Senate and all personalities, observe decency of speech, and shall confine himself to the question under consideration.

The Speaker, when duly addressed by a member, shall hear from the member who, in the Speaker's opinion, shall arise first, by identifying the member. The Reading Clerk shall not turn on any member's microphone until the Speaker has recognized that person.

3.7 (Reserved)

3.8 No member shall speak more than twice on the same question without leave of the House, except merely to explain his meaning, even

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if the debate on the question should be continued for many days. In the case of a matter requiring more than one reading, this limitation applies separately to each reading, *provided*, however, notwithstanding that a matter may move from the uncontested to contested Calendar or vice versa within the same reading, the limitation applies to the entire reading. If a member has the floor and is addressing the body, he shall not lose the floor by asking a question of any member of the body.

3.9 If any member shall be absent without leave and a quorum is not present, the Speaker shall instruct the Sergeant at Arms or appoint other authorized persons to send for such member or members and take them into custody. The outer doors to the Chamber shall be closed. The Speaker shall order that security personnel shall be posted at the outer doors of the Chamber and no member shall be permitted to leave the second floor of the State House without written leave of the Speaker. The Speaker may also order that security personnel be posted at all entrances to the State House to prevent members from leaving without authorization. An absent member who is taken into custody after the invocation of this rule shall pay for all reasonable expenses incurred which shall include mileage at the prevailing rate for state employees. In addition, such absent member who is taken into custody shall forfeit his entitlement to subsistence and mileage for that legislative day and shall be subject to any additional penalties the Speaker deems necessary. Should a quorum be present and ten members request, such absent member or members shall be sent for as herein provided and subjected to the same penalties. The Speaker shall strictly enforce the provisions of this rule. *Provided*, however, in the case of a member not being present when Rule 3.9 is invoked and such member voluntarily returns without being taken into custody, he shall not be subject to the penalties of this section. The invocation of this rule may be rescinded by a majority vote of those present and voting.

3.10 As soon as practicable, after the House has been organized, the seats of the members shall be allotted as follows:

The Clerk shall prepare a ballot for each county with only its name printed on it. These shall be put in a closed box. The Speaker shall then direct a person or persons to draw them out, one by one. As each ballot is drawn, the delegation from that county shall select their seats, in accordance with the county in which the member resides. In the event a member's district consists of more than one county, the member may elect to be seated with the delegation the member desires, provided the

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member indicates the preference to the Clerk of the House prior to balloting. No delegation may select more than one seat on the main aisle.

3.11 As soon as practicable, after the House has been organized, office space of members must be allotted as follows:

Each member shall be assigned an office in the Blatt Building on the basis of their seniority in the House. A member who has served in the immediately preceding session shall have first preference on retention of his previously assigned office. The House Operations and Management Committee is authorized to make necessary adjustments in the assignment of office space with the consent of the Speaker when necessary.

The provisions of this rule do not apply to office space for the Speaker, Speaker *Pro Tempore*, Chairman of the Rules Committee, Chairman of the Invitations and Memorial Resolutions Committee, Chairman of the Interstate Cooperation Committee and Chairmen of any other standing committees or any other caucus having assigned space in the Blatt Building.

Provided, further, each member shall be assigned a parking space in the parking facility on the basis of their seniority in the House. A member who has served in the immediately preceding session shall have first preference on retention of his previously assigned parking space.

3.12 (Reserved)

3.13 Each legislative caucus occupying office space in the Blatt Office Building may pay to the Clerk of the House of Representatives an amount, determined by the Clerk, for the use of office space by each caucus. Each caucus may also pay an amount for use of state-owned office related equipment including, but not limited to, copying services, computer equipment, and software and related connection charges for internet access and telephone equipment and service. Each legislative caucus may make payment for equipment and services in the manner to be determined by the Clerk.

Rule 4

Committees

4.1 Committee appointments: see Rule 1.9.

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4.2 As soon as practicable after the members have been sworn in and have taken their seats, the following Standing Committees, except the House of Representatives Legislative Ethics Committee, and the House of Representatives Committee on Operations and Management, shall be appointed with the indicated number of members appointed thereto:

1. Committee on Ways and Means – 25.
2. Committee on the Judiciary (Privileges and Elections) – 25.
3. Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs (Fish, Game, Forestry, State Parks, Rural Development, Environmental Affairs) – 18.
4. Committee on Education and Public Works (Education, Highways, State House and Grounds, Railroads, Aviation) – 18.
5. Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs (Medical Affairs, Social Security, Penitentiary, State Hospital, Police Regulations, Military Affairs, Veteran’s Affairs) – 18.
6. Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry (Labor, Commerce and Manufacturing, Banking and Insurance, Merchants and Mercantile Affairs) – 18.
7. Committee on Rules – 15.
8. Committee on Interstate Cooperation (membership limited to 5, under 1976 Code, Sec. 1-17-30) – 5.
9. Committee on Regulations, Administrative Procedures, Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity - 13.
10. Committee on Legislative Oversight (Oversight and Review of Government Operations and Accountability, SC Code of Laws Section 2-2-5 et seq.) - 20.
11. House of Representatives Legislative Ethics Committee – 10.
12. Committee on Invitations and Memorial Resolutions (Invitations, Resolutions memorializing the Federal or State

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Government or any official or agency thereof, sympathy, and congratulatory Resolutions) – 5.

13. Committee on Operations and Management of the House of Representatives (Advisory to the Speaker on personnel, administration and management of facilities, including management of the Blatt Building) – 8.

Each member shall serve on one and only one of the first six Standing Committees listed above. However, a member of these Committees may also serve on any one of the following Committees: Committee on Regulations, Administrative Procedures, Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity, Committee on Legislative Oversight, Committee on Rules, Committee on Interstate Cooperation, Committee on Ethics, Committee on Invitations, or Committee on Operations and Management of the House of Representatives. The Speaker, Speaker *Pro Tempore*, and Clerk shall serve as *ex officio* members of the Committee on Operations and Management of the House of Representatives but no chairman of any other standing committee shall serve as a member of such committee.

Provided, that a minimum of two members from each of the first six Standing Committees listed above shall be appointed to the Committee on Regulations, Administrative Procedures, Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity.

Provided, that the members of the Committee on Operations and Management of the House of Representatives (advisory to the Speaker on personnel, administration and management of facilities), and the members of the House of Representatives Legislative Ethics Committee, shall be elected by the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, their terms to be coterminous with their respective term of office. The Committee on Operations and Management of the House of Representatives shall consist of eight members. Four members of the committee shall be members of the majority party represented in the House of Representatives and four members shall be members of the minority party represented in the House of Representatives or be nonaffiliated with any party or another party not in the majority. The Chairman of the Committee on Operations and Management of the House shall be one of the four members of the committee from the majority party represented in the House to be elected by the members of the committee. Other officers of the committee are not required to be affiliated with a particular party.

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Provided, that the Committee on Education and Public Works shall be deemed to be the Committee on Education, and the Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs shall be deemed to be the Committee on Military Affairs and the Committee on Medical Affairs, in all cases where the statutes provide for the Chairman of these committees to perform *ex officio* duties.

Provided, that the Committee on Operations and Management of the House of Representatives with the consent of the Speaker may formulate such policies as it deems advisable relating to House personnel. Such policies shall be distributed to the members and must be adopted by majority vote of the House by House Resolution.

Provided, that except as herein provided neither the Speaker nor Speaker *Pro Tempore* shall be a member of any of the foregoing Standing Committees.

No member shall be appointed on a committee before he has been sworn in and has taken his seat. Any member who is sworn in after the general announcement of the committee shall, within a few days afterward, be placed by the Speaker on a Standing Committee whose number of members will not thereby be extended beyond the number provided in these rules.

After a committee has been appointed, no addition to it or change shall be made, except to fill a vacancy or to remove a member for conduct unbecoming a member.

Provided, that in filling a vacancy, the assignment of any member may be changed from another committee to fill such vacancy.

4.3 Unless otherwise ordered, committees shall have jurisdiction only over matters pertaining to the subjects indicated by the names of the respective committees, and to the subject matter indicated in parenthesis following the names.

4.4 Committees shall meet regularly to consider pending legislation in the room assigned for their use by the Speaker or as otherwise authorized by this rule. Notice of date, time, and place of such meetings shall be posted on the legislative website and displayed in the lobby on each floor of the Solomon Blatt Building. A committee should give a minimum of twenty-four hour advance notice for all committee meetings. Provided, however, in case of necessity due to exigent circumstances, the Speaker, in his sole discretion, may waive the twenty-four hour advance notice requirements herein. Committee chairmen must notify the committee members of all meetings. Failure of notice of

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any meeting shall not invalidate committee action unless bad faith is shown. No committee shall meet while the House is in session without special leave by the Speaker. *Provided*, however, that the Committee on Rules and any committee of conference or free conference, may sit at any time and may report its message to the House at any time.

A Committee may provide, pursuant to its own rules, for the Chairmen to designate alternative meeting arrangements and procedures. *Provided*, however, the Chairman may only implement alternative meeting arrangements and procedures in the event that extraordinary circumstances including, but not limited to, natural disasters, severe weather, and Acts of God, render them necessary. The alternative meeting arrangements and procedures must:

(1) provide for public observation or participation as required by House Rules and the provisions of Title 30, Chapter 4 of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended;

(2) provide both a video and audio component that is publicly accessible; and

(3) record the meeting, in its entirety, and make the recording available on the General Assembly website, as soon as practicable following the meeting.

No committee shall sit unless a quorum be present and all bills introduced by committees must carry the statement of the Chairman that the bill has the approval of two-thirds of the membership of the committee, except that the State Appropriations Bill, the Supplemental Appropriations Bill, a Rescission Bill, and the Deficiency Appropriations Bill may be introduced by a majority vote of the Ways and Means Committee.

No committee shall introduce a bill pertaining to subject matter over which it has no jurisdiction.

Notice in writing of all committee action taken on a bill or resolution shall be given to the principal author thereof.

No statewide bill directly appropriating money shall be considered by the House until after such bill has been referred to the Ways and Means Committee, *provided*, however, a statewide bill which directly or by implication provides for *per diem*, subsistence or mileage in connection with the subject matter of the bill, but does not otherwise directly appropriate money, shall not be required to be referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

After the House sets a bill for Special Order pursuant to Rule 6.3, no point of order may be raised regarding its reference to committee, however, the House by majority vote may commit or recommit a bill or

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other matter under debate.

No committee action shall be taken on a bill or resolution except at a regular or called meeting, but this shall not apply to resolutions referred to the Committee on Invitations and Memorial Resolutions.

When any standing committee or subcommittee schedules a public hearing on a bill or resolution, the principal sponsor of such bill or resolution shall be notified of the time and place of such hearing not less than five calendar days prior to the hearing date.

4.5 All meetings of all committees shall be open to the public at all times, subject always to the power and authority of the Chairman to maintain order and decorum with the right to go into Executive Session as provided for in the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act, Title 30, Chapter 4 of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended. *Provided*, a legislative caucus as defined by Section 2-17-10 of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended, and its meetings are not subject to the provisions of Title 30, Chapter 4 of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended.

No committee shall file a report unless the committee has met formally at an authorized time and place with a quorum present. All standing committees of the House shall prepare and make available for public inspection, in compliance with Section 30-4-90 of the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended, the minutes of full committee meetings. Such minutes need not be verbatim accounts of such meetings but shall include those matters required by the above mentioned Freedom of Information Act.

4.6 After twenty days from the date of reference, the Chairman of the Committee in possession of a measure shall, upon written request of a sponsor or, in the case of a Senate measure, a House member, set a time for consideration of the measure by the full committee or subcommittee which shall be no later than seven legislative working days thereafter. *Provided*, however, that a member may request consideration of a bill or resolution pursuant to this rule only one time per bill or resolution during a legislative session.

