



## HOUSE RESOLUTION 24-1004

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Duran, Bacon, Boesenecker, Brown, Daugherty, deGruy Kennedy, English, Froelich, Hernandez, Herod, Jodeh, Kipp, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Mabrey, Mauro, Ortiz, Ricks, Sirota, Story, Titone, Velasco, Vigil, Weissman, McCluskie.

CONCERNING CHANGES TO THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AFFECTING READING BILLS AT LENGTH AND PROCEDURES THAT APPLY AT THE END OF A LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

*Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-fourth General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

That in the Rules of the House of Representatives, Rule No. 27, **amend** (b) as follows:

### **27. Introduction of Bills, Resolutions, and Memorials -- Reading Bills at Length**

- (b) (1) Every bill ~~shall be~~ IS read by title when introduced, which ~~shall constitute~~ CONSTITUTES first reading, and at length on two different days prior to its being finally passed. Reading before the House sitting as committee of the whole ~~shall constitute~~ CONSTITUTES second reading. Unless a member ~~shall request the reading of a bill in full~~ REQUESTS THAT A BILL BE READ AT LENGTH when ~~it~~ THE BILL is being considered ~~on second~~ BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE or on third reading, it ~~shall be~~ IS read by title only, and the unanimous consent of the members present to dispense with the reading of the bill at length ~~shall be~~ IS presumed.

- (2) IF A MEMBER REQUESTS THAT A BILL BE READ AT LENGTH WHEN THE BILL IS BEING CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OR ON THIRD READING, THE MEMBER MAKING THE REQUEST MUST REMAIN IN THE HOUSE CHAMBER FOR THE DURATION OF THE READING. EXCEPT FOR BRIEF ABSENCES NOT TO EXCEED FIVE MINUTES, OR LONGER AS PERMITTED BY THE PRESIDING OFFICER, THE MEMBER'S DEPARTURE FROM THE HOUSE CHAMBER IS DEEMED TO BE A WITHDRAWAL OF THE REQUEST TO READ THE BILL AT LENGTH.
- (3) IF A MEMBER WHO REQUESTS THAT A BILL BE READ AT LENGTH WITHDRAWS THE REQUEST OR IF THE REQUEST IS DEEMED TO HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN AND, SUBSEQUENTLY, ANY MEMBER OF THE HOUSE REQUESTS THAT THE BILL BE READ AT LENGTH, THE READING OF THE BILL RESUMES AT THE POINT IN THE BILL AT WHICH THE EARLIER READING HAD STOPPED.
- (4) IF A MEMBER REQUESTS THAT A BILL BE READ AT LENGTH EITHER DURING THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OR ON THIRD READING, THE MAJORITY LEADER MAY MOVE TO SUSPEND THE READING OF THE BILL AT LENGTH AND LAY THE BILL OVER TO A DATE OR TIME CERTAIN. THE MOTION IS NOT SUBJECT TO DEBATE AND IS DECIDED BY THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT IF THE MOTION IS MADE DURING THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OR BY THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF ALL MEMBERS ELECTED IF THE MOTION IS MADE DURING THIRD READING. WHEN THE BILL IS BROUGHT UP AGAIN, THE READING OF THE BILL AT LENGTH RESUMES AT THE POINT IN THE BILL AT WHICH THE EARLIER READING HAD BEEN SUSPENDED.
- (5) WHEN A MEMBER REQUESTS THAT A BILL BE READ AT LENGTH, THE CHIEF CLERK, OR THE CHIEF CLERK'S STAFF, MAY ARRANGE FOR THE BILL TO BE READ BY ELECTRONIC MEANS. THE CHIEF CLERK, OR THE CHIEF CLERK'S STAFF, MAY NOT USE MORE THAN ONE ELECTRONIC DEVICE OR MORE THAN ONE INDIVIDUAL AT A TIME TO READ MULTIPLE SECTIONS OF THE BILL SIMULTANEOUSLY. IF THE CHIEF CLERK, OR THE CHIEF CLERK'S STAFF, ARRANGES TO HAVE THE BILL READ BY ELECTRONIC MEANS, THE READING MUST BE AT AN INTELLIGIBLE RATE

UNDERSTANDABLE TO A REASONABLE PERSON.

- (6) WHEN A BILL HAS BEEN READ AT LENGTH PURSUANT TO THIS RULE, WHETHER DURING THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OR DURING THIRD READING, THAT READING SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 22 OF ARTICLE V OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION FOR THAT READING.

That in the Rules of the House of Representatives, Rule No. 15, **add** (j) as follows:

### **15. Questions Decided Without Debate**

The following questions shall be decided without debate:

- (j) SUSPENSION OF THE READING OF A BILL AT LENGTH AND LAYING THE BILL OVER TO A DATE OR TIME CERTAIN.

