FIRST DRAFT:
Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for the
Legislative Procedure and Arrangements Committee
December 2019

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Joint Rule 301 is amended as follows:

301. Conference committees.

1. In every case of a difference between the two houses arising from a refusal by one house to concur in amendments made by the other house, if either house requests a conference on the difference that has arisen and appoints a committee for that purpose, the other house ~~shall~~ also shall appoint ~~such~~ a committee for that purpose. Each member of a committee appointed under this rule must be a member of a standing committee to which the bill or resolution to be addressed was referred. Each committee shall appoint a chairman.
2. The committees ~~so~~ appointed under this rule shall meet within two legislative days of appointment at the hour and place agreed on by the chairmen. A conference committee consisting of members from a three-day committee shall meet on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and a conference committee consisting of members from a two-day committee shall meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The chairmen may call meetings on other days as deemed necessary. The chairmen shall have the time and place of the meeting posted before the meeting, or the chairmen shall announce the time and place of the meeting to their respective houses.
3. The committees ~~so~~ appointed under this rule shall state to each other, verbally, or in writing, as either may choose, the reasons of their respective houses, and confer ~~thereon; and they~~regarding the reasons. The committees may report, in the manner set out below, to their respective houses regarding the manner in which they recommend ~~that~~ the difference between the two houses should be resolved.
4. The chairman of the conference committee representing the house of origin of the bill or resolution under consideration shall ensure ~~that~~ minutes of the meetings of the conference committee ~~be~~are kept in the same manner as other standing committee minutes.
5. Conference committees appointed ~~pursuant~~under to this rule shall confine their conferences and recommendations to consideration of the general differences that

gave rise to the appointment of the committees, and in no event may a conference committee submit a divided report.

6. The conference committee report ~~shall first~~must be submitted first to the house having possession of the bill or resolution over which the difference has arisen. The house shall act on the report and, if appropriate, shall ~~proceed to~~ take action on the bill or resolution.

7. After action on the report and, if appropriate, on the bill or resolution, the house having possession of the bill shall transmit the bill or resolution to the other house for appropriate action.