RULES OF THE SENATE

2025-2026

12/04/2024
01/08/2025
01/30/2025
06/12/2025
06/26/2025
09/16/2025
10/23/2025
04/09/2026
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PART ONE
DUTIES OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT

1-1 Determination of Quorum; Correction of Journal - The President, having taken the chair, shall determine a quorum to be present. Any erroneous entry in the daily journal shall be corrected no later than the third succeeding legislative day, and the permanent journal corrected within one week after the permanent journal copy is placed in the hands of the Senate or a Clerk's note written in the daily or the permanent journal.

1-2 Members, Conduct When Speaking - Any member, wishing to speak, shall notify the President. When recognized to speak, the member shall rise and address the President, and when finished shall then sit down.

1-3 Members Not to Speak More Than Twice - No member shall speak more than twice on the same question on the same day without leave of the Senate President.

1-4 President Shall Recognize Whom - When more than one member wishes to speak at the same time, the President shall decide who shall speak first.

1-5 Questions of Order, Appeal - The President shall preserve decorum and order. If any member transgresses the rules of the Senate, the President shall, or any member may, call said member to order in which case the member so called to order shall immediately cease and desist, and the Senate, if appealed to, shall decide the case. But if there is no appeal, the decision of the President shall be conclusive.

1-6 Galleries, Clearing of - In case of any disturbance or disorderly conduct in the gallery, the President shall have the power to order the same to be cleared. The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may restrict attendance to the duly elected Senators.

1-7 President to Sign Bills, etc - All warrants, subpoenas and other processes issued by order of the Senate shall be under the hand and seal of the President attested by the Clerk.

1-8 President May Name Member to Chair - The President when performing the duties of the Chair may, at any time, name any member to perform the duties of the Chair.

PART TWO
THE SENATE SESSION

DECORUM

2-1 Absence of Members from Session - No member shall absent himself or herself without permission from the Senate.

2-2 Decorum While Another is Speaking - No member shall hold conversation with another while a member is speaking in debate.

2-3 Use of Electronic Devices - The use of electronic devices by Senators, with the exception of approved Senate-issued devices is prohibited on the Senate floor during session, unless the Senate is in recess or unless otherwise approved by the Senate.

Subsidiary Motions

Motion	Debatable	Amendable	Notes
Refer (or Recommit)	Yes	Yes	Debatable only as to the propriety of a referral. Amendments limited to the committee to which the matter will be referred and any instructions thereto.

2-4 Recording and Broadcast Devices During Recess - All recording and broadcast devices used on the Senate floor shall be paused or otherwise prevented from recording or broadcasting audio or video of members or staff while the Senate is in recess.

DEBATE

2-10 Motions - Motions during debate shall be considered according to the provisions of Table I, with said motions listed in order of decreasing precedence.

2-11 Limitations on Renewal of Motions - No motion to postpone indefinitely, to postpone to a certain day or time, or to refer (or rerefer, if applicable), being decided, shall be in order at the same stage of the bill or resolution, until after adjournment.

2-12 No Substitution under Color of Amendment. - No new motion shall be admitted under color of amendment as a substitute for the motion under debate.

2-13 Reconsideration Restrictions - No vote shall be reconsidered unless the motion for reconsideration is made by a member who voted with the prevailing side and, if the vote applied to a bill or resolution, the bill or resolution to which the vote applied is in the possession of the Senate. Any request for reconsideration of a bill or resolution subject to a deadline established by Senate rules not acted on by said deadline shall be null and void.

2-14 Reconsideration Process - Reconsideration shall only be made in one of the following manners:

(a) A motion to reconsider shall be made in open session prior to adjournment from the early session on the same day on which the vote to be reconsidered was taken, in which case, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate, the reconsideration vote shall be taken up immediately, or

(b) A signed notice of reconsideration, by a member who voted with the prevailing side, shall be provided to the Clerk, on a form prescribed by the Clerk, within two business days of the taking of the vote to be reconsidered, in which case, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate, any reconsiderations shall be the first order of business on the next legislative day.

2-15 Division of the Question - Any member may call for the division of the question and when the sense will admit it, as determined by the President, the question shall be divided.

