

COMMITTEE RULES

2012

KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CHILDREN AND FAMILY ISSUES

The purpose of these rules is to facilitate the understanding of members of the Committee and public in reviewing the flow of legislation through this Committee. Unless stated to the contrary herein, the rules of the House or *Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure* will apply.

PROTOCOL OF MEETING AND COMMITTEE INFORMATION

1. The Chair shall set the Committee Agenda.
2. Items listed on the agenda shall be brought before the committee in order of appearance. However, the Chair may bring to discussion, and possible vote, any bills previously heard at any time.
3. Original motions shall be in order when a bill is pending for consideration. A substitute motion will not be allowed. Amendments to motions are not in order unless approved by the Chair.
4. An amendment to a bill must be “germane” to the area of law that is being proposed or changed. Since committees serve the purpose of examining issues for which there may be multiple solutions or approaches, “germaneness” will be interpreted as broadly as possible. Only the Chair shall determine if an amendment is germane.”
5. The question of adjournment shall be reserved to the Chair, and no motion to adjourn shall be entertained.
6. A motion to “table a bill” shall be in order at any time a question (including an original motion) is pending. The motion to table a bill is nondebatable and requires a majority vote of members present to pass. A successful motion to table a bill shall lay the bill over a minimum of just one day. The Chair may refuse to accept a motion to table a bill with just cause as determined by the Chair.
7. A motion to “take from the table” shall be in order only when such item is on the agenda or is taken up by the Chair. The motion requires a simple majority and is debatable.
8. A motion to report a bill “without recommendation” shall not be in order.

9. A motion to reconsider a previous successful motion shall only be made by a member voting on the prevailing side of the original motion. A simple majority vote of members present shall be required to reconsider a previous successful motion.
10. A motion to report a bill out of committee shall not be in order until all amendments, which have been prepared by the Revisor of Statutes office reports to the Chairman in advance of the meeting, have been considered.
11. No conferee shall be interrupted, except by the Chair, during presentation of his/her testimony.
12. Questioning of a conferee shall be limited to the subject matter on the agenda for the day unless approved by the Chair. If the questioning of a conferee by a committee member goes beyond "reasonableness," the Chair may discontinue the committee member's questioning of that conferee.
13. All conferees shall be treated with respect and given due opportunity to be heard.
14. There shall be no recorded committee votes on committee action. Any committee member may request his/her individual vote be recorded on a bill.
15. All seating will be assigned by the Chair.
16. Requests for excused absences will be honored. Prior notification of absences shall be communicated to the committee secretary (296-7676). Any absence by a member not requesting an excused absence shall be an unexcused absence and recorded as such unless the Chair makes an exception.
17. All cell phones and pagers in the committee room shall be in "silent" mode, and use of cell phones in the committee room will not be permitted. The owner of any cell phone that rings during a committee meeting shall provide apples or oranges for all committee members and staff (13).
18. Photography, including cell phones, video, and audio taping, is prohibited unless approved in advance by the Chair.
19. All powers, duties, and responsibilities not addressed above are reserved to the Chair.