4.7 a. Each report of a committee shall contain the action of the committee on the bill or other measure being transmitted. Such report shall certify the action by the committee and shall be signed by an officer of the committee.

b. When reporting a Senate bill as favorable, the committee may

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include in its report an amendment identical to the final version of any House bill that has been referred to that committee and passed by the House during the current two-year session. If the amendment is identical to a previously passed House bill, the amendment must be considered germane to the bill.

4.8 Any bill, report, petition, or other paper except an amendment which may come before the House, may be committed or recommitted before a final decision thereon. *Provided*, further that the Speaker shall commit to a committee any bill, joint resolution, or concurrent resolution returned from the Senate with an amendment that has so materially changed the bill that the bill's contents, as amended by the Senate, are no longer substantially germane to the bill, joint resolution, or concurrent resolution as it passed the House. Such bill, joint resolution, or concurrent resolution may be reported out of the committee with its recommendation and shall be placed on the Calendar under the heading of Senate Amendments. If not amended, it shall be enrolled as an act and ratified. If said bill, joint resolution, or concurrent resolution shall be amended, it shall be returned to the Senate at the conclusion of the process as a House amendment. *Provided*, the provisions of this rule may be dispensed with by a two-thirds vote of the membership present and voting of the House, a quorum being present.

4.9 In all cases the House may resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole. The motion to resolve the House into a Committee of the Whole shall specify the subject(s) to be considered in the Committee of the Whole. In the event the House resolves itself into a Committee of the Whole, the Committee of the Whole shall limit discussion to the subject(s) specified in the motion. The Speaker shall leave the Chair after appointing a Chairman to preside, who shall, in case of disturbance or disorderly conduct, have the power to cause same to be cleared. No bill or resolution may be considered by the Committee of the Whole House, except by a two-thirds vote, unless same has first been considered by the appropriate Standing Committee of the House.

4.10 The Committee of the Whole shall consist of the entire body of members in attendance at the particular meeting of the House. Such committee is a real committee in the parliamentary sense. During the time that a meeting of the Committee of the Whole is held, it is technically not 'the assembly'.

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4.11 The Rules of the House so far as they are applicable shall be observed in a Committee of the Whole, the Chairman being substituted for the Speaker.

4.12 No Committee of the Whole or other committee shall deface or interline a bill or other paper, referred to it, but shall report any amendments recommended on a separate paper, noting the page and line.

4.13 No person shall be permitted to address the House or the Joint Assembly except by written resolution, and such resolution shall be referred to the Committee on Invitations and Memorial Resolutions before being considered by the House. The Committee shall not extend an invitation to any individual or group to address the House or the Joint Assembly unless such person or group is of significant national or state prominence at the time the invitation is extended and will bring a message of major importance to the State or such individual or group will present an artistic performance during the established hours of meeting.

Any invitations extended to the House as a whole to attend any functions shall be submitted to the Committee on Invitations and Memorial Resolutions at least 10 days in advance in order that it may determine what legislation or other pertinent matters may be pending before the House and its Committees before the invitation is accepted. The House shall accept no invitations to any functions other than a breakfast or luncheon prior to 6:00 p.m. Pages are not permitted to attend such functions. No invitations to functions for the House as a whole will be accepted during the week anticipated for the debate of the State Appropriations Bill.

4.14 No member of a committee shall be allowed under any circumstances to vote by proxy.

4.15 None of the House Rules shall be rescinded, suspended, or altered, except by written resolution which has been referred to the Rules Committee, or originates therein, and agreed to by two-thirds of the members of the House present after the committee has made its report. *Provided*, that any rule may be amended by a simple majority of the House during the month of January of each year.

4.16 A. The House of Representatives Legislative Ethics Committee (Committee) consists of ten (10) members. The ten members of the

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House of Representatives Legislative Ethics Committee shall be elected by the members of the House. Five members of the committee shall be members of the majority party represented in the House of Representatives and five members shall be members of the minority party represented in the House of Representatives or be nonaffiliated with any party or another party not in the majority. The Chairman of the Ethics Committee shall be one of the five members of the committee from the majority party represented in the House to be elected by the members of the committee. Other officers of the committee are not required to be affiliated with a particular party and shall be elected by members of the committee as well.

B. Jurisdiction

(1) The committee shall have jurisdiction over individuals and entities pursuant to Chapter 13, Title 8.

(2) No matter shall be considered later than four years after the violation allegedly occurred.

(3) No complaint may be accepted by the Ethics Committee concerning a member of or candidate for the House during the fifty-day period before an election in which the member or candidate is participating.

C. Duties

The committee shall:

(1) ascertain whether a person has failed to comply fully and accurately with the disclosure requirements of this Chapter 13, Title 8, which may include, but are not limited to, an audit of filed reports and applicable campaign bank statements, and to promptly notify the person to file the necessary notices and reports to satisfy the requirements of this Chapter 13, Title 8;

(2) receive complaints or allegations concerning any person under the jurisdiction of the committee alleging a violation of Chapter 13, Title 8 or Chapter 17, Title 2 and refer any complaint except for a complaint regarding a violation of the rules of the House of Representatives to the State Ethics Commission (commission) for investigation in compliance with Sections 8-13-530 through 8-13-550;

(3) upon a majority vote of the members of the committee initiate a complaint concerning any person under the jurisdiction of the committee alleging a violation of Chapter 13, Title 8 or Chapter 17, Title 2 and refer the complaint for investigation to the commission except for a complaint concerning a violation of the rules of the House of Representatives;

(4) cause to be investigated any complaints or allegations

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regarding a violation of the rules of the House of Representatives or technical violation;

(5) upon request of any member, officer, or employee of the House render committee advisory opinions with regard to legislative ethics when, in its judgment, these opinions would serve the public interest. Such advisory opinions shall serve as binding precedent for the committee until specifically altered or withdrawn;

(6) act as an advisory body to the House and to individual members of or candidates for the House on questions pertaining to Chapter 13, Title 8 or Chapter 17, Title 2;

(7) issue through its staff a written informal advisory opinion, based on real or hypothetical sets of circumstances, to a person or entity within the committee's jurisdiction upon that person's or entity's request. If an informal advisory opinion is raised as a defense in response to a complaint, the committee shall consider whether the respondent is the person who requested the informal advisory opinion or is a member of the entity that requested the informal opinion. The committee also shall consider the accuracy of the facts presented in the informal advisory opinion and determine whether the respondent relied in good faith upon the written informal advisory opinion. The committee shall consider this information prior to making a probable cause determination;

(8) administer or recommend appropriate sanctions or dismiss charges as the result of a properly filed complaint including a complaint which has been investigated by the commission;

(9) ascertain whether a person has failed to comply fully and accurately with the disclosure requirements of Chapter 13, Title 8 and promptly notify the person to file the necessary disclosures to satisfy the requirements and assess and collect any fines or fees authorized by state law for the failure to timely file a disclosure statement; and

(10) recommend a rule or statutory change relating to ethics as the committee deems appropriate.

D. Complaints and Investigations

(1) Complaints must be verified in writing and state the name of the person alleged to have committed the violation and the particulars of the violation.

(2) When a complaint is filed with or by the committee, a copy must be sent to the person alleged to have committed the violation, the respondent, and to the commission for investigation, except for a complaint alleging a violation of the rules of the House of Representatives, within thirty days from the date the complaint was filed.

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(3) If the committee determines that the complaint regarding a violation of the rules of the House of Representatives alleges facts sufficient to constitute a violation, an investigation shall be conducted into the alleged violation.

(4) Upon the initiation of an investigation by the committee, pursuant to Rule 4.16D.(3) the committee shall notify the respondent of what matters it intends to investigate and the respondent shall have the opportunity to submit a written response to any complaint or allegations being investigated within thirty days of being notified by the committee. Any complaint referred to the commission by the committee will be handled in accordance with Sections 8-13-530 through 8-13-550.

(5) After the investigation of a complaint referred to the commission and the commission subsequently provides a report to the committee with a recommendation that there is probable cause to believe a violation of Chapter 13, Title 8 or of Chapter 17, Title 2 has occurred, the committee may then concur or nonconcur with the commission's recommendation, or within forty-five days from the committee's receipt of the report, submit a request to the commission to continue the investigation in order to review information previously received or consider additional matters not considered by the commission.

(6) If, after reviewing the commission's recommendation and relevant evidence, the committee determines that there is not competent and substantial evidence of a violation of Chapter 13, Title 8 or of Chapter 17, Title 2 has occurred, the committee shall dismiss the complaint and send a written decision to the respondent and the complainant. The notice of dismissal must be made public if the commission made a recommendation that probable cause existed.

(7) If, after reviewing the commission's recommendation and relevant evidence, the committee determines that the respondent has committed only a technical violation pursuant to Section 8-13-1170 or 8-13-1372, then the provisions of the appropriate section apply.

(8) If, after reviewing the commission's recommendation and relevant evidence, the committee determines that there is competent and substantial evidence that a violation of Chapter 13, Title 8 or of Chapter 17, Title 2 has occurred, except for a technical violation of Section 8-13-1170 or 8-13-1372, the committee shall, as appropriate:

(a) render an advisory opinion to the respondent and require the respondent's compliance within a reasonable time; or

(b) convene a formal public hearing on the matter.

(9) The committee may obtain its own information, or request additional investigation by the commission, if it needs additional

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information to make a determination as to whether or not competent and substantial evidence of a violation exists.

(10) The committee may compel testimony and issue subpoenas for the procurement of witnesses and materials including books, papers, records, documents, or other tangible objects relevant to its investigation by approval of the chairman or a majority of the committee membership, subject to judicial enforcement as provided by law. The committee may administer oaths and affirmation for the testimony. A person to whom a subpoena has been issued may move before the committee for an order quashing a subpoena issued pursuant to this rule.

(11) If the committee determines that assistance is needed in conducting an investigation, the committee shall request the assistance of appropriate agencies.

(12) If the committee determines that there is no probable cause it shall dismiss the complaint.

(13) The committee shall refer any matters, regardless of a finding of probable cause, that are violations of law not under its jurisdiction to the appropriate law enforcement or regulatory agency.

E. Formal Public Hearings

(1) All formal public hearings of the committee must be open to the public subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (Chapter 4, Title 30).

(2) The investigator or attorney handling the investigation concerning a violation of the rules of the House of Representatives or a technical violation for the committee shall present the evidence related to the complaint at any public hearing and shall not serve as counsel to the committee during the hearing.

(3) The investigator or attorney handling the investigation for the commission shall present the evidence related to the complaint to the committee.

(4) It is the duty of the investigator or attorney to further investigate the subject of the complaint and any related matters under the jurisdiction and at the direction of the committee, to request assistance from appropriate state agencies as needed, to request authorization from the committee for funds for the hiring of auditors, investigators, or other assistance as necessary, to prepare subpoenas, and to present evidence to the committee at any public hearing.

(5) The respondent must be allowed to examine and make copies of all evidence in the committee's possession relating to the charges. At the hearing the respondent must be afforded appropriate due process protections, including the right to be represented by counsel, the right to

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call and examine witnesses, the right to introduce exhibits, and the right to cross-examine opposing witnesses. The committee shall issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses requested by the respondent pursuant to these rules.

(6) The committee may deliberate in executive session but must render its findings of fact and issue any sanctions in a public hearing.

