

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

Senator Singh offered the following concurrent resolution:

1 A concurrent resolution for the adoption of the Joint Rules of  
2 the Senate and House of Representatives.

3 Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives  
4 concurring), That the following rules be and are hereby adopted as  
5 the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives:

## 6 JOINT RULES OF THE

### 7 SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### 8 **Transmission of Messages.**

9 Rule 1. All messages necessary for conducting legislative  
10 business between the two houses shall be communicated in writing  
11 and electronically by the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of  
12 the House of Representatives.

1           **Amendments .**

2           Rule 2. It shall be in the power of either house to amend  
3 an amendment made by the other to any bill or resolution.

4           **Conference Committees .**

5           Rule 3. (a) The house not concurring in the amendments of  
6 the other house shall appoint conferees and notify the amending  
7 house of its action through written communication. The amending  
8 house shall request return of the bill or resolution or appoint  
9 conferees. The conference committee shall consist of three members  
10 from each house, to be appointed as each house may determine. The  
11 first named member of the house in which the bill or resolution  
12 originated shall be chairperson of the conference committee. Upon  
13 appointment of conferees by both houses, the bill or resolution  
14 shall be referred to the conference committee. When one house  
15 amends or substitutes a bill that has been returned for concurrence  
16 from the other house, but then non-concurs in that bill as amended  
17 or substituted, those amendments or that substitute shall not be  
18 referred to the conference committee. The conference committee  
19 shall serve until the conference report has been adopted by both  
20 houses or rejected by a house.

21           (b) The conference committee shall consist of committees  
22 of the two houses with those two committees voting separately while  
23 in conference. The adoption of a conference report shall require  
24 concurring majorities of the members of each house. The conference  
25 committees of the two houses shall vote separately while in  
26 conference. The majority of each committee shall constitute a  
27 quorum of each committee and shall determine the position to be  
28 taken toward the propositions of the conference committee. If the  
29 conferees agree, a report shall be made which shall be signed by at  
30 least a majority of the conferees of each house who were present  
31 and voted in the conference committee meeting to adopt the report.  
32 The bill or resolution, including the original signed conference  
33 report and three copies, shall be filed in the house of origin

1 where the question shall be on the adoption of the conference  
2 report. If the conference report is adopted in the house of origin,  
3 the bill or resolution, including the original signed conference  
4 report, and two copies of the conference report shall be  
5 transmitted to the other house where the question shall be on the  
6 adoption of the conference report. If the conference report is  
7 adopted in the other house, the bill or resolution and the original  
8 signed copy of the conference report shall be returned to the house  
9 of origin and referred for enrollment printing and presentation to  
10 the Governor, filing with the Secretary of State, or filing for  
11 record with the Secretary of the Senate or Clerk of the House of  
12 Representatives.

13 **Conference Committee Clerk.**

14 Rule 4. The conference committee clerk shall be from the  
15 house of origin, who shall notify the Secretary of the Senate and  
16 the Clerk of the House of Representatives of all scheduled meetings  
17 for public posting and shall deliver written notice to each member  
18 of the conference committee and the majority and minority leaders  
19 of each house indicating the time and place of all scheduled  
20 meetings. Conference committees on appropriation bills may use  
21 fiscal agency personnel from the same house as the Chairperson for  
22 clerks.

23 **Conference Report: Rejection.**

24 Rule 5. If the conference report is rejected by the house  
25 of origin, it shall appoint second conferees and notify the other  
26 house of its action. The procedure shall then be the same as for an  
27 original conference.

28 If the conference report is rejected by the other house,  
29 it shall appoint second conferees, notify the house of origin of  
30 its action, and transmit the bill or resolution to the house of  
31 origin. Upon receipt of the bill or resolution, the house of origin  
32 shall appoint second conferees and refer the bill or resolution to

1 the second conference committee. The procedure shall then be the  
2 same as for an original conference.

3 **Disagreement of Conferees.**

4 Rule 6. If the conferees are unable to agree, a report of  
5 that fact shall be made to both houses. The report, that the  
6 conferees were unable to agree, shall be signed by at least a  
7 majority of the conferees of each house who were present and voted  
8 in the conference committee meeting to adopt the report. The bill  
9 or resolution, including the original signed conference report that  
10 the conferees were unable to agree, and three copies shall be filed  
11 in the house of origin. Both houses shall appoint second conferees,  
12 and the house of origin shall refer the bill or resolution to the  
13 second conference committee. The procedure shall then be the same  
14 as for an original conference.