Table I - Motions

Privileged Motions

Motion	Debatable	Amendable	Notes
Adjourn	No	Yes	Amendments limited to the time to which to adjourn.
Recess	No	Yes	Amendments limited to length of the recess.

Incidental Motions (all become main motions if made when no question is pending or when not related to the business at hand)

Motion	Debatable	Amendable	Notes
Appeal	Yes	No	Debate limited to the specific decision of presiding officer from which appeal is made. Presiding officer is allowed to speak. The question to be put is, "Shall the decision of the president stand?" A tie vote also sustains the chair's ruling.
Point of Order	No	No	Calls attention to a violation of rules or order. May be raised when another member is speaking. Not technically a motion, but the presiding officer could submit the question to the Senate, at which point it becomes a motion open for debate, but not amendment.
Parliamentary Inquiry	No	No	Requests information from the presiding officer about parliamentary procedure or Senate rules. May be raised when another member is speaking only if it requires immediate attention. Not technically a motion.
Object to Reading of Papers	No	No	Reading from documents as part of a speech is generally allowed as a courtesy, provided the papers are relevant, short and not used as a delaying tactic. Any member may object during the reading, however, and the body decides whether permission to read is granted.
Suspend the Rules	No	No	Requires a 2/3 vote. See Rule 6-6

Subsidiary Motions

Motion	Debatable	Amendable	Notes
Lay Upon the Table	No	No	May be applied to a main motion with other pending motions, in which case the main motion, along with all pending motions, is laid on the table.
Previous Question	No	No	If not otherwise specified, ends debate and calls for a vote on the immediately pending question. May be used to end debate and call for votes on all pending questions.
Postpone to a Certain Day or Time	Yes	Yes	Merits of the main question must not be referred to any more than is necessary to enable the Senate to determine the propriety of postponement.
Refer (or Rerefer)	Yes	Yes	Debatable only as to the propriety of a referral. Amendments limited to the committee to which the matter will be referred and any instructions thereto.
Amend	Yes	Yes	
Postpone Indefinitely	Yes	No	Opens the main question for debate, since it involves the final disposition of the question. No part of a bill or resolution postponed indefinitely shall be acted on in any way (bill, amendment, resolution, conference report, etc.) for the rest of the biennium.

Main Motions (can only have one main motion before the Senate at a time)

Motion	Debatable	Amendable	Notes
Committee Reports	Yes	Yes	See Rule 4-2
Bills Amended by the House	Yes	No	See Rule 3-22
Take From Table	No	No	
Special Order	No	No	Moves consideration of a future scheduled or currently scheduled item to another time by a simple majority vote.
Reconsider	Yes	No	Debatable to the extent the question being reconsidered is debatable. If so, it opens up the original question for debate.
Vacate	Yes	No	Brings an item back from committee and puts it before the entire Senate.

2-16 Personal privilege - A Senator may, as a matter of personal privilege, defend his/her position on a bill or resolution, his/her integrity, his/her record, or his/her conduct, against unfair or unwarranted criticism, or may speak of an issue which relates to his/her rights, privileges or conveniences as a Senator; provided, however, the matters raised under personal privilege shall not be subject to questioning, answer, or debate, by another Senator. Personal Privilege remarks may be included in the Daily Journal if requested by the Senator, and in the Permanent Journal by vote of the Senate.

2-17 Other Remarks (Unanimous Consent) - A Senator may, when granted leave by the Senate, speak on other matters of his/her choosing and in such cases may be subject to questioning and/or answer according to the Rules of the Senate. These remarks may be included in the Daily Journal if requested by the Senator, and in the Permanent Journal by vote of the Senate.

VOTING

2-20 General Rules on Voting - All questions shall be put by the President, and no member who was absent when the question was put shall be required to vote.

2-21 Abstaining from a Vote - No member who was present when the question was put shall abstain from voting unless by reason of a conflict pursuant to Rule 6-25 or unless excused by the Senate for a special reason.

2-22 Voice Vote - When the question has been put, each member present shall signify assent or dissent by voting yea or nay.