That in the Rules of the House of Representatives, Rule No. 25, **amend** (j)(3) as follows:

### **25. Committees**

- (j) All committees of reference, as listed in ~~(a) above~~ SUBSECTION (a) OF THIS RULE, shall observe the following rules of procedure:

- (3) After a committee of reference has taken its final action on a measure, the chairman of the committee shall make a report of such action to the chief clerk of the House within three legislative days, and the chairman shall not delay or withhold making or signing such a report. For committees that meet on Wednesday or Thursday, the chairman shall have two legislative days in which the general assembly is in actual session to make such a report rather than three legislative days. However, ~~during the last three days~~ AFTER THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH DAY of a ~~legislative~~ REGULAR session OR DURING A SPECIAL SESSION, the chairman of the committee shall make any committee of reference report as soon as possible. Final action ~~shall consist~~ CONSISTS of reporting a measure out of committee, with or without amendments, for consideration by

the committee of the whole, a recommendation for reference to another committee of reference, or postponing the measure indefinitely. A MOTION to postpone consideration of a measure for more than 30 days or until a date beyond the date for adjournment sine die of the legislative session ~~shall be~~ IS considered a motion to postpone indefinitely. In addition, a measure ~~shall be~~ IS considered postponed indefinitely when there has been a tie vote on a motion that would constitute final action and the applicable deadline for House committees of reference to report bills has passed without action by the House Committee on Delayed Bills to extend the deadline for the measure. The chairman shall make a report to the chief clerk of the House indicating that any such measure is deemed postponed indefinitely. Following the date of the applicable committee deadline, the chairman shall have three legislative days in which the general assembly is in actual session to submit such report.

That in the Rules of the House of Representatives, Rule No. 33, **amend** (b.5) as follows:

### **33. Third Reading and Final Passage of Bills**

- (b.5) Except ~~during the last three days~~ AFTER THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH DAY of a REGULAR legislative session OR DURING A SPECIAL SESSION, only an amendment to a bill on third reading that is not substantial is in order. Upon consent of a majority of all members elected, a bill may be referred back to second reading from third reading for consideration of a substantial amendment to the bill.

That in the Rules of the House of Representatives, Rule No. 35, **amend** (a), (b), and (e) as follows:

### **35. Reconsideration**

- (a) After a question has been decided by the House, any member recorded as having voted on the prevailing side may, at any time before adjournment of the current legislative day, move to reconsider or may give notice of intention to move to reconsider. Notice having been given, such member may move to reconsider on the same day or

before 12 o'clock noon of the next day of actual session, but after the adoption of a resolution fixing the time for adjournment sine die, any member may so move. A member may not give notice of intention to move to reconsider ~~in the last three days~~ AFTER THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH DAY of ~~the~~ A REGULAR session OR DURING A SPECIAL SESSION.

- (b) A motion to reconsider ~~shall require~~ REQUIRES the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members elected to be adopted, and if such motion ~~be~~ IS defeated, no further motion to reconsider ~~shall be~~ IS in order; but ~~during the last two days~~ AFTER THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH DAY of a REGULAR session OR DURING A SPECIAL SESSION, such a motion ~~shall require~~ REQUIRES only a majority vote of those elected to the House, and reconsideration may be had concerning any bill acted on during the previous two days.
- (e) After a question has been decided by a committee of reference, any member having voted on the prevailing side may move to reconsider. A motion to reconsider shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the committee and no further motion to reconsider in the committee shall be in order; but ~~during the last two days~~ AFTER THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH DAY of a REGULAR session OR DURING A SPECIAL SESSION, such a motion ~~shall require~~ REQUIRES only a majority of the members of the committee. Such a motion may be made at the meeting at which the decision was made by the committee or at the next meeting of the committee. However, such a motion may not be made if a committee report regarding the decision of the committee has already been signed by the chairman of the committee and delivered to the chief clerk. Notice of intention to move to reconsider a question decided by a committee shall not apply.

That in the Rules of the House of Representatives, Rule No. 36, **amend** (d) as follows:

### **36. Disagreement**

- (d) In the event the House shall vote to request a conference, the Speaker shall appoint a committee of three members to represent the House. No vote on concurring in any amendment made by the Senate to a House bill or on the adoption of a report of a conference committee shall be taken until such amendment or

report ~~shall have~~ HAS been placed on the desk of each member, and particularly referred to in the calendar, but this rule may be suspended ~~during the last three days~~ AFTER THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH DAY of A REGULAR session OR DURING A SPECIAL SESSION. In addition:

- (1) No vote on concurring in any amendment made by the Senate to a House bill shall be taken unless notice of such action shall have been referred to in a calendar that has been printed and distributed at least twenty-four hours before such vote.
- (2) The provisions of ~~paragraph (1) of this subsection (d) shall be~~ SUBSECTION (d)(1) OF THIS SECTION ARE suspended ~~during the last three days~~ AFTER THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH DAY of ~~any~~ A regular session and during ~~any~~ A special session.
- (3) The provisions of ~~paragraph (1) of this subsection (d) shall be~~ SUBSECTION (d)(1) OF THIS SECTION ARE suspended upon the nondebatable announcement of the majority leader that the vote on concurring in any amendment made to a House bill by the Senate should occur in less than twenty-four hours because of an emergency, an impending deadline, or the need to comply with any state or federal requirement, or in order to address a stated public policy issue.

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Robin Jones  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Julie McCluskie  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES