

2025 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 4

BY SENATOR MORRIS

SENATE. Removes requirement for rendition of a special order by the 19th Judicial District Court prior to issuing interim committee subpoena.

A RESOLUTION

To amend and readopt Senate Rule 13.15 of the Rules of Order of the Senate, relative to interim committee subpoena power; to remove requirement for rendition of a special order of the 19th Judicial District Court prior to issuance of interim subpoena; and to provide for related matters.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana amends and readopts Senate Rule 13.15 of the Rules of Order of the Senate to read as follows:

Rule 13.15. Standing committees; subpoena power, punishment for contempt

Each standing committee established by Rule 13.1 and each joint committee established pursuant to the authority granted in Rule 13.12, and any subcommittee of either, is hereby specifically and expressly granted the power and authority, with the written approval of the President, to hold hearings, subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, require the production of books and records, and to do all other things necessary to accomplish the purposes of the study, hearing, or investigation assigned to it by the Senate or by the legislature or by a majority of the members of the committee. However, if a study or investigation is undertaken during the interim between sessions, a subpoena or a subpoena duces tecum shall issue only upon the

1 approval of a majority of all the members of the standing committee and of the
2 President ~~and upon the rendition of a special order of the Nineteenth Judicial District~~
3 ~~Court or of any other judicial district court, subject to general rules of venue,~~
4 authorizing the committee to issue the subpoena or subpoena duces tecum, ~~in which~~
5 ~~order the court may prescribe such requirements and conditions as it may consider~~
6 ~~just and reasonable.~~ In the event a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum is not honored,
7 the standing committee or joint committee also shall have the power to punish for
8 contempt and to provide for the prosecution of any individual for refusal to testify,
9 false swearing, or perjury before the committee or subcommittee in accordance with
10 law.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Thomas L. Tyler.

DIGEST

SR 4 Original

2025 Regular Session

Morris

Present rule retains authority of each standing committee, joint committee, and any subcommittee, with written approval of the President, to hold hearings, subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, require the production of books and records, and to do all other things necessary to accomplish the purposes of the study, hearing, or investigation assigned to it by the Senate or by the legislature or by a majority of the members of the committee.

Present rule provides that during the interim between sessions, a subpoena or a subpoena duces tecum shall issue only upon the approval of a majority of all the members of the standing committee and of the President and upon the rendition of a special order of the 19th Judicial District Court or of any other judicial district court, subject to general rules of venue, authorizing the committee to issue the subpoena or subpoena duces tecum, in which order the court may prescribe such requirements and conditions as it may consider just and reasonable.

Proposed rule retains procedure for approval of a subpoena but removes the requirement for a special order rendered by the 19th JDC or other judicial court subject to general rules of venue.

Proposed rule retains present authority of the committee or joint committee, if a subpoena is not honored, to punish for contempt and to provide for the prosecution of any individual for refusal to testify, false swearing, or perjury before the committee or subcommittee in accordance with law.

(Amends Senate Rule No. 13.15)