15 **Second Conference: Failure.**

16 Rule 7. When a second conference committee fails to reach  
17 agreement, or when a second conference report is rejected by either  
18 house, no further conference is in order.

19 **Power of Conferees.**

20 Rule 8. The conference committee shall not consider any  
21 matters other than the matters of difference between the two  
22 houses.

23 For all bills making appropriations, adoption of a  
24 substitute by either house shall not open identical provisions  
25 contained in the other house-passed version of the bill as a matter  
26 of difference; nor shall the adoption of a substitute by either  
27 house open provisions not contained in either house version of the  
28 bill as a matter of difference.

29 When the conferees arrive at an agreement on the matters  
30 of difference that affects other parts of the bill or resolution,  
31 the conferees may recommend amendments to conform with the  
32 agreement. In addition, the conferees may also recommend technical  
33 amendments to the other parts of the bill or resolution, such as,

1 necessary date revisions, adjusting totals, cross-references,  
2 misspelling and punctuation corrections, conflict amendments for  
3 bills enacted into law, additional anticipated federal or other  
4 flow through funding, and corrections to any errors in the bill or  
5 resolution or the title.

6 **Adoption of Conference Report.**

7 Rule 9. Conference reports shall not be subject to  
8 amendments or division. The vote on conference reports shall be  
9 taken by "yeas" and "nays" and shall require the same number of  
10 votes constitutionally required for passage of the bill or adoption  
11 of the resolution. Conference reports shall not be considered until  
12 printed in the Journal. The Journal printing requirement may be  
13 suspended by a house by a majority vote in that house, provided  
14 that a copy of the conference report has been made available to  
15 each Member.

16 **Conference Reports: Points of Order.**

17 Rule 10. Points of order regarding conference reports  
18 shall be decided by the presiding officer, subject to an appeal,  
19 which appeal shall be determined by a majority vote. When a  
20 conference report is ruled out of order, the conference report is  
21 returned to the originating conference committee with instructions  
22 to eliminate from the report such matters as have been declared not  
23 within the powers of the conferees to consider.

24 **Either House May Recede.**

25 Rule 11. At any time while in possession of the bill or  
26 resolution, either house may recede from its position in whole or  
27 in part, and the bill or resolution upon request may be returned to  
28 the other house for that purpose. If this further action is agreed  
29 to by both houses, the bill or resolution shall be referred for  
30 enrollment printing and presentation to the Governor, filing with  
31 the Secretary of State, or filing for record with the Secretary of  
32 the Senate or Clerk of the House of Representatives.

33 **Correction of Errors.**

1           Rule 12. If errors are found in a bill or resolution  
2 which has been passed or adopted by both houses, the house in which  
3 the bill or resolution originated may make amendments to correct  
4 the errors and shall notify the other house of its action. If the  
5 corrective amendments are agreed to by the other house, the  
6 corrected bill or resolution shall be referred for enrollment  
7 printing and presentation to the Governor, filing with the  
8 Secretary of State, or filing for record with the Secretary of the  
9 Senate or Clerk of the House of Representatives.

10           In addition, the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the  
11 House of Representatives, as the case may be, shall correct obvious  
12 technical errors in the enrolled bill or resolution, including  
13 adjusting totals, misspellings, the omission or redundancy of  
14 grammatical articles, cross-references, punctuation, updating bill  
15 or resolution titles, capitalization, citation formats, and plural  
16 or singular word forms.

17           **Bills and Joint Resolutions.**

18           Rule 13. Upon introduction, no bill shall include catch  
19 lines, a severing clause, or a general repealing clause, as  
20 distinguished from a specific or an express repealing clause. The  
21 Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of  
22 Representatives shall delete such catch lines and clauses from all  
23 bills.

24           The same joint resolution shall not propose an amendment  
25 to the Constitution on more than one subject matter. However, more  
26 than one section of the Constitution may be included in the same  
27 joint resolution if the subject matter of each section is germane  
28 to the proposed amendment.