F. Sanctions

(a) If the committee finds the respondent has committed a violation within the committee's jurisdiction it shall:

(1) administer a public reprimand;

(2) determine that a technical violation as provided for in Section 8-13-1170 or 8-13-1372 has occurred;

(3) require the respondent to pay a civil penalty not to exceed two thousand dollars for each nontechnical violation that is unrelated to the late filing of a required statement or report or failure to file a required statement or report;

(4) require the forfeiture of gifts, receipts, or profits, or the value of each, obtained in violation of Chapter 13, Title 8 or Chapter 17, Title 2;

(5) recommend expulsion of the member;

(6) provide a copy of the complaint and accompanying materials to the Attorney General if the committee finds that there is probable cause to support the existence of criminal intent on the part of the respondent when the violation occurred;

(7) require a combination of items (1) through (6) as necessary and appropriate.

(b) The committee may levy an enforcement or administrative fee on a person found in violation or who admits to a violation, pursuant to Title 2 or Title 8, to reimburse the committee for costs associated with the investigation and hearing of a violation as provided in Section 8-13-130.

(c) The committee shall report its findings in writing to the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The report must be accompanied by an order of punishment and supported and signed by a majority of the Ethics Committee members. If the committee finds the respondent has not violated a code or statutory provision, it shall dismiss the charges.

(d) The complainant or respondent has ten days from the date of the notification of the committee's action to appeal the action to the full legislative body by written notice to the Speaker of the House.

G. Confidentiality

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(1) Complaints are not considered a public record until there is a recommendation of probable cause by the commission unless the Respondent, in writing, waives the right to confidentiality.

(2) Upon a recommendation of probable cause by the commission for a violation, other than a technical violation pursuant to Section 8-13-1170 or 8-13-1372, the following documents become public record: the complaint, the response by the respondent, and the commission's recommendation of probable cause.

(3) If the appropriate committee requests further investigation after receipt of the commission's report, documents only may be released if the commission's second report to the committee recommends a finding of probable cause.

(4) Upon the issuance of the final order after a public hearing, the following documents become public record: exhibits introduced at the hearing, the committee's findings, and the final order. Exhibits introduced must be redacted prior to release to exclude personal information when the public disclosure would constitute an unreasonable invasion of personal privacy.

(5) This Rule does not affect the release of confidential information pursuant to Section 8-13-725 of the Ethics Act.

H. General Provisions

(1) Unless otherwise indicated by rule or statute, all meetings, deliberations, actions, issuance of advisory opinions, debates, recommendations, and other activities of the committee are subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (Chapter 4, Title 30).

(2) In an instance when the statutory process of amending a required disclosure form cannot adequately correct an error or omission contained in the form, persons subject to the jurisdiction of the committee may request that the committee correct the original filing electronically. All requests must be made to the committee in writing, containing the specific error or omission to be corrected and an explanation as to why the statutory amendment process is not adequate. The request is considered public and must be supported by a vote of a majority of the committee to be carried out. The committee will maintain a record of requests made and changes made for no less than five years.

(3) Notwithstanding Section 8-13-1340, a member of the House shall not, directly or indirectly, establish, finance, maintain, or control any entity including, but not limited to, a noncandidate committee that receives or makes contributions as defined in Section 8-13-1300. This rule does not apply to a candidate committee or a legislative caucus committee.

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(4) The Clerk of the House shall, in consultation with the Chairman of the Ethics Committee, cause to be employed by the House of Representatives, counsel exclusively for the purpose of providing legal advice and counsel to the Ethics Committee. Counsel employed for this purpose shall not be employed by or with any office within the House of Representatives other than the office of the Clerk of the House.

4.17 The Standing Committees may order to be printed for their use such papers as shall be referred to them.

4.18 The House shall not resolve itself into Executive Session except under those circumstances permitted by the laws of this State, and then only upon a vote of two-thirds of the membership present and voting, a quorum being present. Upon resolving itself into Executive Session, the Halls of the House shall be cleared of all persons except the members of the House, the Clerk of the House and the Sergeant at Arms.

No action shall be taken which violates the Statutory Law of this State and when such action is permissible it shall only be taken upon a two-thirds vote of the membership present and voting, a quorum being present.

4.19 When a bill or resolution is reported out of a standing committee of the House of Representatives, a summary of the bill or resolution prepared by the staff of that committee, if such summary is available, may be made available to the members electronically. Each summary prepared by staff shall have the following language printed in bold capital letters at the top of the summary: 'THE BELOW CONSTITUTED SUMMARY IS PREPARED BY THE STAFF OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT THE EXPRESSION OF THE LEGISLATION'S SPONSOR(S) OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. IT IS STRICTLY FOR THE INTERNAL USE AND BENEFIT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED BY A COURT OF LAW AS AN EXPRESSION OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT.'

4.20 All Committees and subcommittees shall order a roll call vote, with the yeas and nays recorded in the minutes, on the questions of adopting a bill or joint resolution with a favorable report.

4.21 A special Ad Hoc committee not otherwise referenced in these

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rules may be created by resolution or upon order of the Speaker. The resolution or Speaker's order creating the Ad Hoc committee shall specify the subject matter of the committee, the number of members to be appointed thereto, the mode in which the committee shall be appointed, and the time of its appointment. The resolution or order may specify a reporting date for the committee, dictate the contents and subject matter of the report, and may set a termination date for the committee's duties and operations. The procedure in an Ad Hoc committee is the same in all important particulars as procedure in standing committees as set forth in these rules.

Provided, further, standing committee chairmen may, upon the order of the chairman or motion of the standing committee create a special Ad Hoc committee concerning subject matter within the standing committee's jurisdiction. Such Ad Hoc committee is restricted to the membership of the standing committee.

Rule 5

Bills, Resolutions, and Reports

5.1 No notice shall be required of a member of his intention to introduce a bill or resolution. Bills and resolutions shall be referred by the Speaker of the House to the appropriate committee or committees which may then consider them at such times as the committee meets. Provided, however, the Speaker may delay referral of a bill or resolution for one statewide legislative day in order to review the legislation's subject matter content. Any matter acted upon favorably by any committee may be reported out by the committee when the House reconvenes and need not thereafter be sent to any committee but shall then be ready, upon compliance with other Rules of the House, for second reading consideration; *provided*, however, that bills appropriating revenue shall be referred to the Ways and Means Committee. *Provided*, further, that bills and resolutions creating study committees shall first be referred to the appropriate standing committee having jurisdiction of the subject matter of the bill or resolution.

The Speaker may establish procedures and dates for prefiling legislation prior to the first day of the convening or reconvening of the General Assembly. All bills received prior to the first day of the convening or reconvening of the General Assembly shall receive first reading on the first day of the session.

In those years in which all seats of the House are up for election, no

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bill shall be received for prefiling between the dates of adjournment *sine die* and the date of completion of the Organizational Session of the House.

When the House of Representatives is not in session and bills are being prefiled and assigned to committees, any member who wishes to have their name added as a sponsor of a bill may do so by notifying the Clerk of the House in writing. The Clerk shall then notify the Chairman of the committee to which the bill has been assigned and their name shall be added. If a member wishes to sponsor a bill individually then they shall so indicate on the face of the bill and no additional sponsors shall be allowed.

5.2 Every bill before presentation shall have its title endorsed; every report, its title at length; every petition, memorial, or other paper, its prayer or substance; and, in every instance, the name of the member presenting any paper shall be endorsed and the papers shall be presented by the member to the Speaker at the desk. A member may add his name to a bill or resolution or a co-sponsor of a bill or resolution may remove his name at any time prior to the bill or resolution receiving passage on second reading. The member or co-sponsor shall notify the Clerk of the House in writing of his desire to have his name added or removed from the bill or resolution. The Clerk of the House shall print the member's or co-sponsor's written notification in the House Journal. The removal or addition of a name does not apply to a bill or resolution sponsored by a committee.

And every bill or joint resolution which shall propose the amendment or repeal of any Section, Chapter, or Title of the General Statutes or of any Act of Assembly or joint resolution, shall, in its title express the subject matter of such section, chapter, title, act, or joint resolution so sought to be amended or repealed. If this is not complied with, the paper shall not be received by the Speaker and objection may be raised by any member to such improper introduction at any time prior to third reading that the bill or resolution is being considered by the House.

Every bill or joint resolution proposing to amend any section or clearly identifiable subdivision or portion of a section of any chapter of the General Statutes or of any Act of Assembly or joint resolution shall give the full text of the Section or clearly identifiable subdivision or portion of a Section as it would read with such amendment inserted therein. And if this latter clause of this rule is not complied with, the bill or joint resolution shall be amended so as to conform to this rule before it be considered by the House. Any member may require such amendment at

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any time a bill or resolution not in conformance herewith is being considered by the House.

5.3 General Appropriations Bill and Supplemental Appropriations Bill

A. Certificate: Every General Appropriations Bill and Supplemental Appropriations Bill for the ordinary expenses of State Government before presentation shall have attached thereto a certificate from the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office stating that the total of the appropriations therein provided for is not in excess of the estimated total revenue of the State for such purposes, including that revenue which may be provided for in the bill, or in any other bill previously passed by the House for the fiscal year to which the bill is applicable, and an Appropriations Bill without such certificate shall not be read the first time in the House, but shall be returned to the Committee on Ways and Means by the Speaker. After passage on second reading and before its consideration on third reading, every General Appropriations Bill, and every Supplemental Appropriations Bill shall have attached thereto a certificate from the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office that the total of the appropriations therein provided is not in excess of the estimated total revenue of the State for such purposes, including that revenue which may be provided in the bill, or in any other bill previously passed by the House for the fiscal year to which the bill is applicable, and if the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office cannot give such certificate, the Speaker shall order the bill recommitted to the Ways and Means Committee.

B. Germaneness and Amendments: The General Appropriations Bill and Supplemental Appropriations Bills may include both temporary and permanent provisions of law.

1. The principal effect of all temporary provisions of law and amendments thereto must be directly germane to the appropriation of funds, affecting revenue, or be rules, regulations, directives, or procedures relative to the appropriation of funds or affecting revenue for the fiscal year referred to in the bill.

2. The principal effect of all permanent provisions of law and amendments thereto must be directly related to and expressly germane to the purpose of an appropriation being made or revenue provided and

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require a vote of three fifths of the House members present and voting.

3. An amendment which has the effect of appropriating or reducing funds in excess of one million dollars during the fiscal year stated within the bill shall include within the amendment the corresponding appropriation reduction(s) and/or revenue increase(s) within the same section that shall fully fund the amendment's proposed appropriation(s) or revenue reductions(s) or have attached to it in writing an explanation of the specific appropriation reduction(s) and/or revenue increase(s) from the different section(s) that shall fully fund the amendment's proposed appropriation(s) or revenue reductions. Provided, if an amendment identifies unspent projected revenue or balance as the funding source, the Speaker must consult with the Office of Revenue and Fiscal Affairs and confirm the existence of sufficient unspent revenue or balance before the House may consider the amendment.

4. No amendments thereto may temporarily or permanently add, amend, repeal, or alter a portion of the general permanent tax laws of South Carolina.

5. Nothing in this paragraph prohibits the temporary suspension of any permanent law.

The provisions of this paragraph shall be narrowly and strictly construed with regard to all provisions of and amendments to the General Appropriations Bill and Supplemental Appropriations Bills.

C. Report of Conference of Committee:

1. The following requirement applies to the report of the Conference Committee on the Annual Appropriations Bill: Any provision offered for inclusion in the Annual Appropriations Bill which increases or decreases the most recent official projection of general fund revenues of the Board of Economic Advisors may not be included in the bill or recommendation unless the revenue impact is certified by the Board of Economic Advisors. Changes to the official general fund revenue estimate as a result of such provisions may not exceed amounts certified by the Board of Economic Advisors. This requirement is in addition to other provisions of law regarding fiscal impact statements.

2. Any part, section, or division of a conference report concerning the General Appropriations Bill or Supplemental Appropriations Bills

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must comply with the germaneness requirements of this rule. Provided, further, any part, section, or division of a conference report concerning the General Appropriations Bill or Supplemental Appropriations Bills which amends, adds, or repeals a portion of the general permanent laws of South Carolina may only be included in any conference report or concurred in as a Senate amendment by a vote of three-fifths of the House members present and voting.

D.Format of Appropriations Bill: All State Appropriations Bills must be printed at the following stages in their passage so that:

1. The House Ways and Means Committee version of the Appropriations Bill must include the amounts recommended by the Ways and Means Committee.

2. The House version of the Appropriations Bill must include the amounts recommended by the Ways and Means Committee and the amounts passed by the House.

3. The Report of Conference or Free Conference Committee must include the amounts passed by the House, the amounts passed by the Senate, and the amounts agreed upon by the Conference Committee.

4. The Appropriations Act must include total funds approved for the next fiscal year and a listing of appropriations from the General Fund.

5. Provided, further, that:

a. the full salary of the principal officer of each department, agency, or institution shall be set forth as an item distinct and apart;

b. minor budget classifications or other descriptive terminology may be used when necessary to better express the purpose of the appropriation;

c. where the major portion of the operating funds to any department, institution, or principal operational division thereof is derived from Federal or other nonappropriated funds, the total appropriation for each major budget classification may be shown, and the relative contributions of State and nonappropriated funds therefor shall be shown as completely as possible; and

d. the appropriations must be in conformity with the program budget format as adopted by the Ways and Means Committee.

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E. Any bill or resolution considered by the House of Representatives, upon second reading, that raises revenue must conform to the provisions of Article III, Section 15 of the South Carolina Constitution.

F. Earmark Projects and Programs: For purposes of this section:

1. ‘Appropriations bill’ means the annual general appropriations bill, a supplemental appropriations bill, the joint resolution appropriating revenues of the capital reserve fund, a bill appropriating contingency reserve fund revenues, bond bills, or any other bill appropriating state revenues while under consideration by the House Ways and Means Committee or Senate Finance Committee or any subcommittee of it and any free conference committee on an appropriations bill. For purposes of this definition, a bill includes a joint resolution.

2. ‘Earmark project or program’ means an appropriation for a specific program or project not originating with a written agency budget request, executive budget recommendation, or not included in an appropriations act from the prior fiscal year.

3. Each request for an earmark project or program included in an appropriations bill must be memorialized in writing on a form designed by the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. The form must include the member’s name who requested the earmark project or program, an explanation of the earmark project or program requested, and such other information as the form may require. The form must be filed with the House Ways and Means Committee.

4. Each request for an earmark project or program included in the House Ways and Means Committee version of an appropriations bill must be listed on a separate document prepared by the appropriate committee and placed on the members’ desks before beginning debate of the appropriations bill on second reading. The document must include the members’ name requesting the earmark project or program, a brief description of the earmark project or program request, and such other information as the form may require and must be posted on the General Assembly’s website.

5. An earmark project or program request made while an appropriations bill is in the Senate and is included in the report of a committee of conference must be listed on a separate document, similar to the form described in item 4., and placed on the members’ desks

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before beginning debate of the report of the committee of conference. The chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee is charged with providing this form to the House membership.

6. An earmark project or program request made while an appropriations bill is in a committee of free conference must be listed on a separate document, similar to the form described in item 4., and placed on the members' desks before beginning debate of the report of the committee of free conference. The chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee is charged with providing this form to the House membership.

7. If the provisions of this subsection are not followed in reference to an individual earmark project or program, a two thirds vote of the membership present and voting is required to include the earmark project or program in the appropriations bill or the report of the committee of conference or free conference.

G. The Annual General Appropriations Bill must be considered section by section on second reading, and when the pending question is the adoption of an individual section, the yeas and nays must be taken by roll call and the votes on it must be recorded by name in the Journal except when the House agrees to a section by unanimous consent.

5.4 No bill or amendment providing an appropriation to pay a private claim against this State or a department thereof shall be introduced or considered.

5.5 No bill or joint resolution shall be introduced as a delegation bill or resolution unless such bill or resolution relates only to local matters concerning the county which such delegation represents.

5.6 Except as provided in subsection 5.1, the first reading of the bill shall be by title only. No amendments shall then be in order and the bill shall be referred to some committee, unless the House unanimously agrees, without debate, to dispense with reference. *Provided*, a request to dispense with reference to committee shall not be in order unless the call of the roll of the House has been taken that day and the Speaker has determined a quorum to be present.

5.7 Upon the second reading of a bill, after all amendments and

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motions have been disposed of, the question shall be the passage of the bill. Upon a decision in the affirmative, the order shall be made accordingly and the bill shall take its place on the Calendar for third reading.

5.8 At the third reading of a bill, the bill shall be read by its title only.

If the bill originated in the House, the question then shall be the passage of the bill. On a bill which originated in the Senate, if no amendment has been made by the House, the question shall be the passage of the bill and in the case of an affirmative vote, the title 'Bill' shall be changed to an 'Act' and the act shall be enrolled for ratification.

If the bill has been amended in the House, the question shall be the passage of the bill, as amended, and in the event of an affirmative vote, the bill, as amended, shall be returned to the Senate.

5.9 All bills and resolutions reported by a committee shall, as a matter of course, be printed, together with the report of a committee. A bill or joint resolution shall be reprinted following its second reading, if amended by the House, reflecting the substance of the bill in its amended form. Every committee report which amends the provisions of legislation referred to such committee shall give the full text of the section or clearly identifiable subdivision or portion of a section as it would read with such amendment inserted therein. If this rule is not complied with, the committee report shall be amended so as to conform to this rule before the bill or joint resolution is considered by the House. This shall be the responsibility of the committee chairman.

5.10 No local bill or joint resolution shall receive a second reading unless its number and title shall have been printed in the House Calendar at least one day prior to such reading. *Provided*, that no statewide bill or joint resolution shall receive a second reading unless its number and title shall have been printed in the House Calendar at least one statewide legislative day prior to such reading unless said bill or resolution has been set for Special Order consideration as provided for by Rule 6.3(15)(b). *Provided*, further, no General Appropriations Bill or Supplemental Appropriations Bill for the ordinary expenses of the State Government shall receive a second reading unless printed copies of such Appropriations Bill shall have been laid on the desks of members at least three legislative days prior to second reading.

5.11 Any bill, resolution, report, or other paper which has been under

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consideration, may, at the Speaker's discretion, be ordered to be printed for distribution to the members.

5.12 No bill or joint resolution from the Senate shall be considered unless received by April tenth in the House. Provided, such bill or joint resolution shall be placed on the Calendar for further consideration if two-thirds of those members present and voting agree to waive the rule. Any bill or joint resolution failing to receive the required vote shall be returned to the appropriate committee. Once voted on and rejected, no further vote shall be allowed to waive this rule.

The motion to waive this rule shall not be debatable, except that the mover shall have the right to make a three-minute explanation of his motion.

The provisions of this rule shall apply only to regular sessions of the General Assembly as opposed to special sessions of the General Assembly.

The Speaker shall enforce the deadlines provided by this rule and shall not allow consideration without putting the question of waiver before the House.

5.13 Each bill effecting the expenditures of money by the State or directly affecting state revenues shall, prior to receiving second reading, have attached to it in writing such comment of the appropriate state official or office as may appear appropriate regarding the bill's effect on the finances of the State. Each committee amendment that substantially changes a bill effecting expenditures of money by the State or directly affecting state revenues, prior to the bill receiving second reading, shall have attached to the committee amendment such comment of the appropriate state official or office as may appear appropriate regarding the committee amendment's effect on the finances of the State. Provided, however, this rule shall not be invoked where the amount is shown in the bill.

Committee chairmen shall satisfy these requirements of a fiscal impact statement prior to the bill receiving second reading.

5.14 No report of a Committee on Conference or Free Conference, except on a *Sine Die* Resolution or local matters, shall be considered until such report has been printed in the House Journal and explained by the conferees on the floor of the House.

Provided, no report of a Committee on Conference or Free Conference concerning the General Appropriations Bills, Supplemental

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Appropriations Bills for the ordinary expenses of State Government, or legislation appropriating the Capital Reserve Fund, shall be considered until such report has been made available online to the public for at least twenty-four hours.

The provisions of this paragraph may be specifically dispensed with by a two thirds vote of the members present and voting of the House, a quorum being present.

5.15 The printing of any document required to be printed under the Rules of the House may specifically be dispensed with by two-thirds vote of the membership present and voting of the House, a quorum being present; *provided*, such vote shall be by division vote; *provided*, however, the printing of any bill which has not been referred to committee shall not be waived.

5.16 Should any member seek immediate consideration of any House or Concurrent Resolution, the resolution shall receive immediate consideration unless five members object. If immediate consideration of such resolution is not sought, or in the event five members do object where immediate consideration is sought, the resolution shall be referred to an appropriate committee and shall not be considered by the House until after the committee has made its report and at that time shall take its place on the Calendar. *Provided*, however, a House or Concurrent Resolution concerning *Sine Die* Adjournment under Article III, Section 21 of the South Carolina Constitution and Section 2-1-180 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, shall receive immediate consideration, which shall include the motion to commit or recommit.

A House or Concurrent Resolution sponsored by a committee shall receive immediate consideration if so requested by a member unless five members object, in which case it shall take its place on the Calendar without the necessity of being referred to a committee. Such resolution shall be printed in the same manner as is prescribed in Rule 5.9 for the printing of bills.

Provided, however, the Clerk shall prepare forms for House Resolutions expressing the sympathy or congratulations of the members of the House. Any member wishing to sponsor such a resolution shall forward in writing on a form prepared by the Clerk information sufficient to prepare the resolution. The Speaker shall sign the resolution on behalf of the membership. Such resolutions shall not be read to the House or printed in the Journal except upon the request of ten members. The Speaker may refer any such resolution to the Committee on Invitations

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and Memorial Resolutions and, in such event, the resolutions must be approved by the committee or if the committee recommends, by the House.

When the roll of the House is added by unanimous consent to a House or Concurrent Resolution, the Clerk of the House shall maintain possession of such resolution until noon on the following legislative day. A member of the House who does not wish to have his name included on a House or Concurrent Resolution when the roll of the House is added by unanimous consent may request, on a form provided by the Clerk, that his name be removed from the resolution. The Clerk shall remove the member's name from such resolution if the request is received by noon on the following legislative day. After such time, a member who was not present when the roll of the House was added by unanimous consent to a House or Concurrent Resolution, shall be permitted to add a written statement, in less than two hundred words, in the appropriate journal stating that had the member been present in the chamber, he or she would not have voted in favor of the resolution.

5.17 (A) Upon the consideration of any statewide uncontested bill or joint resolution, an objection or request for debate by five (5) members at any time prevents the consideration of the statewide bill or resolution and it then must be placed upon the statewide contested Calendar and remain on it until one (1) or more objections or requests for debate are formally withdrawn from the floor, and if there are not further objections or requests for debate entered at that time so that the total number of outstanding cumulative objections or requests for debate is less than five (5) or more, the statewide bill or resolution shall then receive immediate consideration if there is any time remaining in the applicable period for that statewide day for that bill or resolution.

(B) Upon the consideration of any local uncontested bill or joint resolution, an objection or request for debate by three (3) members at any time prevents the consideration of the local bill or resolution and it then must be placed upon the local contested Calendar and remain on it until one (1) or more objections or requests for debate are formally withdrawn from the floor, and if there are not further objections or requests for debate entered at that time so that the total number of outstanding objections or requests for debate is less than three (3), the local bill or resolution shall then receive immediate consideration if there is any time remaining in the applicable period for that day for that local bill or resolution.

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5.18 If any bill or resolution shall be recommitted to a committee or referred to another committee retaining its place on the Calendar, the same may be listed on the Calendar by number only until it is returned to the floor for debate or such action as may be appropriate.

Any bill, resolution, or report upon which debate has been adjourned may be listed on the Calendar by number only until the date for consideration has been reached.

5.19 a. No member shall speak more than twice on the main question of a bill or resolution being considered for any reading and not longer than sixty minutes for the first speech nor longer than thirty minutes for the second speech, unless allowed to do so by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present and voting. No member shall speak more than twice upon an amendment or a motion to reconsider that is debatable and then not longer than ten minutes each time. However, if the previous question has been invoked, no member may speak more than twice on a motion to reconsider that is debatable and then not longer than the amount of time remaining for debate of the underlying motion; *provided*, that proposed amendments announced and introduced by the Reading Clerk shall be considered prior to a member speaking on the bill. No member shall speak more than twice on Senate amendments to a House bill and not longer than sixty minutes for the first speech nor longer than thirty minutes for the second speech, unless allowed to do so by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present and voting. The House may, however, by consent of a majority of the members present and voting suspend the operation of this rule during any debate on any particular question before the House.

Provided, each bill or joint resolution, prior to receiving second reading, must be explained for a minimum of ten minutes or until all questions from House members are addressed, whichever occurs first. The committee chairman of the committee to which a bill or joint resolution was referred, the committee chairman's designee, the sponsor(s) of the bill or joint resolution, and other members of the House may jointly explain the bill or joint resolution in order to provide the required explanation.

b. Subsection a. of this rule shall be applicable on a section-by-section basis on debate upon the General Appropriations Bill, the Supplemental Appropriations Bill, or the bond bills but shall not apply to bills on reapportionment.

c. The question of granting Free Conference Powers shall require an

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affirmative vote of two-thirds of the membership of the House and is not debatable. No member shall speak more than twice on the question of adoption of a Conference or Free Conference Report and not longer than sixty minutes for the first speech nor longer than thirty minutes for the second speech, unless allowed to do so by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present and voting. When the pending question is adoption of a Conference or Free Conference Report, the yeas and nays must be taken by roll call and the votes on it must be recorded by name in the Journal. Furthermore, the question of adoption of a Conference or Free Conference Report is subject to the provisions of Rule 8.6.

5.20 Notwithstanding the provisions of any other House Rule, no House or Concurrent Resolution memorializing the Congress of the United States, the President of the United States, or any state or federal department, agency, or official shall receive immediate consideration but shall be referred to the Committee on Invitations and Memorial Resolutions and shall remain in such committee unless three members of the committee vote to report the resolution out of committee. No such resolution may be recalled from committee.

5.21 (A) A member of the House may request that a bill or joint resolution under consideration for second reading be read aloud to the chamber. Provided, further, the bill or joint resolution must be read aloud before receiving a vote on the question of second reading.

(B) The member requesting that a bill or joint resolution be read aloud may withdraw the request and shall ask to be recognized in order to withdraw the request. No other request to read the bill or joint resolution may be entertained by the House. After a bill or joint resolution has been read aloud, any additional requests to read the same bill or joint resolution are out of order.

(C) A member who requests that a bill or joint resolution be read aloud must remain seated in their assigned seat in the House chamber while the bill or joint resolution is read. If the member making the request fails or refuses to remain seated in his assigned seat, the request to have the bill or joint resolution read aloud must be considered withdrawn. The Speaker shall enforce the provisions of this subsection.

(D) The Speaker will accept no motion other than the motion to adjourn while the bill or joint resolution is being read aloud, but the adoption of a motion to adjourn does not dispense with the requirement to comply with a request to read a bill or joint resolution pursuant to this

rule.

Rule 6

Daily Order of Business and Calendar

6.1 a. The House shall meet each legislative day at 12:00 Noon every Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. every Wednesday, and 10:00 a.m. every Thursday and Friday unless otherwise ordered by the House. *Provided*, that by motion made at any time the House by majority vote may fix the day and hour at which time the House shall next meet (not to exceed constitutional limitations) and this shall be decided without debate.

Provided, further, that during the first three weeks of the legislative session, unless a majority of the House members present object, on Wednesdays the House shall meet at 2:00 p.m. to provide time in the morning hours for committees to meet and hearings to be held.

Provided, further, that unless ordered otherwise, the House shall consider only local uncontested matters and bills and resolutions that have received unanimous consent for third reading on Friday of each week.

b. The Speaker, in his sole discretion, is authorized to call the House of Representatives into statewide session for the exclusive purpose of the introduction and referral of bills and resolutions and receipt and reading of communications and committee reports and to adjourn immediately thereafter with no roll to be taken. Any such action by the Speaker shall provide the specific date of the statewide session and shall provide that the House of Representatives must convene at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn not later than 10:30 a.m. on these days. *Provided*, that a statewide session held pursuant to this paragraph shall not be considered in calculating the provisions of Rules 5.10 and 9.1.

6.2 All questions as to priority of business or as to the time when any matters shall be considered or ordered for consideration and as to a departure from the regular order of business shall be decided without debate.

6.3 The following order of business shall be enforced every day by the Speaker, except that Special Orders as defined in subsection 14a of this rule shall be considered at the time and place set:

1. a. prayer;
- b. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of

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America;

2. corrections to the Journal;
3. receipt of communications including messages from the Senate;
4. reports of committees including Conference and Free Conference;
5. first reading of House resolutions, concurrent resolutions, committee reports on resolutions, joint resolutions, and bills upon the desk;
6. call of the roll of the House;
7.
 - a. consideration of local uncontested bills and joint resolutions on third reading;
 - b. consideration of local uncontested bills and joint resolutions on second reading;
8. Special introductions, recognitions, and announcements, the sum total of which may not exceed fifteen minutes with no more than eight special introductions, recognitions, or announcements, each one not exceeding ninety seconds. However, nothing contained herein limits the discretion of the Speaker to allow such special introductions, recognitions, and announcements during roll call voting as he deems appropriate;
9.
 - a. consideration of statewide uncontested bills and joint resolutions on third reading;
 - b. consideration of statewide uncontested bills and joint resolutions on second reading;
10. withdrawal of objections and requests for debate;
11. consideration of pending motions to reconsider;
12.
 - a. consideration of unanimous consent requests;
 - b. consideration of vetoes;
 - c. consideration of Senate amendments;
 - d. consideration of local contested bills and joint resolutions on

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third reading;

13. consideration of statewide contested bills and joint resolutions on third reading in the order in which they appear on the Calendar;

14. a. motion period;

b. consideration of local contested bills and joint resolutions on second reading;

15. consideration of statewide contested bills and joint resolutions on second reading in the order in which they appear on the Calendar;

a. Notwithstanding the order of business set forth in Rule 6.3 a matter may be set for Special Order for consideration on a particular day at a particular hour or at a particular place on the Calendar.

b. Special orders may be set for appropriations bills and local bills by majority vote of the House. Special orders on all other bills on the Calendar shall be set only by written resolution, which has been referred to the Rules Committee or originates therein, and agreed to by two-thirds of the members of that committee and agreed to by majority of the members of the House present after the committee has made its report; *provided*, however, that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 9 governing the amendability of bills and resolutions, no amendments may be offered to any Special Order resolution, which amendments do not pertain to the bill which is the subject of the Special Order resolution, except as to the time and date called for in such resolution.

Provided, that for the purpose of explaining any Special Order resolution the time limit for opponents shall not exceed five minutes and the time limit for proponents shall not exceed five minutes.

c. A Special Order set for a certain day and hour, not being considered by the House at the hour named, shall be transferred by the Clerk of the House to the Special Orders of the following day until disposed of, in the chronological order of original appointment.

Any member may insist upon a Special Order of the Day, or other Special Orders, until it be discharged.

d. The motion period provided for the daily order of business under Rule 6.3 shall be limited to ten minutes only.

Provided, however, that time consumed by roll call votes shall not be construed as part of time allotted to said motions period.

e. Consideration of uncontested local bills and joint resolutions on third and second readings as provided in subsection 7a and b of this rule shall be limited to a total of ten minutes only. Consideration of

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contested local bills and joint resolutions on second and third readings as provided in subsections 12b and 14b of this rule is limited to a total of ten minutes for second reading bills and joint resolutions and ten minutes for third reading bills and joint resolutions.

f. Consideration of uncontested statewide bills and joint resolutions on third and second readings as provided in subsection 8a and b of this rule shall be limited to a total of thirty minutes only.

g. No debate shall be allowed in the uncontested period, *provided*, however, the Speaker may recognize a proponent and opponent of any uncontested bill or joint resolution for a brief explanation of their position.

h. Consideration of unanimous consent requests as provided for in subsection 12 of this rule shall be limited to five minutes only. No unanimous consent requests except those unanimous consent requests dealing with the pending matter may be considered at any time other than during the time provided for in subsection 12 of this rule.

6.4 A debate interrupted by a simple adjournment shall afterwards be resumed at the point of interruption as if debate had been formally adjourned. A matter interrupted by a call for the Orders of the Day shall, after the Orders have been disposed of, be resumed at the point of interruption before any other question.

6.5 Messages may be received at any time while the door is open, except while a question is being put, or a ballot, or a *viva voce* vote is taken. A message shall be presented to the House by the Speaker when received, or afterwards, according to its nature, and the business in which the House is engaged, or its consideration may, on motion, be ordered by the House.

6.6 In all particulars not determined by these rules, or by the laws of the Constitution of this State, or of the United States, the practice of this House shall conform to its previous usage, or be guided by parliamentary law as it may be collected from the best authorities, *Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure* being the preferred parliamentary authority.

Rule 7

Voting

7.1 If, upon a question by acclamation, the Speaker doubts, or a

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division be called for, the House shall proceed with a division vote by voting on the electronic roll call board. If the electronic roll call board malfunctions, the Speaker shall proceed to call the division vote by voice vote. When division votes are made by use of the electronic roll call equipment, no individual votes shall be recorded. The Speaker shall state: 'The pending question is..... (designating the matter to be voted upon)'. The Speaker shall then unlock the voting machine and announce that voting will proceed. He shall then sound the bell. Thirty seconds after the announcement of the commencement of the vote on the board, the Speaker shall then announce that voting is closed and shall lock the machine and instruct the Clerk to tabulate the vote on the electronic roll call board. The Speaker shall then announce the result of the vote.

7.2 The House of Representatives shall take a roll call vote on second and on third reading when an amendment has been made on third reading for the following matters, whereupon the yeas and nays shall be ordered and shall be entered by name in the House Journal, the electronic roll call system shall be used, and the procedure provided for in Rule 7.3 shall be followed:

- (1) adoption of a Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of South Carolina;
- (2) adoption of legislation ratifying a proposed amendment to the Constitution of South Carolina;
- (3) adoption of a Bill or Joint Resolution establishing a fee or tax, raising an existing fee or tax, or reducing an existing fee or tax;
- (4) adoption of the Annual General Appropriations Bill and any individual section of it pursuant to Rule 5.3G;
- (5) adoption of a state or congressional reapportionment plan;
- (6) adoption of a Bill or Joint Resolution directly increasing or decreasing the salary, benefits, or retirement benefits of members of the General Assembly, elected officials of the Executive Branch, or members of the Judicial Branch;
- (7) adoption of a Bill or Joint Resolution amending the Ethics and Accountability Act or the Campaign Finance Act; and
- (8) adoption of a Conference or Free Conference Report pursuant to Rule 5.19c.