2-23 Division Vote - If the President doubts or a division is called for, the Senate shall divide. Those in the affirmative on the question shall first rise from their seats and stand until they be counted. They shall then be seated and those in the negative on the question shall rise from their seats and stand until they be counted. The President shall rise and state the decision of the Senate.

2-24 Recorded Voice or Division Vote - Any member may, following a voice or division vote, have his or her vote recorded in the Journal by providing a signed notice of said vote to the Clerk, on a form prescribed by the Clerk, within two business days of the taking of said vote.

2-25 Roll Call Vote - When the yeas and nays have been moved by a member and duly seconded by another member, each member present shall declare assent or dissent to the question. The names of the persons so making the motion and the second shall be recorded in the Journal. The President shall determine the order of the roll call.

MISCELLANEOUS

2-30 Visitors to the Senate - No person except members of the Senate and its officers, the Governor, Council members, the Secretary of State, the Treasurer, the Speaker of the

House of Representatives and its officers and clerks, shall be admitted to the floor of the Senate while the Senate is in session, except by the invitation of the President, or some member with the President's consent.

2-31 Hours of meeting - The Senate shall adjourn to meet on the subsequent legislative day for the early session at the time mentioned in the adjournment motion. The late session shall immediately follow the early session unless the Senate shall otherwise order.

2-32 Introduction of Petitions - Before any petition shall be received and read, a brief statement of the contents thereof shall be made by the member introducing the same.

2-33 Remote Participation in Senate Session - Upon the vote of two-thirds of members present and voting, a member may participate in a Senate session from a remote location by electronic or other means that ensures that the member participating remotely is able to simultaneously see and hear each of the other members of the Senate speak during the session. The member participating remotely shall identify his or her location and identify all persons present in the location from which the member is participating. The member's participation shall be audible to the public watching the Senate's livestream. No roll call shall be required unless moved and seconded pursuant to Rule 2-25. A quorum of the Senate shall be present in the chamber at all times. This rule shall expire at the end of the 2026 legislative session.

PART THREE
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

DRAFTING

3-1 Office of Legislative Services to Prepare Items - All petitions, memorials and other papers addressed to the Senate and all bills and resolutions to be introduced in the Senate except those procedural and rules resolutions prepared by the Clerk, shall be delivered or caused to be delivered to the Office of Legislative Services, who shall prepare the items in proper form and present them to the sponsor(s) for signature and then to the Clerk.

3-2 Marking and Numbering Bills and Resolutions - Every bill and resolution, except those procedural and rules resolutions prepared by the Clerk, shall be numbered serially according to the type of bill or resolution. Each bill shall be marked on the first page "Senate Bill"; each joint resolution shall be marked "Senate Joint Resolution"; each concurrent resolution proposing a constitutional amendment shall be marked "Concurrent Resolution Proposing a Constitutional Amendment"; each concurrent resolution shall be marked "Senate Concurrent Resolution";, and each senate resolution shall be marked "Senate Resolution".

3-3 Confidential Filing Requests - If requested by the sponsor, a proposed bill, resolution or petition shall not be made public, except by the sponsor, until published to be introduced into the Senate.

3-4 Draft Provided to Legislative Budget Assistant - If a drafting request for a bill or resolution has been filed with the Office of Legislative Services requiring a fiscal note as provided in RSA 14:44-47, the substance or a draft of the proposal may be provided to the Legislative Budget Assistant for preparation of the required fiscal note without the specific consent of the sponsor of the proposal, provided that the identity of the sponsor shall not be disclosed.

3-5 Drafting Requests After Deadline - Notwithstanding the drafting deadline established in Rule 7-1, a Senate bill, Senate joint resolution, or Senate concurrent resolution may be accepted by the Office of Legislative Services for drafting and introduced into the Senate at any time prior to the crossover deadline established by Senate rules if the drafting request is approved by a majority of the Rules and Enrolled Bills Committee. Requests made under this paragraph shall contain detailed information on the scope and purpose of the intended legislation and shall not be confidential.