29           **Yeas and Nays.**

30           Rule 14. The yeas and nays shall be taken and printed in  
31 the Journal of the house taking action upon the passage or adoption  
32 of any bill, joint resolution, conference report, and amendments  
33 made by the other house to a bill or joint resolution.

**1           No Members Present.**

**2**Rule 15. In the event the presiding officer and all  
**3** members are absent on a day scheduled for meeting, the Secretary of  
**4** the Senate or the Clerk of the House of Representatives, as the  
**5** case may be, shall call that house to order at the designated time  
**6** and announce the absence of a quorum. That house shall be declared  
**7** adjourned until the succeeding legislative day and hour previously  
**8** designated.

**9**In any event where either or both houses of the  
**10** Legislature adjourns to a date certain for more than two days, the  
**11** Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
**12** Representatives may, by a unanimous agreement, convene either or  
**13** both houses of the Legislature at any time in case of emergency.

**14**If a gubernatorial appointment that is subject to the  
**15** advice and consent process is made at a time such that 60 days  
**16** would lapse during an extended recess of the Senate, the Senate  
**17** Majority Leader may schedule a session of the Senate for the sole  
**18** purpose of carrying out the Senate's constitutional duties to  
**19** advise and consent on gubernatorial appointments. No other action  
**20** shall be taken by the Senate during session convened under this  
**21** provision. The Senate Majority Leader shall notify the Secretary of  
**22** the Senate at least 10 calendar days prior to the date of the  
**23** scheduled session, and the Secretary of the Senate shall take all  
**24** reasonable steps to notify the members of the Senate of the  
**25** scheduled session.

**26           **Passage, Adoption, and Enrollment Printing.****

**27**Rule 16. Every bill passed or joint resolution adopted by  
**28** both houses and returned to the house of origin shall forthwith be  
**29** enrolled and signed by the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of  
**30** the House of Representatives. Enrolled bills shall be presented to  
**31** the Governor, and enrolled joint resolutions that propose an  
**32** amendment to the Constitution shall be filed with the Secretary of  
**33** State with a certificate attached to the effect that the joint

1 resolution has been adopted by the Senate and House of  
2 Representatives, respectively, in accordance with the provisions of  
3 the Constitution. If the house having last passed the bill or  
4 adopted the joint resolution requests its return and such request  
5 is granted or a motion is made in the house of origin to amend  
6 errors in the bill or joint resolution or to give the bill  
7 immediate effect, the enrollment printing shall not occur.

8 Every bill, joint resolution, and concurrent resolution  
9 passed or adopted by either house shall be transmitted to the other  
10 house unless a motion for reconsideration is pending.

11 **Immediate Effect.**

12 Rule 17. Whenever both houses, by the constitutional  
13 vote, order that a bill take immediate effect, a statement shall be  
14 added at the enrollment of the bill in words to this effect: "This  
15 act is ordered to take immediate effect."

16 **Joint Resolutions.**

17 Rule 18. Joint resolutions shall be used for the  
18 following purposes:

- 19 1. Amendments to the Constitution of Michigan.
- 20 2. Ratification of amendments to the Constitution of the  
21 United States submitted by the Congress.
- 22 3. Matters upon which power is solely vested in the  
23 Legislatures of the several states by the Constitution of the  
24 United States.

25 Joint resolutions proposing amendments to the  
26 Constitution of Michigan shall require a 2/3 vote of the members  
27 elected and serving in each house for adoption. Other joint  
28 resolutions shall require a majority of the members elected and  
29 serving in each house for adoption. All joint resolutions shall  
30 require a record roll call vote.

31 **Veto Override: Filing with Secretary of State.**

32 Rule 19. When a bill is passed by both houses over the  
33 objections of the Governor or a bill is not filed by the Governor



1 with the Secretary of State within the constitutionally mandated  
2 14-day period, and the Legislature continues in session, an  
3 official enrolled bill with a letter from the house of origin  
4 signed by the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House of  
5 Representatives, as appropriate, shall be filed with the Secretary  
6 of State for a public act number to be assigned. The letter shall  
7 certify that the Governor's veto has been overridden by both houses  
8 of the Legislature or that the bill has not been returned within  
9 the specified time, as the case may be, in accordance with the  
10 provisions of the Constitution.

