

(House Resolution 834, adopted March 16, 2020)

A RESOLUTION

Adopting temporary Rules of the House of Representatives relating to roll call votes, to voting meetings of committees, to consideration of bills, to third consideration and final passage bills, to conference committee reports and to electronic mass communication.

RESOLVED, That this resolution adopts temporary rules to apply notwithstanding provisions in the Rules of the House of Representatives; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a member who is not present in the Hall of the House may designate either the Majority or Minority Whip to cast the member's vote on any question as to which there has been consultation between the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, after consultation between the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader, if the process permitted for designated voting under this temporary rule is not agreed upon, the vote shall be cast pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives in existence on March 15, 2020; and be it further

RESOLVED, That if a designated Whip is on leave, that designated Whip may appoint another member to cast all votes designated to that Whip; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a designation shall be accomplished by filing an attestation with the Chief Clerk which affirms that the member will not be present in the Hall of the House and identifies either the Majority or Minority Whip as the designee; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a designation shall also include a commencement date and an expiration date; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a member may revoke the member's designation by notifying the Chief Clerk in writing of the revocation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a member voting by designation under this temporary rule shall be counted in determining whether a quorum is present; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a designation shall be effective until the designation expires or is revoked or until this temporary rule expires; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, at any voting meeting of a committee of the House of Representatives, a member of the committee who is not present may designate the chair or minority chair to cast the member's vote on any question; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the designation shall be accomplished by filing an attestation with the chair or minority chair which affirms that the member will not be present at the voting meeting; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a member voting by designation under this temporary rule shall be counted in determining whether a quorum is present; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a bill may not receive action on concurrence until at least three hours have elapsed from the time the bill and its amendatory language was available to the public, unless the amendment was a technical amendment as described under the first paragraph of Rule 24 or an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the members elected to the House indicates that they have had sufficient time to review the language and thereby approve proceeding with the bill; and be it further

RESOLVED, That members shall be notified and conference committee reports shall be made available to members at least three hours prior to the adoption of all conference committee reports; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a bill may not receive action on final passage until at least three hours have elapsed from the time the bill and its amendatory language was available to the public, unless the amendment was a technical amendment permitted under the first paragraph of Rule 24 or an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the members elected to the House indicates that they have had sufficient time to review the language of the bill and thereby approve proceeding with the bill; and be it further

RESOLVED, That electronic mass communication shall be permitted during a restricted period if the electronic mass communication is limited to information concerning the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) obtained from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Health, a health department of a political subdivision or a Federal, State or local agency responsible for emergency management or public health; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, unless amended or revoked by the House, the temporary rules adopted in this resolution shall expire when the declaration of disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020, is terminated by executive order, proclamation or operation of law.