

2013 -- H 5350

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

AMENDING THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE YEARS  
2011 - 2012

Introduced By: Representatives Ucci, and Corvese

Date Introduced: February 07, 2013

Referred To: House Rules

1 RESOLVED, That Rules 14 and 17 of the rules for the House of Representatives  
2 adopted by the House of Representatives at its January session, A.D. 2011, entitled "House  
3 Resolution Adopting Rules of the House of Representatives for the Years 2011-2012," be and are  
4 hereby amended to read as follows:

5 **Rules Pertaining to Bills and Petitions**

6 (14)(a) No bill or resolution shall be considered or acted upon by the House if objection  
7 is made unless the same has been considered by, reported, or recalled from a committee thereof,  
8 from a joint committee, or by two-thirds (2/3) of members present. This rule shall not apply to a  
9 House Bill of which the Senate duplicate has passed the House, and provided further that the  
10 Speaker may at any time order a duplicate bill received from the Senate or a Senate bill after the  
11 budget bill shall have passed the House, onto the calendar.

12 (b) When a bill or resolution is postponed indefinitely, the same shall not be acted upon  
13 again during the session.

14 (c) No bill or resolution shall be passed or concurred in without two (2) readings. The  
15 first reading shall take place by acceptance of the bill or resolution and publication in the House  
16 Journal and the second after it has been placed upon the calendar. No bill or resolution upon the  
17 calendar shall be taken up for consideration unless copies thereof, in the form in which it was  
18 reported from committee, shall have been made available in print or electronically to the  
19 members no later than the rise of the House on the legislative day before the day on which it shall

1 be in order for consideration. No matter of business on the calendar shall be considered upon its  
2 merits prior to the legislative day after it shall have been placed on the calendar except by vote of  
3 the majority of the members present and voting. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply  
4 to Senate bills received by the House which are duplicates of House bills.

5 (d) No more than fifty (50) public bills shall be considered upon their merits during any  
6 one (1) legislative day and no bill shall be brought before the body after 11:30 p.m., provided,  
7 however, that House bills returned from the Senate, Senate bills which are duplicates of and  
8 identical to House bills, corporate charter revocation bills, and solemnization of marriage bills  
9 and bills removed from the consent calendar may be considered notwithstanding this limit.  
10 Provided further, that Senate bills which are duplicates of and identical to House bills, and House  
11 bills returned from the Senate, may without objection be bundled and passed by one vote  
12 provided that they are provided to members electronically prior to consideration. In the case of  
13 bundled bills that contain identical and duplicate Senate bills, at the request of the Majority and  
14 Minority Leaders the House journal will reflect that the vote of the members on the bill is  
15 consistent with his or her vote on the duplicate House bill previously passed. Prior to the vote on  
16 a duplicate bill, it should be stated for the record and be made known to the body that the bill is  
17 identical.

18 (e) The budget bill shall be prepared by Legislative Council. The budget bill shall not be  
19 considered by the House unless copies thereof as approved by the finance committee have been  
20 available to the members for ~~seven (7)~~ nine (9) calendar days. For the purposes of calculating the  
21 ~~seven (7)~~ nine (9) calendar day requirement, the day of passage by the Finance Committee shall  
22 not be counted but the scheduled day for floor action shall be included in the calculation. No floor  
23 amendment which is intended to make a substantive change in the budget bill may be offered  
24 other than by the Chair of the finance committee, except with the agreement of two-thirds (2/3) of  
25 the members present. ~~, unless the text thereof shall have been submitted to the Legislative~~  
26 ~~Council and made available to the members two (2) calendar days prior to the day on which the~~  
27 ~~budget bill shall be in order for consideration. Any amendment proposed to the budget by a~~  
28 member shall be heard by the finance committee within the nine (9) calendar day requirement  
29 period.

30 (f) An amendment which was germane when prepared, and which was offered in a timely  
31 fashion, but is no longer germane because of an intervening amendment, may, with the agreement  
32 of the majority leader and minority leader, be revised orally or in writing by the sponsor without  
33 renewed compliance with the requirements hereof.

34 (g) After the 50th legislative day, bills or resolutions received back from the Senate with

1 amendments requiring House concurrence shall, with the agreement of the House sponsor and the  
2 Majority Leader, be placed on the calendar in order for the day upon which they are received.

3 (17)(a) No amendment to a pending bill or resolution may be considered by the House,  
4 except by unanimous consent, unless the text of the amendment shall be on the desks of the  
5 members in typed form or accessible electronically.

6 (b) When an amendment proposed to any pending measure is laid on the table, it shall not  
7 be construed to be a motion to table the measure on which the amendment has been offered.

8 (c) The motion to lay on the table and the motion to take from the table shall be non-  
9 debatable; provided, however, that the mover of an amendment shall be allowed two (2) minutes  
10 to reply when a motion is made to table his or her amendment; whereupon the Speaker shall put  
11 [forward](#) the question on the motion to table.

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