
DIGEST

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Henry

HR No. 1

Abstract: Prohibits, unless the conference committee report solely recommends technical amendments, a member of a conference committee from signing the conference committee report unless the conference committee has held a public meeting and provides that the question of consideration of the conference committee report is not in order unless the conference committee held such public meeting, if required.

Present House Rule provides that conference committee appointees from the House shall be: (1) the member who authored or handled the bill or resolution, or in his absence, a member appointed by the Speaker; (2) the chairman of the committee that reported the bill or resolution, or in his absence, the vice chairman of such committee, or in the absence of the chairman and vice chairman, a member appointed by the Speaker from among the members of such committee; and (3) one member appointed by the Speaker. Specifies that House conference committee appointees on a legislative instrument originating in the Senate shall be made only after the Speaker has received a request to appoint such conferees from the member who handled the legislative instrument or a member of the committee that reported the bill or resolution.

Proposed House Rule (6.14(C)) additionally prohibits a member of a conference committee from signing the report of the conference committee unless the conference committee has held a public meeting at which all substantive matters contained within the report were discussed. Specifically provides that no public meeting shall be required if the report solely recommends technical amendments.

Present House Rule (8.27(A)) provides that a conference committee report (CCR) shall be a privileged report and notice of receipt shall be given by the Clerk at the first opportunity without interrupting pending business. Provides that the question of consideration of a CCR shall lie over until the appropriate order of business on the next legislative day. Provides that, on the last calendar or legislative day of a session, the favorable vote of a majority of the elected members of the House is required to adopt a motion to suspend the requirement that the question of consideration of a CCR lie over until the next legislative day. Provides that a motion to suspend the provisions of House Rule 8.27(A) is a debatable motion. Present House Rule (8.27(C)) provides that the House shall consider a CCR confined to resolving the differences between the two houses regarding the amendments which were rejected by the house of origin and recommending technical amendments received on the last day (calendar or legislative) of a session upon motion of any member duly adopted by a majority of those present and voting. Provides that a motion to take up consideration of a CCR which is so confined or which is on a supplemental appropriation bill, the Capital Outlay Bill, the legislative or judicial appropriation

bill, or the omnibus bond authorization bill which is received on the last day is a privileged incidental motion, in order when another motion or instrument is not pending, to be adopted by a majority of those present and voting. Present House Rule specifies that present House Rule (8.15) applies to CCRs on the General Appropriation Bill (GAB). (House Rule 8.15 specifies that a vote on a CCR on the GAB shall not occur until at least 48 hours have intervened after receipt of the report and requires, at least 24 hours prior to voting, an unofficial enrollment and a summary. Allows such requirements to be waived by a majority vote of the elected members of the House.)

Proposed House Rule (8.27(E)) additionally provides that the question of consideration of a CCR is not in order unless the conference committee complied with the provisions of proposed House Rule (6.14(C)).

(Adds House Rules 6.14(C) and 8.27(E))