

# Conference Committee Options for House Bills<sup>1</sup>

Prepared by the Office of Legislative Legal Services - April 2014

STAGE OF PROCEEDINGS	POSSIBLE ACTIONS	RESULTS	
<b>1. Consideration of Senate amendments</b> HR 36; JR 4	House concurs in amendments and readopts bill	Bill delivered to Governor	
	House rejects Senate amendments and adheres to House position	Senate recedes and readopts bill; bill delivered to Governor	
		Senate adheres; bill dies	
	House rejects amendments and requests conference committee ("CC")	House and Senate appoint conferrees	
<b>2. Conference Committee Appointed</b> HR 36(c) JR 5; JR 6(a)	Prior to consideration of CC report, or within 1 day after Senate rejects CC report, House votes to recede and readopts bill	Bill delivered to Governor	
	Prior to consideration of CC report, House votes to adhere	Senate recedes and readopts bill; bill delivered to Governor	
		Senate adheres; bill dies	
	Prior to delivery of CC report, Senate votes to recede and readopts bill	Bill delivered to Governor	
	Prior to delivery of CC report, Senate votes to adhere	House recedes and readopts bill; bill delivered to Governor	
		House adheres; bill dies	
	Note: After one day of actual session following referral of a bill to CC, either house, by majority vote, can demand that the CC report within 2 days after the demand (within last 5 days of session, CC must report on same day as demand). If CC doesn't report, CC is discharged and the houses may appoint a second CC or either house may adhere. (JR 7)		

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<sup>1</sup>As an aid to reading the rules relating to conference committees, please note that in nearly all circumstances involving House bills, the House will be the "requesting house" and the Senate will be the "assenting house".

STAGE OF PROCEEDINGS	POSSIBLE ACTIONS	RESULTS
<p>3. CC Report delivered to Senate HR 36(c); JR 6(b)</p>	Senate votes to adhere	House recedes and readopts bill; bill delivered to Governor
		House adheres; bill dies
	Senate votes to recede and readopts bill	Bill delivered to Governor
	Senate rejects the report, dissolves the CC and appoints conferees to a 2nd CC (note: can only have 2 CCs)	House agrees to 2nd CC and appoints conferees (return to stage #2)
		House does not agree to 2nd CC; Senate may: 1. adhere; or 2. recede and readopt bill; or 3. reconsider rejection and adopt report
		By next day of actual session, House recedes and readopts bill; bill delivered to Governor
Senate adopts report, readopts bill	Bill delivered to House for action	
<p>4. CC Report adopted by Senate and delivered to House JR 6(c)</p>	House votes to adhere	Senate reconsiders adoption of CC report and readoption of bill; Senate recedes and readopts bill; bill delivered to Governor
		Senate does not reconsider adoption of CC report; bill dies
	House votes to recede and readopts bill	Senate reconsiders adoption of CC report and readoption of bill; bill delivered to Governor
	House rejects CC report and appoints conferees to a 2nd CC	No later than next day of actual session, Senate reconsiders adoption of CC report and readoption of bill and appoints conferees to a 2nd CC (return to stage #2)
		Senate does not agree to 2nd CC; House may: 1. adhere; or 2. recede and readopt bill; or 3. reconsider rejection and adopt report
	House adopts CC report and readopts bill	Bill delivered to Governor