

Appendix A

Legislative committee chair compensation, by state¹

| Compensation for leaders in every standing committee | | |
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| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
| New York | \$9,000-\$34,000 a year for chairs and ranking minority members of committees. No member may receive more than one allowance for leaders or committee chairs and ranking minority members. Set in statute. | \$9,000-\$34,000 a year each for chairs, ranking minority members. No member may receive more than one allowance for leaders or committee chairs and ranking minority members. Set in statute. |
| Illinois | \$10,326 a year each for chairs, minority committee spokespersons. | \$10,326 a year each for all chairs, minority committee spokespersons. |
| Massachusetts | \$25,000 a year for Ways and Means chair, \$7,500-\$15,000 a year for other committee chairs. | \$25,000 a year for Ways and Means chair. \$7,500-\$15,000 a year each for other committee chairs. |
| Connecticut | \$4,241 a year. | \$4,241 a year. |
| Ohio | \$10,000 a year for Finance chair. \$6,500 a year each for Finance ranking minority member, Finance committee standing subcommittee chair, all other standing committee chairs. \$5,500 a year for Finance vice chair. \$5,000 a year each for ranking minority member Finance standing subcommittee, vice chairs, ranking minority members, standing subcommittee chairs. \$2,500 a year for standing subcommittee ranking minority members. | \$10,000 a year for Finance chair. \$6,500 a year each for Finance ranking minority member, Finance standing subcommittee chair, all other standing committee chairs. \$5,500 a year for Finance vice chair. \$5,000 a year each for ranking minority member of Finance standing subcommittee, vice chairs, ranking minority members, standing subcommittee chairs. \$2,500 a year for standing subcommittee ranking minority members. |
| Indiana | \$5,500 a year for Ways and Means chair. \$4,000 a year for Ways and Means vice chair. \$3,500 a year for Ways and Means committee ranking minority member. \$3,000 a year for Ways and Means budget subcommittee chair. \$1,500 a year each for Ways and Means K-12 subcommittee chair, Ways and Means higher education subcommittee chair. \$1,000 a year each for 22 other committee chairs. If an officer fills more than one leadership position, the officer may be paid for each of the paid positions. (Ind. P.L. 213–2015). | \$5,500 a year each for Appropriations chair, Tax and Fiscal Policy chair. \$2,000 a year each for Appropriations ranking majority member, Tax and Fiscal Policy ranking majority member, Appropriations ranking minority member, Tax and Fiscal Policy ranking minority member. \$1,000 a year each for 21 other committee chairs. If an officer fills more than one leadership position, the officer shall be paid for the higher-paid position. (Ind. P.L. 213–2015). |
| Colorado | All leaders receive \$99 a day as salary during interim when in attendance at committee or leadership matters. | All leaders receive \$99 a day as salary during interim when in attendance at committee or leadership matters. |
| Kentucky | \$18.71 a day for standing committees only. | \$18.71 a day for standing committees only. |
| North Dakota | \$10 a day for all substantive standing committees. | \$10 a day for all substantive standing committees. |
| Compensation for leaders of some committees | | |
| Pennsylvania | None | \$29,071 a year each for majority Appropriations chair, minority Appropriations chair. |
| Delaware | \$11,459 a year for Joint Finance chair. \$4,578 a year each for Capital Improvement chair and vice chair, Sunset chair. | \$11,459 a year for Joint Finance chair. \$4,578 a year each for Capital Improvement chair and vice chair, Sunset chair. |
| Oklahoma | \$12,364 a year each for Appropriations chair, budget chair. | \$12,364 a year each for Appropriations chair, budget chair. |
| Kansas | \$11,290 a year Appropriations chair. | \$11,290 a year Ways and Means chair. |
| Louisiana | None | \$11,200 a year each for Joint Leg. Comm. On Budget chair and vice chair. |

Compensation for leaders of some committees

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|---------------|--|---|
| Michigan | \$6,300 a year for Appropriations chairs. | \$6,300 a year for Appropriations chairs. |
| Minnesota | None | \$4,151 a year each for Taxes chair, Finance chair. |
| Utah | \$2,000 a year for Executive Appropriations chair. | \$2,000 a year for Executive Appropriations chair. |
| West Virginia | \$150.00 a day (up to 30 days) for Finance and Judiciary chairs. | \$150 a day (up to 30 days) for Finance and Judiciary chairs. |

No compensation for committee leaders

| | | |
|----------------|------|------|
| Alabama | None | None |
| Alaska | None | None |
| Arizona | None | None |
| Arkansas | None | None |
| California | None | None |
| Florida | None | None |
| Georgia | None | None |
| Hawaii | None | None |
| Idaho | None | None |
| Iowa | None | None |
| Maine | None | None |
| Maryland | None | None |
| Mississippi | None | None |
| Missouri | None | None |
| Montana | None | None |
| Nebraska | None | |
| Nevada | None | None |
| New Hampshire | None | None |
| New Jersey | None | None |
| New Mexico | None | None |
| North Carolina | None | None |
| Oregon | None | None |
| Rhode Island | None | None |
| South Carolina | None | None |
| South Dakota | None | None |
| Tennessee | None | None |

No compensation for committee leaders

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|------------|----------------|--------|
| Texas | None | None |
| Vermont | None | None |
| Virginia | None | None |
| Washington | None | None |
| Wisconsin | None | None |
| Wyoming | None | None |

Appendix B

Temporary committee member replacements, by state

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|------------|--|--|
| Alabama | Rule 64: After the House of Representatives has adjourned sine die at the end of any regular session, the speaker may rename the membership of each standing committee and subcommittee thereof. Such constituted standing committees and subcommittees shall take effect at the next regular or special session or at the time of the assignment thereto. ² | Rule 48(b)(4): If a complaint is brought against a member of the committee, that member shall not participate as a member of the committee in considering the complaint. The president of the Senate shall appoint a temporary replacement for that member to participate in the review of the complaint. The temporary member shall possess the same powers as other members of the committee. ³ |
| Arkansas | Rule 66: No committee shall transact business without a quorum (a majority of the committee membership present). All final action on bills or resolutions, and on proposed amendments to bills or resolutions, shall be decided by a majority vote of the total membership of the committee. Provided, however, that the speaker of the House shall not be included for the purpose of determining what is a majority of a standing committee, unless present at the time of the vote. A member of the committee must be present at the time of the vote for his/her vote to be counted on any matter considered by the committee (no pairs, no proxies). ⁴ | Rule 7.02(c): All vacancies on Class "A," Class "B" and Class "C" committees of the Senate shall be filled by the president pro tempore on the basis of seniority or as provided by law or by other rules of the Senate. In the temporary absence of the chair and the vice chair, the member next in rank and seniority, and so on, as often as the case may happen, shall act as chair. In case of a permanent vacancy in the chair or vice chair of any committee, the president pro tempore shall appoint another chair or vice chair within the first three (3) days of the next regular or special session of the General Assembly. ⁵ |
| California | Rule 26(a)(6): Two alternate members of the Committee on Rules shall be appointed in accordance with the process for appointing members to the Committee on Rules. Members and alternates so appointed shall remain in office until their successors are selected as provided for in these rules. The speaker may designate any member in lieu of or in addition to the alternate member to fill a temporary vacancy. An alternate member may serve when a committee member is absent. ⁶ | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Colorado | No rule for temporary replacements found. | Rule 21 (a): The members of the committees shall serve at the pleasure of the appropriate appointing authority. ⁷ |
| Delaware | Rule 8(b): Where illness, stated conflict of interest, or other sufficient cause shall compel the absence or non-participation of any committee member, the speaker, in his or her discretion, may fill such vacancy from the same political party as the absent or nonparticipating member during said absence or period of nonparticipation. ⁸ | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Florida | Rule 7.5: Term of Appointment – All standing committee or subcommittee chairs, vice chairs, and members serve at the pleasure of the speaker. All standing committee and subcommittee appointments made by the speaker in accordance with Rule 7.2 shall be made before each regular session is convened and shall expire on August 1 of odd numbered years or, if the Legislature is convened in special or extended session on that date, upon adjournment sine die of such session. ⁹ | Rule 1.5: The president's appointment of committees – (1) The president appoints members to all standing committees, standing subcommittees and select committees. The president also appoints the Senate members of conference committees, joint committees and joint select committees. (2) Any member removed from a committee without his or her consent shall have the right to appeal such removal to the Rules Committee. ¹⁰ |
| Illinois | Rule 10(b): A member may be temporarily replaced on a committee due to illness or if the member is otherwise unavailable. ¹¹ | Rule 3-2(c): To maintain the efficient operation of the Senate, any committee member may be temporarily replaced due to illness or an unforeseen absence from the Capitol at the time of the committee hearing. The temporary appointment is effective upon delivery of appropriate correspondence from the president or minority leader, depending upon the caucus of the member affected, and |

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| Illinois | | shall remain effective for the duration of the illness or temporary absence from the Capitol. If the member returns to the Capitol while the committee is meeting, then the temporary appointment shall remain effective until the committee recesses or adjourns. ¹² |
| Indiana | No rule for temporary replacements found. | Rule 32(b): The chair and members of the standing committees and subcommittees thereof shall continue for the term of the General Assembly unless removed by the president pro tempore or unable to serve. (c) All vacancies on any committee or subcommittee shall be filled by appointment by the president pro tempore or president pro tempore-elect of the Senate. ¹³ |
| Kansas | <p>Rule 1102: Committee appointments: (a) The speaker shall appoint the members of the standing committees. The speaker may remove or replace any such committee member at any time. (b) The speaker shall appoint the chair and vice chair of each standing committee. The speaker may remove or replace any such chair or vice chair at any time.</p> <p>Rule 1103: Select committees: The speaker may appoint select committees and the chairs and vice chairs thereof. The speaker may remove or replace any such chairs or vice chairs or members of such committees. Select committees shall meet on call of the chair or when directed by the speaker.¹⁴</p> | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Michigan | No rule for temporary replacements found. | Rule 2.105(b): In the apparent prolonged absence of a member of a committee, the Senate majority leader shall fill the vacancy by appointing a committee member who shall serve until the absent senator returns. A temporary committee member shall not be appointed chair of the committee by the Senate majority leader. ¹⁵ |
| Montana | Rule H30-50(9): The vote of each member on all committee actions must be recorded. All motions may be adopted only on the affirmative vote of a majority of the members voting. Standing and select committees may by a majority vote of the committee authorize members to vote by proxy if absent, while engaged in other legislative business or when excused by the presiding officer of the committee due to illness or an emergency. Authorization for absentee or proxy voting must be reflected in the committee minutes. ¹⁶ | Rule S30-100: Pairs prohibited – absentee or proxy voting; pairs in standing committee are prohibited. Standing and select committees may by a majority vote of the committee authorize senators to vote in absentia. Authorization for absentee or proxy voting must be reflected in the committee minutes. ¹⁷ |
| Nebraska | Unicameral Legislature: Sec. 12: Temporary appointments – (a) When a member is unable to serve, the chair of the committee, after a majority vote of the remaining members, shall request that such vacancy be filled by the Committee on Committees. (b) A temporary appointment may be made by the chair of the Committee on Committees for only one day when requested by a chair of a standing committee that lacks a quorum. When a member is appointed from an eight-member committee, the consent of the member to be appointed shall first be obtained. The temporary appointee shall have the right to vote only on the bill or bills that actually have been heard by the appointee and provided that the vote is taken on such bills on the day the bill or bills are heard. When such appointment is made in case of an incapacitated member, such appointee shall cease to be a member of such committee upon the return of the incapacitated member for whom he or she was appointed. ¹⁸ | |
| Nevada | Rule No. 41.5: Appointment of alternates: If the chair or any member of a committee is temporarily unable to perform his or her duties, the speaker shall appoint an alternate of the same political party to serve in the chair's or the member's place for such time as is determined by the speaker. ¹⁹ | Rule No. 41: Appointment of alternates: If the chair or any member of a committee is temporarily unable to perform his duties, the majority leader shall appoint an alternate of the same political party to serve in his place for such time as is determined by the majority leader. ²⁰ |