Provided, the House of Representatives shall take a roll call vote and shall enter the yeas and nays in the House Journal for the following questions:

- (1) a question for which the Constitution of South Carolina requires the yeas and nays to be recorded;

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(2) an election by the General Assembly or the House of Representatives except where the election is declared by unanimous consent to be by declaration;

(3) adoption of an amendment to the Annual General Appropriations Bill where the amendment directly effects the raising or spending of revenue in the amount of ten thousand dollars or more;

(4) a question of overriding or sustaining an Act returned by the Governor with objections;

(5) a question for which ten members of the House request a roll call vote; and

(6) a question of concurrence, nonconcurrence, or adoption of amendments to bills or joint resolutions returned to the House with amendments by the Senate.

7.3 a. When the House is ready to vote upon any question requiring the yeas and nays and the vote is to be taken by the electronic roll call system, the Speaker shall state: 'The pending question is..... (designating the matter to be voted upon)'. The Speaker shall then unlock the voting machine and announce: 'Roll call vote. Voting on the board'. He shall then sound the bell. Once the voting has begun, it shall not be interrupted, except for the purpose of questioning the validity of a member's vote before the result is announced.

b. Two minutes after the bell has been sounded, the Speaker shall ask the question: 'Have all members present voted?' After a pause, the Speaker shall then lock the machine and instruct the Clerk to tabulate the vote on the electronic roll call board. The Speaker shall then announce the result of the vote.

c. After the voting machine is locked, no member may change his vote and the votes of tardy members shall not be counted.

d. Subject to the provisions of Rule 2.10, the vote as electronically recorded on the roll of members shall not in any manner be altered or changed by any person.

e. No member shall vote for another member, nor shall any person not a member vote for a member. Any member who shall vote or attempt to vote for another member or a person not a member who shall vote or attempt to vote for a member may be punished in such manner as the House determines.

f. Any member or other person who wilfully tampers with or attempts to disarrange, deface, impair, or destroy in any manner whatsoever the electronic voting equipment or who destroys or changes the record of votes thereon shall be punished in such manner as the House determines.

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Provided, however, the minimum penalty for violation of Rule 7.3 shall be a public reprimand.

g. The Speaker *Pro Tempore* or a member who has been appointed by the Speaker to preside may designate another member to cast his vote on any question while he is presiding in accordance with his instructions from the Chair.

h. A member recorded as voting while absent from the Chamber shall present to the presiding officer an affidavit attesting to this fact. Any member may also report to the presiding officer his knowledge that another member was recorded as voting while absent from the Chamber. If the affidavit of the member whose vote is in question is presented within forty-eight hours of the vote, the presiding officer shall adjust the vote totals to reflect the affidavit and order action on the question in accordance with the adjusted vote total. If the member filing the affidavit or any other member has knowledge of the identity of the person who voted for him while absent, he shall present this information to the presiding officer who shall refer it to the Ethics Committee for consideration of any recommendation of punishment in accordance with this rule.

i. Each member shall be issued one electronic card by the Sergeant at Arms to activate the voting console on his desk to operate the electronic voting system. That card may not be duplicated by the member nor may a duplicate be issued to a member. The card must not be left in the voting console at any time while the member is not within the outer doors of the Chamber. If a member loses his card, a replacement will be issued by the Sergeant at Arms at the member's expense. If a member is temporarily without his card while the House is in session, the Sergeant at Arms will provide a temporary card to that member at the member's request for that day only and that card may not be removed from the House Chamber.

7.4 If the electronic roll call machine is declared by the Speaker of the House to be inoperative, the 'Yeas' and 'Nays' shall be taken by the Reading Clerk calling each member's name in alphabetical order and each member responding by answering simply: 'Yea' or 'Nay'. Each member who may be in the House when called may give his vote.

Provided, further, that when the electronic roll call system is being used to record votes, the doors shall not be closed and members shall be permitted to vote as *provided* in Rule 7.3.

7.5 No member shall, under any circumstances, be permitted to vote

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after a decision shall have been announced by the Chair. After the decision of the question, a member absent may be permitted to record the vote he would have given if present, but such vote shall not affect the previous question.

7.6 No member shall be permitted to explain his vote during a roll call, but may reduce his explanation to writing, in not more than 200 words, and upon filing said explanation with the Clerk, it shall be entered in the Journal.

7.7 When the pending question is the passage of any bill or resolution on the contested Calendar on second reading, the yeas and nays shall be taken by roll call and the votes thereon shall be recorded in the Journal.

7.8 A member of the House of Representatives may give his proxy to vote on matters before the full body to another member of the House of Representatives if that member is deployed by military order for federal military duty or state national guard duty to a combat zone for a period of more than twenty-one days during a legislative session. However, the member holding the proxy may not cast a vote for the deployed member unless the deployed member has specifically provided the voting member with written voting instructions, including, but not limited to, instruction transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail, with regard to the deployed member's position on the issue. The proxy on a particular question may be used upon unanimous consent of the members of the House present and voting provided the proxy vote does not change the outcome of the question.

Rule 8

Motions and Their Precedence

8.1 No motion shall be debated until it shall have been stated by the Speaker. Any motion, if requested by the Speaker, must be reduced to writing and delivered at the desk and read, before it shall be debated.

8.2 The mover may withdraw any question or proposition before an amendment or decision, except after a demand for the yeas and nays and except after the previous question has been ordered.

8.3 No dilatory motion or amendment shall be entertained by the

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Speaker, prior precedents to the contrary notwithstanding.

8.4 A question before the House shall be suspended by:

1. a message;
2. a report or resolution of the Committees on Rules, Conference, Free Conference, or Invitations;
3. a question of order;
4. a question of privilege;
5. a question of taking recess;
6. any other incidental questions, such as of reading papers, dividing a question, withdrawing a motion, excusing a member from voting, or the like. *Provided*, further, the five first named may suspend even a speech; *provided*, that the fifth, if once negatived, shall not be received during the same speech without the consent of the member speaking.

8.5 When a question is under debate only those motions herein below shall be received and notwithstanding the provisions of any other rule, none of such motions except the motion to adjourn or recede, a motion to continue, or a motion for the previous question shall be considered until the conclusion of such debate. Such motions shall require a simple majority vote unless otherwise specified herein:

1. to adjourn or recede;
2. to continue;
3. to lay on the table;
4. for the previous question (fifty percent of those present and voting, a quorum being present, plus five when a member has the floor at the time the motion is made);
5. to adjourn the debate to a certain day;

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6. to commit or recommit.

These motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are hereinabove arranged.

Provided, a motion to reconsider shall be received and noted while a speech is being made but notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 8.14, shall be considered immediately after disposal of the pending matter or pursuant to Rule 6.3(11), whichever shall come first.

8.6 The previous question upon any matter may be invoked as follows:

Upon an affirmative vote on a motion for the previous question (fifty percent of those present and voting, a quorum being present, plus five, being required to interrupt debate and a simple majority vote at all other times), the amendments then upon the desk shall be considered, but no further amendments shall be allowed to be offered unless the amendment has at least two-thirds of the membership of the House as its sponsor. The proponents of an amendment shall be allowed an opportunity to make a short explanation of his amendment for a period not to exceed three minutes, then opponents to the amendment shall be permitted not more than three minutes to oppose the proposed amendment. Then two hours of debate shall be allowed on the bill, the time being equally divided between opponents and proponents with no person to speak more than ten minutes. *Provided*, that after the previous question has been invoked, the primary sponsor of an amendment may withdraw it with unanimous consent without making a motion to table it.

Provided, the previous question may be invoked on a motion to reconsider only when the matter to be reconsidered is debatable.

Provided, a motion to adjourn debate shall be in order even though the previous question has been invoked.

Provided, further, any member who has been recognized by the Speaker and is speaking from the podium, is considered to be debating the issue and a call for the previous question, whether by the member or any other member, requires the necessary fifty percent of those present and voting plus five.

8.7 A motion to recess may state the time for reconvening and in the absence of such time stated, reconvening shall be at the call of the Chair. The Speaker may at anytime order the House to stand at ease to be reconvened at the call of the Chair.

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8.8 (Reserved)

8.9 When a motion is made during a motion period, the Speaker shall entertain but one motion at a time and there shall be no substitute motions considered. The same motion may be entertained consecutively during the motion period.

8.10 Any member may without debate, call for the division of a question and the House may divide the question if the Speaker determines the question so distinct that, one being taken away, the rest may stand entirely on its own. *Provided*, however, that a bill may not be divided into separate parts.

8.11 a. The following motions shall be decided by simple majority unless otherwise specified and without debate after any short remarks the Speaker permits:

- to adjourn;
- to recede;
- to continue;
- to lay on the table;
- for the previous question (unless it is made when a member has the floor and then it requires a majority plus five);
- to adjourn debate;
- to commit or recommit;
- to resolve the House into a Committee of the Whole;
- to proceed to the orders of the day;
- to recur to the morning hour;
- to fix the hour to which the House shall next meet;
- to grant free conference powers;
- to divide the question.

b. The following motions shall not be permitted at the same stage of the bill or proposition until one hour of time has elapsed since the same question was negatived:

- for the previous question;
- to lay on the table;
- to adjourn debate;
- to continue;
- to commit or recommit;
- to recur to the morning hour.

8.12 Motions to adjourn, to recede, and to recede subject to the call of the Chair, shall always be in order except while the House is actually

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engaged in deciding a question by yeas and nays or in voting *viva voce* or in balloting. However, if a motion to adjourn or to take a recess has been negatived, no new motion to adjourn or take a recess shall be in order until fifteen minutes shall have elapsed from the decision of the former motion, even though such motion to recede might be to recede to a different time.

8.13 (Reserved)

8.14 When a question shall have been once decided in the affirmative or negative, any member who voted with the prevailing side may on the same day or the next day of the sitting of the House move for a reconsideration thereof and the House, if in session for statewide matters, shall immediately have the question of reconsideration before it. If the House is not in session for statewide matters or have before it a matter under Special Order, it shall have the question of reconsideration before it as provided in Rule 6.3. *Provided*, that, if the motion to reconsider concerns an amendment to the matter under Special Order, the House shall immediately have the question of reconsideration before it. If the House shall refuse to reconsider, or, upon reconsideration, shall affirm its first decision, no further motion shall be in order except by unanimous consent; *provided*, that once a motion to reconsider is made it may not be withdrawn except in the same day in which it was made.

Provided, that a motion to reconsider shall not be allowed if the bill, resolution, message, report, amendment, motion, or the paper upon which the vote was taken shall have gone out of the possession of the House.

A motion to reconsider may be laid on the table. If such motion be laid on the table, it shall be deemed a final disposition of the motion.

8.15 A member may move to continue a matter when called on the Calendar to the next session, but not to a specific date in the next session; and if the House agrees thereto, the matter shall be thereupon continued to the next session, and the Clerk of the House shall make up a Calendar of all the matters so continued, placing the same thereupon, in the order in which they have been continued. At the ensuing session the continued matters shall be taken up and considered in the same stage in which they were when so continued and shall have priority according to the last order for consideration made upon them.

If a motion to continue, having received an affirmative vote, shall be

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reconsidered and thereupon such motion to continue shall receive a negative vote, the matter shall be taken up in its original place on the Calendar.

