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#### FIRST DRAFT:

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for the Legislative Procedure and Arrangements Committee June 2012

### PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF SENATE AND HOUSE RULES 601

1 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Senate Rule 601 is amended as follows:

## 601. Report of committees.

- The report of a committee must provide for one or more of the following
  recommendations with respect to the bill or resolution: do pass, do not pass, be
  amended, be rereferred to another committee, or be placed on the calendar without
  recommendation.
- 2. During the fifth order of business, the Secretary shall announce that committee reports have been received, if such is the case, and shall list the bill or resolution number, or other identifier, and state the accompanying committee recommendation. If the committee report is divided pursuant to Senate Rule 602, the Secretary shall announce the majority and minority report, or reports, as well.
- 3. a. If the committee report is for amendment, the proposed amendment must be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day on the sixth order of business. After the fifty-fifth legislative day, the proposed amendment must be placed on the calendar on the sixth order of business immediately after the report of the committee is received.
  - b. No action may be taken on an amendment until a verbatim copy of the amendment has been distributed to each member; provided, that on a two-thirds vote of the members-elect, this may be suspended, and the amendment acted on immediately after the report of the committee.
  - c. If the amendment is adopted by a majority vote of the members present, the amended measure must then be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day under the applicable order of business for second reading and final passage except as provided in subdivision e or g.
  - d. If the amendment is rejected, the measure without amendment must be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day under the applicable order of business for second reading and final passage except as provided in subdivision e or g.
  - e. If the committee report is for amendment and then rereferral to another committee, the measure must be rereferred to the appropriate committee after

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- adoption or rejection of the amendment. If, after adoption or rejection of the amendment, a measure is subject to rereferral under Senate Rule 329, the measure must be rereferred to the Appropriations Committee, regardless of whether the report provides for rereferral.
- If the committee report does not recommend rereferral to another committee but f. recommends that the measure pass, do not pass, or makes no recommendation. the measure must be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day under the applicable order of business for second reading and final passage except as provided in subdivision g.
- On motion a measure must be placed on the calendar for second reading and g. final passage immediately after action is taken on the amendment. If the committee report recommends that the measure be placed on the calendar for second reading and final passage immediately after action is taken on the amendment, the measure must be placed on the calendar for second reading and final passage immediately after the amendment is adopted. After the thirty-second legislative day all Senate bills, and after the fifty-fifth legislative day all measures, must be placed on the calendar for second reading and final passage immediately after action is taken on the amendment. AWithout objection, a measure placed on the calendar under this subdivision maymust be acted on immediately after placement on the calendar.
- A report for amendment must be approved as to form and style by the Legislative h. Council staff. When a report for amendment is received by the Secretary without a notation that the report was approved as to form and style by the Legislative Council staff, the Secretary immediately shall cause that report to be delivered to the Legislative Council office with a request that the report be examined and receive a notation approving its form and style.
- If the committee report is divided as provided in Senate Rule 602, the reports must be 4. placed on the calendar for the next legislative day on the seventh order of business. The presiding officer shall receive and announce a motion that the report of the minority be substituted for the majority committee report. If the minority report 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 is not

- adopted, the majority report is deemed adopted and must be placed on the calendar
  on the eleventh or fourteenth order of business. If a "do not pass" report is adopted
  under this subsection, the measure must be placed on the calendar on the eleventh or
  fourteenth order of business. If no report is adopted under this subsection, the
  measure must be placed on the calendar on the eleventh or fourteenth order of
  business unless the measure is subject to rereferral under Senate Rule 329.
  - The Secretary shall ensure that the daily calendar contains appropriate notation of committee reports.