POST-DRAFTING PROCESS

3-10 Reading of Bills and Resolutions - Every bill or resolution, except senate resolutions and those procedural and rules resolutions prepared by the Clerk, shall have three readings in the Senate previous to its passage. The first and second readings shall be by title only which may be accomplished by a conglomerate resolution, after which the bill or resolution shall be referred by the President to the appropriate committee and shall be printed as provided in Rule 3-11, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate. No bill or resolution after it has been read a second time shall have a third reading until after adjournment from the early session. The time assigned for the third reading of bills and resolutions shall be in the late session unless otherwise ordered by the Senate. The orders of the day for the reading of bills or resolutions shall hold for every succeeding day until disposed of.

3-11 Printing and Distribution - After every bill or resolution shall have been read a second time, and referred by the President to the appropriate committee, the Clerk shall procure a sufficient number of copies, printed on paper of uniform size, for the use of the legislature, and cause the same to be distributed to the members, and when printed the bill or resolution shall be immediately delivered to the committee to which it shall have been referred. Bills and resolutions received from the House shall be printed at the same stage of their procedure unless they have been printed in the House and copies distributed in the Senate, in which case any amendment made by the House shall be duplicated and distributed in the Senate.

3-12 Administrative Tasks During Adjournment - During any recess or adjournment the President may receive bills and resolutions for printing and for reference to committee, provided that no bill or resolution shall have a public hearing until it is formally introduced into the Senate, printed and available for distribution.

AMENDMENTS

3-15 Amendments Only on Second Reading - No amendment shall be made but upon the second reading of a bill or resolution; and all such amendments shall be in writing, with the name of the Senator and the district he or she represents, or in the case of a committee amendment the name of the committee that recommended it, thereon.

3-16 Review of Amendments by Office of Legislative Services - Amendments shall have been reviewed by the Office of Legislative Services for form, construction, statutory and chapter reference.

3-17 Non-Germane Amendments Prohibited - No amendment to any bill or resolution shall be allowed except it be germane. For the purposes of this rule, an amendment to a bill or resolution is germane if:

(a) The subject matter of the amendment is the same as that of some portion of the bill or resolution, or
(b) A public hearing has been held after proper notice in the Senate calendar, or
(c) If the subject of the amendment was previously found ought-to-pass by the Senate, or
(d) It is an amendment to a house bill, proposed by the Committee on Finance, establishing a general appropriations (budget) bill or trailer bill because the House did not pass one or more of the budget bills.

GENERAL RULES ON BILLS

3-20 Resolutions Treated as Bills - All resolutions which may require the signature of the Governor shall be treated in the same manner as bills.

3-21 Prohibition in Second-Year Session - No bill or resolution the subject matter of which has been indefinitely postponed or made inexpedient to legislate in the Senate in the first-year session shall be admitted into the second-year session whether as a bill, an amendment, a committee of conference report or in any other manner.

3-22 Bills Amended by the House - Any bill or resolution returned from the House with an amendment shall not be referred to committee but shall have one of the following recommendations considered by the full Senate: Concur, Nonconcur, Nonconcur and Request a Committee of Conference. Adoption of a motion to Nonconcur kills the bill or resolution.

3-23 Bills or Resolutions Laid on the Table - All bills or resolutions remaining on the table as of October 31 of the first year and at the end of session shall be made Inexpedient to Legislate at that time.

3-24 Reports on Budget Bills - Senate action on a report of the Committee on Finance on either the general appropriations (budget) bill or the capital budget bill shall not be taken by the Senate until said report has been available from the Senate Clerk twenty-four hours in advance, in written form. Footnotes to such bills (except footnotes in explanation of the principal text of such bills or designating the use or restriction of any funds or portions thereof) shall not be allowed.

3-25 Chapter Study Committees - Any bill or resolution creating a chapter study committee shall have membership limited to members of the General Court.

3-26 Types of Resolutions Allowed - The only resolutions that may be introduced into the Senate are: resolutions seeking an advisory opinion of the supreme court under the New Hampshire Constitution; joint resolutions sponsored by the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules; resolutions ratifying amendments to the U.S. Constitution; resolutions proposing amendment of the New Hampshire Constitution; procedural and rules resolutions prepared by the Clerk; concurrent resolutions for the purpose of joint rules; joint resolutions for the purpose of continuing resolutions; and concurrent resolutions to declare the office of Governor vacant by Pt. II, Art. 49-a. All other resolutions shall require a vote of two-thirds of members present and voting to be introduced for consideration by the body pursuant to Senate Rule 6-6. The vote on the question of whether to introduce the resolution for consideration by the body is non-debatable.

PART FOUR
COMMITTEES AND THEIR DUTIES

4-1 Public Hearings - A hearing shall be held upon each bill or resolution referred to a committee, and notice of such hearing shall be advertised at least 4 days before such hearing in the Senate Calendar. The Senate Calendar shall be available on the Internet for viewing as soon as it has been released for printing.

4-2 Committee Reports - All bills and resolutions in the possession of committees shall be reported out with one of the following recommendations: ought to pass, ought to pass with amendment, rerefer to committee, inexpedient to legislate, or refer for interim study. Rerefer to committee shall be a committee report only in the first year session and all such rereferred bills or resolutions shall be acted on by the fourth legislative day of the second year session. Refer for interim study shall be a committee report only in the second year session.

4-3 Tie Vote in Committee - In the event a committee is unable to reach a majority vote in favor of any recommendation, the bill or resolution shall be reported out of committee with no recommendation.

4-4 Amendments by Committee - When a bill or resolution is reported favorably with an amendment, the report of the committee shall state the amendment, and then recite the section of the bill or resolution in full as amended. The amendment shall be printed in the senate calendar on the date that the report is listed for action. If no action is taken on that day, then the amendment shall be printed on the day to which the bill or resolution has been referred. All bills and resolutions reported shall be retained by the Clerk and shall not be finally acted upon until the following legislative day, and a list of such bills and resolutions with the report of the committee thereon shall be published in the senate calendar for the day on which action shall be taken.

4-5 Referral to Finance Committee - Every bill and joint resolution appropriating money, and every other bill which is accompanied by a fiscal note pursuant to RSA 14:44, which has been referred to another committee and found ought-to-pass by the Senate, shall

be referred to the Finance Committee for review, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate upon recommendation of the chair of the Finance Committee. Notwithstanding Senate Rule 4-1, a public hearing for any such bill or resolution shall not be required if a public hearing for the bill or resolution was previously held by another committee.

4-6 Committee Appointments - On all committees of the Senate, including Senate conference committees, both parties shall be represented. The President shall appoint the members of all committees after consultation with the minority leader.

4-7 Standing Committees - The standing committees of the Senate shall be as follows: the Committee on Capital Budget, the Committee on Children and Family Law, the Committee on Commerce, the Committee on Education, the Committee on Education Finance, the Committee on Election Law and Municipal Affairs, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration, the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Health and Human Services, the Committee on Judiciary, the Committee on Rules and Enrolled Bills, the Committee on Transportation, the Committee on Ways and Means, and such subcommittees as the Senate President determines.

4-8 Committee Reports and Meetings - The committees shall promptly consider and report on all matters referred to them. The President may authorize such committees having a heavy load of investigation, re-drafting, research or amendments to meet as needed on non legislative days during the legislative session.

PART FIVE
COMMITTEES OF CONFERENCE

GENERAL RULES ON COMMITTEES OF CONFERENCE

5-1 Formation of Committees of Conference - Whenever there is any disagreement between the Senate and the House on the content of any bill or resolution, and whenever both bodies, voting separately, have agreed to establish a committee of conference, the President of the Senate shall appoint three members to the Senate committee of conference on the bill or resolution and the Speaker of the House shall appoint four members to the House committee of conference.

5-2 Exceptions to Number of Members - Notwithstanding Rule 5-1, the House committee of conference on the operating budget shall consist of five members and the number of members of any committee of conference may increase or decrease if the President and the Speaker both agree.

5-3 Replacement of Members - Notwithstanding Rule 4-6, the President may replace any member of a Senate committee of conference who asks to be replaced or who is unwilling or unable to support a proposed conference committee report.

5-4 Operation of Committees of Conference - The two committees of conference on a bill or resolution shall meet jointly but vote separately while in conference. A unanimous vote by both committees of conference shall be necessary for an agreed report to the Senate and the House by the committees of conference.

5-5 Chairperson of Committees of Conference - The first-named person on a Senate committee of conference shall chair the committee. The chair of the committee of conference of the body where the bill or resolution originated shall chair the joint meeting of the committees of conference and shall have the authority to call the time and place for their first meeting.

