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FIRST DRAFT: Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for the Legislative Management Committee March 2008

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE AND HOUSE RULES 601(4) AND 602(3)

## **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Senate Rule 601(4) is amended:

If the committee report is divided as provided in Senate Rule 602, the reports must 2 4. 3 be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day on the seventh order of business. The President shall receive and announce a motion that the report of 4 5 the minority be substituted for the majority committee report. If the minority report 6 is adopted, that report is substituted for the majority report and must be placed on the calendar on the eleventh or fourteenth order of business. If the minority report 7 8 is not adopted, the majority report is deemed adopted and must be placed on the 9 calendar on the eleventh or fourteenth order of business. If a "do not pass" report 10 is adopted under this subsection, the measure must be placed on the calendar on 11 the eleventh or fourteenth order of business. If no report is adopted under this 12 subsection, the measure must be placed on the calendar on the eleventh or 13 fourteenth order of business unless the measure is subject to rereferral under 14 Senate Rule 329.

## 15 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Senate Rule 602(3) is amended:

- 16 3. The majority report is either the report signed by the largest number of committee 17 members or the report signed by the committee chairman if that report is one of 18 two or more reports signed by the largest and an equal number of members. The 19 majority report must be placed on the calendar for consideration before 20 consideration of above any minority report. Minority reports must be placed on the 21 calendar in order in accordance with the number of committee members signing 22 the reports, with the report signed by the largest number of members being placed 23 on the calendar first.
- 24 SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. House Rule 601(4) is amended:
- 4. If the committee report is divided as provided in House Rule 602, the reports must
  be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day on the seventh order of
  business. The Speaker shall receive and announce a motion that the report of the

1 minority be substituted for the majority committee report. If the minority report is 2 adopted, that report is substituted for the majority report and must be placed on the 3 calendar on the eleventh or fourteenth order of business. If the minority report is 4 not adopted, the majority report is deemed adopted and must be placed on the 5 calendar on the eleventh or fourteenth order of business. If a "do not pass" report 6 is adopted under this subsection, the measure must be placed on the calendar on 7 the eleventh or fourteenth order of business. If no report is adopted under this 8 subsection, the measure must be placed on the calendar on the eleventh or 9 fourteenth order of business unless the measure is subject to rereferral under 10 House Rule 329.

11 SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. House Rule 602(3) is amended:

- The majority report is either the report signed by the largest number of committee
   members or the report signed by the committee chairman if that report is one of
   two or more reports signed by the largest and an equal number of members. The
   majority report must be placed on the calendar for consideration before
   consideration of above any minority report. Minority reports must be placed on the
- 17 calendar in order in accordance with the number of committee members signing
- 18 the reports, with the report signed by the largest number of members being placed
- 19 on the calendar first.

**NOTE:** This proposed rules amendment is in response to the following suggestion:

There appears to be a conflict in House Rules 601(4) and 602(3). In Rule 601(4) on a divided committee report it states that the minority report should be substituted for the majority report and a vote taken on that question. In Rule 602(3) it states that the majority report should be voted on first before the minority report. During the 2007 legislative session we used the procedure in Rule 601(4).

During the 1993-94 interim, the Legislative Management Committee reviewed the procedure followed if a committee recommended divided reports. The specific concern was whether all divided committee reports should be put on the seventh order of business, regardless of the type of recommendation. Two different procedures applied. If one report recommended amendment and the other recommended do not pass, those reports were placed on the seventh order of business and were subject to a motion that the minority report be substituted for the majority report. If both reports recommended amendment of business. The Legislative Management Committee recommended amendment of Senate and House Rules 601 and 602 to provide that all divided reports would be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day on the seventh order of business and are subject to a motion that the minority report be substituted for the majority report.

As a result, Senate and House Rules 602(2) became rules directing the order of placement on the daily calendar, and Senate and House Rules 601(4) became rules describing how divided reports were to be considered.

Reading both rules together, the majority report is placed on the calendar "above" the minority report (House Rule 602), and then when a majority report is being considered, a motion is received that the minority report be substituted for the majority report (House Rule 601). Thus, House Rule 602 is used as a means to prepare the calendar, and House Rule 601 is used to determine the procedure for considering the majority and minority reports.