Rule 9

Amendments

9.1 A bill which originated in the House, or which, having originated in the Senate and having been amended by the House, shall be returned from the Senate with amendments, such bill as amended shall be printed, placed on the House Calendar, and shall not be considered until its number and title shall have been printed in the House Calendar for at least one statewide day prior to such reading. *Provided*, however, that this requirement shall not apply to local bills; nor shall this requirement apply to bills returned from the Senate with amendments during any extension of the session under Section 2-1-180 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, or to bills returned from the Senate with amendments during an extra session pursuant to Article IV, Section 19 of the South Carolina Constitution.

The General Appropriations Bill, Supplemental Appropriations Bill for the ordinary expenses of State Government, and legislation appropriating the Capital Reserve Fund, having been returned from the Senate with amendments, shall not be considered until:

- (1) their number and title shall have been printed in the House Calendar; and
- (2) their contents, as amended, have been made available online to the public for at least forty-eight hours.

The consideration of amendments shall have precedence over a motion to either concur or nonconcur in the Senate amendments. Once the matter is amended and all pending amendments are considered, then said bill is returned to the Senate for consideration.

If no amendments have been adopted by the House then the question shall be: 'Will the House agree to the Senate amendment?' A decision in the negative shall be a rejection. Upon a decision in the affirmative, the title of the bill shall be changed to an act an ordered to be enrolled.

9.2 At the third reading of a bill, no amendment shall be permitted without unanimous consent, except that the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means may (if he shall have given notice at the second reading of his intention to offer amendments at the third) be permitted to

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offer amendments to any appropriations bill, as may be pertinent to the bill. The chairman of any committee may (if he has given notice at the second reading of his intention to offer amendments at the third) be permitted to offer technical amendments to any bill which has been reported from his committee; and

Provided, that the House may, in its discretion, commit or recommit any bill at its third reading and after the report of the committee any amendment which it shall recommend may be adopted.

9.3 No motion or proposition on a subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted under color of amendment unless it refers to the intent of the motion or proposition under consideration. *Provided*, further, that nothing shall prevent the adoption of an amendment which rewrites the bill in its entirety if the bill as rewritten remains germane to the original title of the bill. *Provided*, further, that in determining whether or not any amendment be germane, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be guided by precedents of the House of Representatives to the extent available.

9.4 A proposed amendment shall be in order regardless of the number of changes proposed therein to the matter under debate, *provided* such amendment is otherwise in order. Proposed amendments must be typewritten and in the proper format for the computer system except as allowed by the Speaker at his discretion.

9.5 Proposed amendments to any matter before the House shall be initially considered in the order in which received.

9.6 Proposed amendments to local bills may not impact, affect, or reference any portion of a county other than the county originally referenced in the local bill.

Rule 10

Miscellaneous

10.1 Only the following persons shall be admitted within the House Chamber during a session of the House unless otherwise authorized by House Resolution.

The present and former members and officers and present employees of the House of Representatives; the members of the Press as designated

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by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Governor; the Lieutenant Governor; each statewide constitutional officer; the present members, officers, and employees of the Senate; the present employees of the Legislative Council; dignitaries and the family of members designated by the Speaker, employees of the respective legislative delegations; the employees of legislative caucuses, and such persons as may be invited by resolution of the House; *provided*, however, that employees of legislative caucuses, legislative delegations, the Senate, state agencies, and other branches of state government that are authorized admittance must remain behind the rail in the back of the Chamber at all times when the House is in session; *provided*, no seat in the House shall be occupied by anyone except the members thereof. No lobbyist, including former members registered as lobbyists, shall be admitted within the Hall without special leave of the House. No former member seeking personal favors nor any former member who has filed as a candidate or is a candidate for a position which is elected by the General Assembly shall be admitted within the outer doors of the Chamber without special leave of the House. *Provided*, that no member of the Press may conduct interviews within the House Chamber while the House is in session.

Provided, that notwithstanding other provisions of this rule, access within the outer doors of the Chamber is denied to any former House member who has been convicted of a crime, the conviction of which would impose a maximum penalty of imprisonment of one year or more. This paragraph does not apply to a former House member who is re-elected to either House of the General Assembly after the conviction of the crime referred to in this paragraph.

10.2 Whenever the pronoun ‘he’ appears in any rule, it shall be deemed to designate either masculine or feminine. The words ‘person’ and ‘party’ and any other word importing the singular number used in any bill or resolution shall be held to include the plural and to include firms, companies, associations, and corporations and all words in the plural shall apply also to the singular in all cases in which the spirit and intent of the bill or resolution may require it. All words in a bill or resolution importing the masculine gender shall apply to females also and words in the feminine gender shall apply to males. And all words importing the present tense shall apply to the future also.

10.3 Definitions of measures:

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1. 'Resolutions' This term includes:

a. 'House Resolution' which affects only the action of the House and the members thereof. It requires only one reading for adoption, and shall not be submitted to the Senate.

b. 'Concurrent Resolution' which affects only the action of the General Assembly and the members thereof. It requires only one reading in each House for adoption.

c. 'Joint Resolution' which shall have the same force of law as an act, but is a temporary measure, dying when its subject matter is completed. It requires the same treatment as a bill does in its passage through both Houses, but its title after passage shall not be changed to that of an act; and when used to propose an amendment to the Constitution it does not require the approval of the Governor.

2. 'Bill' A bill is the term applied to a measure introduced in either House designed to become a permanent law (or an 'act').

It must be read and adopted three times on three separate days in each House, following which its title is changed to that of an act.

3. 'Act' An act is the term applied to a bill that has passed both Houses, been ratified by the presiding officer of each House and signed by the Governor or passed over his veto. It is a permanent measure, having the force of law until repealed.

4. 'Veto' The term used for disapproval of a bill or joint resolution by the Governor. It may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting with at least two-thirds of a quorum voting to override. This requirement is set forth in Article IV, Section 21, of the South Carolina Constitution and defined by the decisions of the South Carolina Supreme Court.

10.4 The House shall not accept any invitations to attend functions (social or otherwise) which are to be held at a club or organization which does not admit as members persons of all races, religions, colors, sexes, or national origins. All invitations received shall be referred to the Committee on Invitations and Memorial Resolutions and the five House members on the Committee on Invitations and Memorial Resolutions shall have the duty of recommending to the House which invitations should be accepted.

10.5 Each member of the House shall be entitled to appoint one

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individual as a House page to perform such duties as determined by the Speaker. The provisions of this rule shall be contingent upon the General Assembly providing for at least one hundred twenty-four House pages in the annual General Appropriations Act for the fiscal year during which such session shall take place. Any additional House pages authorized shall be appointed by the Speaker in his sole discretion.

10.6 Laptop computers located in the House Chamber may not be removed from the Chamber.

10.7 No smoking or use of tobacco products is permitted in any area under the exclusive control of the House of Representatives unless the area is otherwise designated a 'smoking area' by the Speaker. Smoking for purposes of this rule includes carrying a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any other lighted smoking equipment. *Provided*, further, that the consumption of food is not permitted within the House Chamber.

10.8 (Reserved)

10.9 House Resolutions granting the privilege of admittance to the House Chamber for persons not otherwise granted the privilege pursuant to House Rule 10.1 are limited to the following conditions:

(a) The privilege of admittance to the House Chamber is limited to school teams or school groups that have won state or national championships or received statewide or national awards. Individual persons are not granted the privilege of admittance to the House Chamber.

(b) School teams or groups may be scheduled for the privilege of admittance to the House Chamber only on Wednesdays and Thursdays that the House is in session, and no more than two teams or groups may be scheduled in one day. *Provided*, further, that no school teams or groups may be granted the privilege of admittance to the House Chamber during the last week of the regularly scheduled legislative session.

(c) The House member wishing for the qualified school team or group to have privilege of admittance to the House Chamber shall introduce a House Resolution granting the privilege on a 'date and time to be determined by the Speaker of the House'. The House of Representatives shall adopt the resolution in order for the team or group to be granted the privilege. *Provided*, the school team or group's list of members, coaches, mascot, and other appropriate school officials must be listed on the House Calendar for the day in which they are granted the privilege of admittance to the House Chamber. The House member

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sponsoring the resolution shall provide the appropriate information to the Clerk five days in advance of the school team or group scheduled admittance to the House Chamber.

(d) All other teams, groups, or individuals not otherwise allowed the privilege of admittance to the House Chamber may be recognized in the balcony of the House Chamber at a 'time determined by the Speaker of the House'. *Provided*, no presentation either within the House Chamber or in the balcony may exceed five minutes, and no one, other than a House member, may speak or make remarks during a presentation.

10.10 The use of audible pagers, cell phones, and any other personal communication device by any person is prohibited in the House Chamber when the House is in session and when the General Assembly is meeting in Joint Session. The use of these devices by any person is also prohibited in House committee meetings and subcommittee meetings. These devices must be turned off, or placed in a silent mode, such as vibrate, prior to being carried into the House Chamber, committee meetings, or subcommittee meetings. Should a device which has been placed in a silent mode activate in the Chamber, a committee meeting, or subcommittee meeting the person possessing the device must exit the Chamber, committee room, or subcommittee room prior to responding in any fashion.

10.11 The Clerk's office shall establish procedures for providing House members with certificates commemorating birthdays, anniversaries, retirements, achievements, awards, etc. as needed. House members shall request certificates in writing and provide the Clerk's office with the information necessary to complete the certificates.

The Clerk's office also shall establish procedures whereby members may have House certificates and House and Concurrent Resolutions framed at local businesses providing framing services within the Columbia area during the legislative session. House members are responsible for paying for all framing services within a timely manner.

The Clerk's office shall establish procedures whereby staff shall deliver framing requests to local businesses no more than one time each legislative day. *Provided*, further, the Clerk's office shall establish procedures whereby staff shall pickup framing requests from local businesses no more than one time each legislative day. Framing requests will not be delivered or picked up on nonlegislative days. All framing requests, upon their completion and pickup, must be delivered to the House member on the State House complex. House staff may not deliver

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framing requests to members outside the State House complex.

10.12 The Speaker shall establish procedures for the hiring of staff for the House of Representatives. The procedures must provide that a list of the most qualified applicants shall be submitted to the appropriate supervisory authority for consideration. The appropriate supervisory authority shall select an applicant from the list. If the appropriate authority determines no applicant to be acceptable the application process will reopen and a new list of most qualified applicants shall be submitted to the appropriate supervisory authority. The appropriate supervisory authority's selected applicant then must be submitted to the Speaker of the House for final appointment as a member of the staff of the House of Representatives.

For purposes of this rule the Speaker of the House and the Speaker *Pro Tempore* are the supervisory authority for their respective offices. The Committee Chairmen are the supervisory authority for their respective committees, and the Sergeant at Arms is the supervisory authority for security personnel necessary for the proper performance of the Sergeant at Arms' office and security needs of the House Chamber, Solomon Blatt Building, and other areas under the Sergeant at Arms' jurisdiction. The Clerk is the appropriate supervisory authority for administrative and clerical staff of the House necessary for the proper operation of the Clerk's Office and the general administrative and clerical needs of the House.

Provided, the appropriate supervisory authority's selected applicant must be submitted to the Speaker of the House for final appointment as a member of the staff of the House of Representatives.

10.13 The Speaker shall conduct reviews of employee salaries and compensation and shall, upon consultation with the appropriate supervisory authority, set the salary and compensation of new and current employees.

10.14 (A) Gifts intended for members of the House of Representatives, whether individually or collectively as a body, may not be delivered to the chamber of the House of Representatives for distribution or placement on members' desks. A gift may be delivered to the members' offices with the presumption under penalty of perjury that the gift is not reportable on the member's Statement of Economic Interests pursuant to Section 8-13-710 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. When, however, the gift is reportable on the member's Statement

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of Economic Interests pursuant to Section 8-13-710, the individual or officer providing the gift must deliver correspondence to the offices of the members of the House announcing their intention to provide a gift to the members and at that time must provide a statement of value to the House Ethics Committee. A member may choose to opt in to the receipt of all or specific gifts to be delivered to the member's office by notifying the appropriate giver of the gift in writing of such desire within seven (7) days of receipt of correspondence.

