

The first meeting of the Senate Committee on Legislative Functions was called to order on Thursday, January 18, 1979, in Room 243 at 1:40 p.m. Chairman Eugene Echols was in the Chair.

PRESENT: Chairman Echols  
Senator Ford  
Senator Gibson  
Senator Wilson  
Senator Young

ABSENT: Vice-Chairman Close (excused)

The Senators discussed SCR-1 regarding possible rewording to clarify the meaning. It was decided to bring it up at another time.

Chairman Echols brought the Committee Rules to the attention of the Committee members.

Discussion on the Rules:

On Item 5, the Senators discussed and decided to change the number of days required to request an item on the agenda from "a day ahead" to "four (4) days ahead".

On Item 6, Senator Wilson suggested that the Committee bill introduction be changed to "approval of four (4) Committee members" instead of "approval of five (5) Committee members" since it is a two-thirds rule. All the Senators agreed.

Senator Gibson: Motion that the "five (5)" be changed to "four (4)" on Item 6.

Senator Wilson: Second the Motion.

The Motion carried.

Senator Ford asked if regular meetings were going to be held. Chairman Echols stated that the Committee is scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday p.m. adjournment and if there is business, we will meet. Senator Wilson stated that there will not be a p.m. adjournment for quite awhile. Chairman Echols stated that the meetings would be held after lunch until such time as a p.m. adjournment. Senator Ford asked if the meetings would be held at 1:30 p.m. Chairman Echols thought that would be a good time.

Senator Ford: Motion to adopt the Rules as amended,  
(See Exhibit "A").

Senator Gibson: Second the Motion.

The Motion carried.

Chairman Echols suggested that the invocation be put in the journal, daily, for future reference. This was discussed further with the Senators. Senator Wilson stated that all invocations need not be put in the journal automatically. Senator Wilson suggested that only worthy pieces be put in. It was decided to let this ride for a day or two.

Chairman Echols asked the Committee if on routinely introduced BDR's or bills, i.e. hiring of attaches, could he look and decide on them or would this require a Committee vote. Senator Gibson said he thought any introductions should be looked at by the Committee. Senator Ford asked if it was the Committee's responsibility to approve personnel. Senator Gibson said "Yes, it is". Chairman Echols briefly discussed the procedure of hiring employees. Chairman Echols stated that, according to the Rules, the Secretary is hired by the Senate and that she interviews and takes care of all the hiring subject to the Committee's perusal. Senator Gibson stated that Leola Armstrong, Senate Secretary, in essence works for this Committee. Senator Wilson asked if Leola Armstrong hires subject to our ratification. Chairman Echols and Senator Gibson said "yes".

Senator Gibson brought up the problem of security within the Chamber. This was discussed further with the Senators. Senator Wilson suggested that Security Officers be admitted to the Senate lower and upper galleries, but they need not patrol the floor itself. Senator Ford asked how the Security Officers were identified as Security. Chairman Echols said they were identified by blue blazers. Senator Wilson suggested that Security Officers wear a badge for identification.

Senator Wilson: Motion that the Security Officers should be allowed in the Senate public lower and upper galleries and that they should have specific identification, (badge).

Senator Gibson: Second the Motion.

The Motion carried.

Chairman Echols said he would inform Leola Armstrong of the Committee's feelings on this issue.

Chairman Echols briefly discussed Senate Resolutions with the Committee. Senator Ford and Senator Gibson stated that all Resolutions should be scheduled for hearings.

Chairman Echols stated that he would put SJR-20 and SCR-4 on the agenda for the next meeting.

There being no further business, Chairman Echols adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Conni J. Horning  
Respectfully Submitted, By:  
Conni J. Horning, Secretary

Eugene Echols  
Approved By:  
Senator Eugene Echols  
Chairman

## SENATE LEGISLATIVE FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE RULES - 60th SESSION

1. Four members constitute a quorum of the Committee.
2. Motions will be moved, seconded, and passed by a simple majority of those present, except that disposable action ("DO PASS" or "HOLD") on a bill will require a majority of the entire Committee.
3. In order to reconsider previous action taken, an affirmative vote of 5 members of the Committee will be required. However, a majority may allow the hearing of new evidence or information which would be pertinent to the determination of whether or not a matter or an action should be reconsidered.
4. Mason's Manual will be followed as to parliamentary procedure.
5. Any member of the Committee may request an item on the agenda by contacting the Committee Chairman four days ahead of the Committee meeting.
6. Committee bill introduction will be only by approval of four Committee members. Committee introduction does not imply, in any way, a commitment on the part of any Committee member to support the bill introduced.
7. Motions for disposable action by the Committee will be taken only at the call of the Chairman or in accordance with Rule 5 above. Such votes will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
8. Minority reports can be filed with the Secretary of the Senate at the same time the Committee action is reported. It must be signed by all members disagreeing, who are present when the vote is taken. The members who desire to submit a minority report must so indicate, in advance, to the entire Committee.