5-6 Bill Sponsor Granted a Hearing - The prime sponsor of any bill or resolution referred to committees of conference shall, upon his or her request, be granted a hearing before said committees prior to action thereon.

PROHIBITIONS

5-10 Title Change Prohibited - A committee of conference shall not change the title of the bill or resolution submitted to it.

5-11 Non-Germane Amendments Prohibited - A committee of conference shall not add to the bill or resolution submitted to it any amendment that is non-germane to either the House- or Senate-passed version of the bill or resolution. For the purposes of this rule, the criteria for determining germaneness, as described in Rule 3-17 shall apply.

5-12 Indefinitely Postponed Items Prohibited - A committee of conference shall not add to the bill or resolution submitted to it any measure that was indefinitely postponed in either body.

ACTIONS

5-15 Action on Committee of Conference Reports - No action shall be taken by the Senate on any committee of conference report earlier than some subsequent day to the filing of the report, and after the report has been placed on a member's desk.

5-16 Committees of Conference on Budget Bills - The report of the committee of conference on either the general appropriation bill or the capital improvements bill shall be printed in the journal or a supplement thereto, and shall be available for at least 24 hours in written form, before action on said report is taken on the floor. Footnotes to such bills (except footnotes in explanation of the principal text of such bills or designating the use or restriction of any funds or portions thereof) shall not be allowed.

PART SIX
OTHER RULES

SENATE STAFF

6-1 Composition and Duties - The staff of the Senate shall be comprised of:

(1) A Clerk, who shall be elected by the Senate;
(2) Clerk's office staff, who shall be nominated by the Clerk and appointed by the President; and
(3) Such other personnel as the President shall appoint.

The President shall define the duties of all members of the Senate staff which are not fixed by statute or otherwise ordered by the Senate.

6-2 Days of Employment - Each member of the staff of the Senate shall be available on call to carry out the work of the Senate.

6-3 Requisition Approval Required - No officer or employee of the Senate during the session or any adjournment thereof shall purchase or contract for the purchase, pay, or promise to pay any sum of money on behalf of the Senate or issue any requisition or manifest without the approval of the Senate President.

SENATE RULES

6-5 Amending Rules - Any rule of the Senate may be amended by majority vote during the first five legislative days of the first-year session, after which a two-thirds majority shall be required.

6-6 Suspending Rules - No standing rule of the Senate shall be suspended unless two-thirds of the members present and voting vote in favor thereof.

6-7 Rescinding Rules - No rule shall be rescinded unless two days notice of the motion has been given and two-thirds of those present and voting vote therefore.

MESSAGES

6-10 Messages Sent to House - Messages shall be sent to the House of Representatives by the Clerk of the Senate.

6-11 Messages, When Received - Messages from the Governor or House of Representatives may be received at all times, except when the Senate is engaged in putting the question, in calling the yeas and nays, or in counting the ballots.

CONSENT CALENDAR

6-20 Consent Calendar - The Senate Calendar may have a Consent Calendar section containing reports on bills and resolutions believed to be non-controversial.

6-21 Conditions for Inclusion - No bill or resolution shall appear on the Consent Calendar unless all of the following conditions are met:

(a) All members of the committee that are present and voting to which the bill or resolution was referred, vote in favor of placing it on the Consent Calendar.

(b) A short explanation of the committee's recommendation, approved by the member of the committee who is reporting the bill, appears with the bill or resolution in the Consent Calendar.

6-22 Prohibitions - Constitutional amendment concurrent resolutions shall not appear on the Consent Calendar.

6-23 Removal - Any two member**s** may request removal of any bill or resolution listed on the Consent Calendar. Any item removed from the Consent Calendar shall be taken up at the conclusion of the Regular Calendar. All items remaining on the Consent Calendar shall be acted upon without debate.

MISCELLANEOUS

6-25 Conflict of Interest - In all instances every member shall act in conformance with the duly adopted Ethical Guidelines and Opinions of the New Hampshire General Court.