(B) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall strictly enforce the provisions of this rule.

10.15 Members, all employees of the House, and guests are expected to dress in business professional attire unless otherwise excused by the Speaker in his sole discretion. Examples of business professional attire include, but are not limited to, dress or sport coat, trousers, shirt and tie for males and dress, skirt, slacks and blouse, or suits for females.

10.16 No employee of the House shall personally interest or concern himself with the passage or consideration of any measure whatsoever. If any employee does so, it shall be grounds for summary dismissal. While within the House Chamber during session, no one may personally, or in an official or representative capacity, concern himself with the passage or consideration of any measure whatsoever, except sitting members of the General Assembly and House staff in the usual and ordinary performance of their duties as an employee of the House. The Speaker may require immediate removal from the House Chamber of any person who violates the provisions of this rule.”

The Resolution was adopted.

ELECTION OF OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The SPEAKER announced that nominations were in order for eight members of the House Operations and Management Committee.

Pursuant to House Rule 4.2, the House must elect four members of the majority party to the Operations and Management Committee. party.

The following names for the majority party were placed in nomination: Reps. CHAPMAN, B. L. COX, HADDON AND VAUGHAN.

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On motion of Rep. FORREST, nominations were closed, and with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominees.

Pursuant to House Rule 4.2, the House must elect four members of the minority party to the Operations and Management Committee.

The following names for the minority party were placed in nomination: Reps. SPANN-WILDER, GRANT, REESE, AND BAUER.

On motion of Rep. FORREST, nominations were closed, and with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominees.

Whereupon, the SPEAKER announced that Reps. CHAPMAN, B. L. COX, HADDON, VAUGHAN, SPANN-WILDER, GRANT, REESE, and BAUER, having received the necessary number of the votes cast, were duly elected for the term prescribed by law.

ELECTION OF HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE

The SPEAKER announced that nominations were in order for ten members of the House Ethics Committee.

Pursuant to House Rule 4.16, the House must elect five members of the majority party to the Ethics Committee.

The following names were placed in nomination: Reps. CALHOON, COLLINS, GUEST, JORDAN, ROBBINS and WHITE.

The following named Representatives voted for Calhoon:

Alexander	Bailey	Ballentine
Bamberg	Bannister	Beach
Bernstein	Bowers	Bradley
Brewer	Brittain	Burns
Bustos	Calhoon	Caskey
Chapman	Chumley	Clyburn
Cobb-Hunter	Collins	B. J. Cox
B. L. Cox	Crawford	Cromer
Davis	Dillard	Edgerton
Erickson	Forrest	Frank
Gagnon	Garvin	Gatch
Gibson	Gilliam	Gilreath

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Govan	Grant	Guest
Guffey	Haddon	Hardee
Harris	Hart	Hartnett
Hartz	Herbkersman	Hewitt
Hiott	Hixon	Holman
Hosey	Howard	Huff
J. E. Johnson	J. L. Johnson	W. Jones
Jordan	Kilmartin	King
Kirby	Landing	Lawson
Ligon	Long	Lowe
Luck	Magnuson	Martin
McCabe	McCrary	McDaniel
McGinnis	Mitchell	Montgomery
T. Moore	T. A. Morgan	Moss
Neese	B. Newton	W. Newton
Oremus	Pace	Pope
Rankin	Reese	Rivers
Robbins	Rutherford	Sanders
Schuessler	Sessions	G. M. Smith
M. M. Smith	Spann-Wilder	Stavrinakis
Taylor	Teeple	Terrible
Vaughan	Weeks	Wetmore
Wheeler	White	Whitmire
Wickensimer	Williams	Willis
Wooten	Yow	

Total—110

The following named Representatives voted for Collins:

Alexander	Bailey	Ballentine
Bamberg	Bannister	Bernstein
Bowers	Bradley	Brewer
Brittain	Bustos	Calhoon
Caskey	Chapman	Clyburn
Cobb-Hunter	Collins	B. J. Cox
B. L. Cox	Crawford	Davis
Dillard	Erickson	Forrest
Gagnon	Garvin	Gatch
Gibson	Gilliam	Govan
Grant	Guest	Guffey
Haddon	Hager	Hardee

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Hart	Hartnett	Hartz
Herbkersman	Hewitt	Hiott
Hixon	Holman	Hosey
Howard	J. E. Johnson	J. L. Johnson
W. Jones	Jordan	King
Kirby	Landing	Lawson
Ligon	Lowe	Luck
Martin	McDaniel	McGinnis
Mitchell	Montgomery	T. Moore
Moss	Neese	B. Newton
W. Newton	Pope	Rankin
Reese	Rivers	Robbins
Rutherford	Sanders	Schuessler
Sessions	G. M. Smith	M. M. Smith
Spann-Wilder	Stavrinnakis	Taylor
Teeple	Vaughan	Weeks
Wetmore	Wheeler	Whitmire
Wickensimer	Williams	Willis
Wooten	Yow	

Total—92

The following named Representatives voted against Collins:

Beach	Cromer	Frank
Gilreath	Harris	Huff
Kilmartin	Terrible	White

Total--9

The following named Representatives voted for Guest:

Alexander	Bailey	Ballentine
Bamberg	Bannister	Beach
Bernstein	Bowers	Bradley
Brewer	Brittain	Burns
Bustos	Calhoon	Caskey
Chapman	Clyburn	Collins
B. J. Cox	B. L. Cox	Crawford
Cromer	Davis	Dillard
Edgerton	Erickson	Forrest
Frank	Gagnon	Garvin
Gatch	Gibson	Gilliam

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Gilreath	Govan	Grant
Guest	Guffey	Haddon
Hager	Hardee	Harris
Hart	Hartnett	Hartz
Herbkersman	Hewitt	Hiott
Hixon	Holman	Hosey
Howard	Huff	J. E. Johnson
J. L. Johnson	W. Jones	Jordan
Kilmartin	King	Kirby
Landing	Lawson	Ligon
Long	Lowe	Luck
Magnuson	Martin	McCabe
McCravy	McDaniel	McGinnis
Mitchell	Montgomery	T. Moore
T. A. Morgan	Moss	Neese
B. Newton	W. Newton	Oremus
Pace	Pope	Rankin
Reese	Rivers	Robbins
Rutherford	Sanders	Schuessler
Sessions	G. M. Smith	M. M. Smith
Spann-Wilder	Stavrinnakis	Taylor
Teeple	Terrible	Vaughan
Weeks	Wetmore	Wheeler
White	Whitmire	Wickensimer
Williams	Willis	Wooten
Yow		

Total—109

The following named Representatives voted for Jordan:

Alexander	Bailey	Ballentine
Bamberg	Bannister	Beach
Bernstein	Bowers	Bradley
Brewer	Brittain	Burns
Bustos	Calhoon	Caskey
Chapman	Clyburn	Cobb-Hunter
Collins	B. J. Cox	B. L. Cox
Crawford	Cromer	Davis
Dillard	Edgerton	Erickson
Forrest	Frank	Gagnon
Garvin	Gatch	Gibson

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Gilliam	Gilreath	Govan
Grant	Guest	Guffey
Haddon	Hager	Hardee
Harris	Hart	Hartnett
Hartz	Herbkersman	Hewitt
Hiott	Hixon	Holman
Hosey	Howard	Huff
J. E. Johnson	J. L. Johnson	W. Jones
Jordan	Kilmartin	King
Kirby	Landing	Lawson
Ligon	Long	Lowe
Luck	Magnuson	Martin
McCabe	McCrary	McDaniel
McGinnis	Mitchell	Montgomery
T. Moore	T. A. Morgan	Moss
Neese	B. Newton	W. Newton
Oremus	Pace	Pope
Rankin	Reese	Rivers
Robbins	Rutherford	Sanders
Schuessler	Sessions	G. M. Smith
M. M. Smith	Spann-Wilder	Stavrinnakis
Taylor	Teeple	Terrible
Vaughan	Weeks	Wetmore
Wheeler	White	Whitmire
Wickensimer	Williams	Willis
Wooten	Yow	

Total—110

The following named Representatives voted for Robbins:

Alexander	Bailey	Ballentine
Bamberg	Bannister	Beach
Bernstein	Bowers	Bradley
Brewer	Brittain	Burns
Bustos	Calhoon	Caskey
Chapman	Chumley	Clyburn
Cobb-Hunter	Collins	B. J. Cox
B. L. Cox	Crawford	Cromer
Davis	Dillard	Edgerton
Erickson	Forrest	Frank
Gagnon	Garvin	Gatch

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Gibson	Gilliam	Gilreath
Govan	Grant	Guest
Guffey	Haddon	Hager
Hardee	Harris	Hart
Hartnett	Hartz	Herbkersman
Hewitt	Hiott	Hixon
Holman	Hosey	Howard
Huff	J. E. Johnson	J. L. Johnson
W. Jones	Jordan	Kilmartin
King	Kirby	Landing
Lawson	Ligon	Long
Lowe	Luck	Martin
McCabe	McCrary	McDaniel
McGinnis	Mitchell	Montgomery
T. Moore	T. A. Morgan	Neese
B. Newton	W. Newton	Oremus
Pace	Pope	Rankin
Reese	Rivers	Robbins
Rutherford	Sanders	Schuessler
Sessions	G. M. Smith	M. M. Smith
Spann-Wilder	Stavrinnakis	Taylor
Teeple	Terribile	Vaughan
Weeks	Wetmore	Wheeler
Whitmire	Wickensimer	Williams
Willis	Wooten	Yow

Total—108

The following named Representatives voted for White:

Beach	Burns	Chumley
Cobb-Hunter	Cromer	Edgerton
Frank	Gilreath	Harris
Huff	Kilmartin	Magnuson
May	McCabe	McCrary
T. A. Morgan	Oremus	Pace
Reese	Terribile	White

Total—21

The following named Representatives voted against White:

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Rivers

Total--1

RECAPITULATION

Total number of Representatives voting	112
Of which Calhoon received	110
Of which Collins received	92
Of which Guest received	109
Of which Jordan received	110
Of which Robbins received	108
Of which White received	21

RECORD FOR VOTING

I inadvertently voted for six candidates for the ethics committee majority party instead of five candidates. I wish the record to show I intended to vote for the following five candidates for the ethics committee: Calhoon, Collins, Guest, Robbins, and White.

Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter

Pursuant to Rule 4.16, the House must elect five members who are not members of the majority party.

The following names were placed in nomination: Reps. BERNSTEIN, KING, RUTHERFORD, STAVRINKIS and WEEKS.

On motion of Rep. RUTHERFORD, nominations were closed, and with unanimous consent, the vote was taken by acclamation, resulting in the election of the nominees.

Whereupon, the SPEAKER announced that Reps. CALHOON, COLLINS, GUEST, JORDAN, ROBBINS, BERNSTEIN, KING, RUTHERFORD, STAVRINAKIS AND WEEKS, having received the necessary number of the votes cast, were duly elected for the term prescribed by law.

HOUSE TO MEET AT 10:00 A.M. TOMORROW

Rep. FORREST moved that when the House adjourns it adjourn to meet at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow, which was agreed to.

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Rep. FORREST moved that the House do now adjourn, which was agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3:51 p.m. the House, in accordance with the motion of Rep. ERICKSON, adjourned in memory of Marguerite Farrell Flanagan, to meet at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow.

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H. 300027

H. 300129

[HJ]