
DIGEST

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HR 20 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Stefanski

Abstract: Clarifies the procedures and requirements applicable to conference committee reports.

Present House Rule (8.21(A)) provides that a conference committee report (CCR) is a privileged report and notice of receipt shall be given by the Clerk at the first opportunity without interrupting pending business. Requires that the question of consideration of a CCR lie over until the appropriate order of business during the Regular Orders on the next legislative day (lie over). Present House Rule (13.2(A)) requires a favorable vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting to suspend a House Rule. Present House Rule (8.21) provides that on the last day, the requirement that the question of consideration of a CCR lie over may be *waived* by the favorable vote of a majority of the elected members of the House. Provides that such motion is debatable. (However, see discussion of present House Rule (C), (D), and (E)(1) below. Present House Rule additionally provides that a motion to suspend these provisions relative to CCRs is debatable. Present House Rule (8.21(C) and (E)(1)) provides that the House shall consider a CCR on the last day upon adoption of a motion to take up consideration of the report by a majority of those present and voting under the following circumstances:

- (1) The CCR is confined to resolving the differences between the two houses regarding the amendments which were rejected by the house of origin and recommending technical amendments (confined report).
- (2) The bill is one of the following: an appropriation bill supplementing the General Appropriation Act, the Capital Outlay Bill, the bill appropriating funds for the judicial branch, the bill appropriating funds for the legislative branch, or the omnibus bond authorization bill.

Present House Rule (8.21(D)) provides more specifically with respect to consideration of a CCR when there is less than two hours remaining before adjournment of the session. Provides that the motion to take up consideration of the CCR under these circumstances requires the favorable vote of a majority of the elected members of the House and is not debatable. However, if the CCR is not a confined report *and* the bill is not one of the bills specified in item (2) above, the motion to consider the CCR is not in order until after a motion to waive the requirement that it lie over is adopted. Present House Rule (8.21(F)) requires the Clerk to announce to the House if a CCR is confined prior to the consideration of any motion relative to the report. Further requires the Clerk to announce the names of the conferees who signed the report and the names of the conferees who did not sign the report, unless signed by all conferees in which case the Clerk shall announce that fact.

Proposed House Rule maintains present House Rule ((8.15)) that provides that a vote on a CCR on the General Appropriation Bill shall not occur until at least 48 hours have intervened after the receipt of the report and requires (at least 24 hours prior to voting) an unofficial enrollment and a summary. Provides that these requirements may be waived by a majority vote of the elected members of the House.

Proposed House Rule removes the provisions of present House Rule 8.21 but maintains some of the same procedures and requirements and provides for consideration of conference committee reports as follows:

- (1) Provides that a CCR is a privileged report and notice of receipt shall be given by the Clerk at the first opportunity without interrupting pending business. Requires that the question of consideration of a CCR lie over until the appropriate order of business during the Regular Orders on the next legislative day (lie over). Provides that the Clerk shall place each CCR on the calendar in the order in which it was received for consideration (same as in present House Rule).
- (2) Provides that any motion, the effect of which is to suspend the above provisions shall be debatable and shall require a favorable vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting unless a CCR is received on sine die day, then such a motion shall require a favorable vote of a majority of the elected members of the House. (similar to present House Rule).
- (3) Provides that the question upon consideration of a CCR, unless a substitute or other main motion be made, shall be the question of adoption of the CCR. (same as in present House Rule).
- (4) Requires the Clerk to announce to the House, prior to consideration of a CCR, if a CCR is confined and the names of the conferees who signed the report and the names of the conferees who did not sign the report, unless signed by all conferees in which case the Clerk shall announce that fact (similar to present House Rule).

(Adds House Rule 8.23; Repeals House Rule 8.21)