6-26 Requests to the Legislative Budget Assistant - Any Senate member may make a request of the Office of the Legislative Budget Assistant Budget Division, for technical staff assistance in the areas of finance, accounting and budgeting. The Budget Division may respond to that request when doing so will not interfere with the Budget Division's principal responsibilities as outlined in RSA 14:31-b, as determined by the Legislative Budget Assistant.

6-27 Committee of the Whole - The Senate may resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole at any time on motion made for that purpose; and in forming a Committee of the Whole; the President shall leave the chair, and appoint a chairperson to preside in committee.

PART SEVEN
DEADLINES

7-1 Deadlines. *After conferring with the Minority Leader, the deadlines may be reasonably amended at the discretion of the Senate President, to be timely noticed on the General Court website.*

(a) Wednesday, December 11, 2024 – Deadline for the Office of Legislative Services to accept drafting of a Senate Bill, Senate Concurrent Resolution, or Senate Joint Resolution with complete information for the 2025 Session.

(b) Friday, January 17, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. – Deadline for prime sponsors to sign off on legislation.

(c) Friday, January 17, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. – Deadline for co-sponsors to sign off on legislation.

(d) Monday, February 24, 2025 – Friday, February 28, 2025: SENATE BREAK.

(e) Thursday, March 06, 2025 – Deadline for Policy Committees to ACT on all Senate bills with a fiscal impact, except bills exempted pursuant to Senate Rule 4-5.

(f) Thursday, March 27, 2025 – CROSSOVER – Deadline to ACT on all Senate bills.

(g) Thursday, May 15, 2025 – Deadline for Policy Committees to ACT on all House bills with a fiscal impact, except bills exempted pursuant to Senate Rule 4-5.

(h) Thursday, June 05, 2025 – Deadline to ACT on all House bills.

(i) Thursday, June 12, 2025 – Deadline to FORM Committees of Conference.

(j) Thursday, June 19, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.– Deadline to SIGN Committee of Conference Reports.

(k) Thursday, June 26, 2025 – Deadline to ACT on Committee of Conference Reports.

(l) Wednesday, September 03, 2025 – First Day to FILE legislation for 2026 Senate Session.

(m) Friday, September 12, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. – Deadline for the Office of Legislative Services to accept drafting of a Senate Bill, Senate Concurrent Resolution, or Senate Joint Resolution with complete information for the 2026 Senate Session.

(n) Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. – Deadline for prime sponsors to sign off on legislation.

(o) Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. – Deadline for co-sponsors to sign off on legislation.

(p) Thursday, December 11, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. – Deadline to REPORT rereferred bills out of committee.

(q) Wednesday, January 07, 2026 – Convening Day

(r) Monday, February 23, 2026 – Friday, February 27, 2026 – SENATE BREAK

(s) Thursday, March 05, 2026 – Deadline for Policy Committees to ACT on all Senate bills with a fiscal impact, except bills exempted pursuant to Senate Rule 4-5.

(t) Thursday, March 26, 2026 – CROSSOVER – Deadline to ACT on all Senate bills.

(u) Thursday, April 30, 2026 – Deadline for Policy Committees to ACT on all House bills with a fiscal impact, except bills exempted pursuant to Senate Rule 4-5.

(v) Thursday, May 14, 2026 – Deadline to ACT on all House bills.

(w) Thursday, May 21, 2026 – Deadline to FORM Committees of Conference.

(x) Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.– Deadline to SIGN Committee of Conference Reports.

(y) Thursday, June 04, 2026– Deadline to ACT on Committee of Conference Reports.

(z) Monday, September 21, 2026 – First day for incumbents seeking re-election to file Legislative Service Requests (LSRs) with complete information.

(aa) Friday, September 25, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. – Last day for incumbents seeking re-election to file Legislative Service Requests (LSRs) with complete information.

(ab) Wednesday, November 4, 2026 – First day for Senators to file Legislative Service Requests (LSRs) with complete information.

(ac) Wednesday, November 18, 2026, 4:00 p.m. – Last day for the Office Legislative Services to accept drafting requests for Senate Bills, Senate Concurrent Resolutions, and Senate Joint Resolutions with complete information for the 2027 Senate Session.

(ad) Friday, December 18, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. – Last day for prime sponsors to sign off on legislation.