### **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** House Rule 601 is amended as follows:

# 601. Report of committees.

- 1. The report of a committee must provide for one or more of the following recommendations with respect to the bill or resolution: do pass, do not pass, be amended, be rereferred to another committee, or be placed on the calendar without recommendation. However, when a committee fails to adopt any of the above recommendations due to the lack of a majority, the chairman shall report the bill to the floor with whatever minority reports individual committee members may request in accordance with House Rule 602.
- 2. During the fifth order of business, the Chief Clerk shall announce that committee reports have been received, if such is the case, and shall list the bill or resolution number, or other identifier, and state the accompanying committee recommendation. If the committee report is divided pursuant to House Rule 602, the Chief Clerk shall announce the majority and minority report, or reports, as well.
- 3. a. If the committee report is for amendment, the proposed amendment must be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day on the sixth order of business. After the fifty-fifth legislative day, the proposed amendment must be placed on the calendar on the sixth order of business immediately after the report of the committee is received. On sixth order, the Speaker shall announce that without objection, the proposed amendments on the sixth order are deemed approved. If any member objects to a proposed amendment being approved with other proposed amendments, that amendment must be voted on as a separate item.
  - No action may be taken on an amendment until a verbatim copy of the
     amendment has been distributed to each member; provided, that on a two-thirds

vote of the members-elect, this may be suspended, and the amendment acted on immediately after the report of the committee.

- c. If the amendment is adopted by a majority vote of the members present, the amended measure must then be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day under the applicable order of business for second reading and final passage except as provided in subdivision e or g.
- d. If the amendment is rejected, the measure without amendment must be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day under the applicable order of business for second reading and final passage except as provided in subdivision e or g.
- e. If the committee report is for amendment and then rereferral to another committee, the measure must be rereferred to the appropriate committee after adoption or rejection of the amendment. If, after adoption or rejection of the amendment, a measure is subject to rereferral under House Rule 329, the measure must be rereferred to the Appropriations Committee, regardless of whether the report provides for rereferral.
- f. If the committee report does not recommend rereferral to another committee but recommends that the measure pass, do not pass, or makes no recommendation, the measure must be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day under the applicable order of business for second reading and final passage except as provided in subdivision g.
- g. On motion a measure must be placed on the calendar for second reading and final passage immediately after action is taken on the amendment. If the committee report recommends that the measure be placed on the calendar for second reading and final passage immediately after action is taken on the amendment, the measure must be placed on the calendar for second reading and final passage immediately after the amendment is adopted. After the thirty-second legislative day all House bills, and after the fifty-fifth legislative day all measures, must be placed on the calendar for second reading and final passage immediately after action is taken on the amendment. AWithout objection, a measure placed on the calendar under this subdivision maymust be acted on immediately after placement on the calendar. If more than one amendment was deemed approved under subdivision a and the measures are placed on the

calendar under this subdivision, the Speaker shall announce whether the
 measures will be acted on immediately after placement on the calendar and the
 the order in which the measures will be considered.

- h. A report for amendment must be approved as to form and style by the Legislative Council staff. When a report for amendment is received by the Chief Clerk without a notation that the report was approved as to form and style by the Legislative Council staff, the Chief Clerk immediately shall cause that report to be delivered to the Legislative Council office with a request that the report be examined and receive a notation approving its form and style.
- 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 minority be substituted for the majority committee report. If the minority report 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 is not adopted, the majority report is deemed adopted and must be placed on the calendar on the eleventh or fourteenth order of business. If a "do not pass" report is adopted under this subsection, the measure must be placed on the calendar on the eleventh or fourteenth order of business. If no report is adopted under this subsection, the measure must be placed on the calendar on the eleventh or fourteenth order of business unless the measure is subject to rereferral under House Rule 329.
- 5. The Chief Clerk shall ensure that the daily calendar contains appropriate notation of committee reports.

**NOTE:** This proposed amendment is in response to a question as to when to act on measures placed on the calendar under House Rule 601(3)(g)--immediately or as floor action proceeds through 11<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> orders. The question arises due to the language "may be acted on immediately after placement on calendar." The proposed amendment provides for action on the measure immediately after placement on the calendar, unless a member objects.

The second question addressed by the proposed amendment is the House practice of "batching" amendments. The question relates to whether immediate action is to be taken on batched amendments and the order of consideration. The proposed amendment to House Rule 601(3)(g) authorizes the Speaker to announce whether there will be immediate action on the measures and the order of consideration.