11 **Section Numbers of Compiled Laws - Amendments.**

12 Rule 20. The title of every bill to amend or repeal  
13 existing laws shall be clear and explicit so as to definitely fix  
14 what is proposed to be done. Such title shall refer to the act  
15 number and the year in which it was passed. If the bill was passed  
16 at an extra session of the Legislature, the title shall designate  
17 which extra session.

18 Such title shall contain the last title of the act it is  
19 proposed to amend. However, the short title (e.g., This act shall  
20 be known and may be cited as "The revised judicature act of 1961,")  
21 shall be used in acts where it has been defined by legislative  
22 enactment. The title shall also contain the chapter, part numbers  
23 and compiler's section numbers, if any, and the year of the  
24 compilation containing the same.

25 Following the passage of a bill with a short title, the  
26 house other than the house of origin shall replace the short title  
27 with the last full title of the act it is proposed to amend or  
28 repeal. Other corrective amendments to the title shall be made as  
29 may be necessary. The full title and amended title shall be agreed  
30 to by both houses.

31 When an amendment to a bill or a bill to amend an  
32 existing law is printed, words proposed to be added to such law  
33 shall be printed in bold type, and the words to be omitted shall be

1 printed in stricken-through type. This style requirement also  
2 applies to joint resolutions that amend the Constitution of  
3 Michigan.

4 All bills and joint resolutions introduced, amendments to  
5 joint resolutions, substitute bills and joint resolutions, and  
6 conference committee reports shall be approved as to form and  
7 section numbers by the Legislative Service Bureau.

8 **Tie-bars.**

9 Rule 21. A bill or resolution that is tie-barred to a  
10 request number shall not be considered for passage or adoption  
11 unless that tie-barred request item has been introduced. No bill  
12 or resolution shall be passed or adopted by either house until the  
13 tie-barred item has been designated in the appropriate blank space  
14 provided.

15 **Elections in Joint Convention.**

16 Rule 22. Whenever there is an election of any officer in  
17 joint convention, the result shall be certified by the President of  
18 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The  
19 results shall be announced by the presiding officers to their  
20 respective houses, printed in the Journal of each house, and  
21 communicated to the Governor by the Secretary of the Senate and the  
22 Clerk of the House of Representatives.

23 **Legislative Handbook.**

24 Rule 23. The initial appointment of the standing  
25 committee members of the two houses shall be printed in their  
26 respective Journals as soon as possible after the announcement. The  
27 Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of  
28 Representatives shall prepare and have printed a legislative  
29 handbook containing these appointments and other information they  
30 deem appropriate.

31 **Compensation.**

32 Rule 24. Compensation for members, officers, and  
33 employees of the Legislature shall be delivered to the Secretary of

1 the Senate or Clerk of the House of Representatives, as the case  
2 may be, and transmitted directly to the payee.

3 If the office of a member of the Legislature becomes  
4 vacant, the compensation for the elected successor shall begin on  
5 the date of his or her oath of office.

6 **Committee Expenses.**

7 Rule 25. No committee created by concurrent resolution  
8 shall incur expenses in excess of \$2,500.00 unless authorized in  
9 the resolution creating that committee.

10 **Final Adjournment of Regular Sessions.**

11 Rule 26. In the regular session in each year, this rule  
12 for adjournment shall govern.

13 The Majority Floor Leader of the Senate and/or the  
14 Majority Floor Leader of the House of Representatives shall  
15 introduce a concurrent resolution providing for an adjournment  
16 schedule for the Legislature for that regular session.

17 **Daily Adjournment.**

18 Rule 27. Neither house shall remain in session on any  
19 legislative day beyond 12:00 midnight. If either house is in  
20 session at 12:00 midnight, the presiding officer shall declare that  
21 house adjourned until a fixed hour for meeting on the next  
22 legislative day. That house shall stand adjourned until the next  
23 fixed meeting time.

24 **Pending Business.**

25 Rule 28. Any business, bill, or joint resolution which  
26 has not been defeated by either house shall be considered pending  
27 under the provisions of Article 4, Section 13 of the Constitution.

28 It shall not be in order for either house, by suspension  
29 of rules or any other means, to reconsider in a subsequent year the  
30 vote by which any business, bill, joint resolution, or veto  
31 override was defeated in a previous year unless there is a pending  
32 motion to reconsider offered in the odd-numbered year.