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| New Jersey | Rule 4:6: The speaker shall appoint all committees in accordance with Rule 10:1, unless otherwise directed by the General Assembly. The speaker may, during the inability of a committee member or a subcommittee member to serve, appoint another member to serve during that period. ²¹ | Rule 3:6: The president shall appoint all committees, unless otherwise directed by the Senate. The chair, vice chair and members of each committee shall serve at the pleasure of the president, who may, during the inability of a committee member to serve, appoint another senator to serve during that period. ²² |
| New Mexico | <p>Rule 9-3: No member shall be appointed to more than two substantive committees. No member appointed to the Appropriations and Finance Committee shall also be appointed as chairman of any other substantive committee. No member appointed to the chairmanship or vice chairmanship of any substantive committee shall also be appointed as chairman or vice chairman of any other substantive committee. This rule shall not be construed to prohibit temporary designations by a chairman of members of his committee to preside in his stead.</p> <p>Rule 9-4: Once appointed, committee members shall not be removed except by a two-thirds vote of the House.</p> <p>Rule 9-5-4: The chair and each member of the committee present, unless excused by a majority vote of the committee, shall vote on all votes taken on any question before the committee; provided, however, on matters brought before the House Rules and Order of Business Committee relating to ethical conduct, a member may seek to disqualify himself on the grounds that the member cannot render a fair and impartial decision on the particular ethical questions brought before the committee. In any such case, disqualification must be approved by a majority vote of the remaining members of the committee, and a substitute member from the same political party shall be designated by the speaker as a member during the deliberations on that particular allegation of unethical conduct.²³ [3/1/91]</p> | <p>Rule 9-3: All members shall serve on two standing committees, except that members of the Finance Committee shall not serve on any other committee and provided service on the Committees' Committee, the Senate Ethics Committee or the Senate Streaming Oversight Committee shall not be counted as service on a standing committee; provided, a member may be temporarily assigned or reassigned by the Committees' Committee to serve on a third committee as a replacement for any member on that third committee who will be, or has been, excused by the Senate from attending sessions for any period in excess of 10 days. [1/22/01; 3/13/09]</p> <p>Rule 9-4: No member shall be allowed, after standing committee assignments have been approved by the Senate, to resign from a committee unless he has arranged to serve on another standing committee by trading assignment with another member of his own political party and after approval has been given by the Committees' Committee. Such transfers must be approved by the Senate.²⁴</p> |
| New York | No rule for temporary replacements found. | Rule VIII Section 1 (c): In the case of an excused absence of any committee member on either the Finance or the Rules Committee, the conference leaders may designate an alternate member of the conference for meetings of standing committees provided written notice is provided and accepted by the coalition leaders at least one hour prior to the commencement of such committee meeting. ²⁵ |
| Ohio | No rule for temporary replacements found. | Rule 19(b): The president, by message, may make temporary appointments to standing committees and subcommittees. ²⁶ |
| Tennessee | No rule for temporary replacements found. | Rule 73: Committee Appointments – Unless otherwise expressly directed by the Senate, the speaker shall appoint all standing, special and select committees, giving due regard to the recommendations of party caucuses; the abilities, preferences and seniority of the members; and the needs of the committee. In the event a member is absent from two consecutive meetings of a committee, the speaker may make an interim appointment to the committee on such conditions as the speaker may direct. |

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|----------|---|---|
| Virginia | No rule for temporary replacements found. | Rule VIII(20)(e): The majority of any committee shall constitute a quorum. Any senator attending and recorded as present at a committee meeting who must depart prior to the rising of the committee, may designate, in writing on committee proxy forms, one member of the committee to vote his proxy for the duration of his absence, but for no longer than the meeting of the committee at which the proxy is given, and only for the duration during which the senator leaving the proxy is within the confines of Capitol Square. Proxies are not transferable. The chair shall be informed in open session of the proxy authority prior to the departure of the senator so leaving. ²⁷ |

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| Wisconsin | Rule 9(2)(cd): If an Assembly member of an Assembly committee or a joint committee is unable to serve, the speaker may select a temporary replacement for a member of the majority party who is unable to serve from among those members of the same party and may select a temporary replacement for a member of the minority party, upon recommendation of the minority leader, who is unable to serve from among those members of the same party. The replacement takes effect when the member who is a temporary replacement answers the roll call of the Assembly committee or joint committee and terminates upon the adjournment of the Assembly committee or joint committee meeting or the return of the member who was unable to serve, whichever occurs first. ²⁸ | Rule 20(7): If a Senate member of a Senate committee or a joint committee is unable to serve, the Senate majority leader may select a temporary replacement for a member of the majority party who is unable to serve from among those senators of the same party and may select a temporary replacement for a member of the minority party, upon recommendation of the minority leader, who is unable to serve from among those senators of the same party. The replacement takes effect when the member who is a temporary replacement answers the roll call of the Senate committee or joint committee and terminates upon the adjournment of the Senate committee or joint committee meeting or the return of the member who was unable to serve, whichever occurs first. ²⁹ |
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States without rules for temporary committee member replacements

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|-------------|---|---|
| Alaska | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Arizona | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Connecticut | Joint Rule 3(d): Committee Appointments – Appointments of committee members, except to fill a vacancy caused by death or incapacity or by resignation from the General Assembly or a committee of the General Assembly, shall be made on or before the fifth regular session day of the first year of the term and, except as otherwise provided in the rules of each chamber, shall be for the entire term for which the members were elected. Committee appointments of a member elected after the fifth regular session day of the first year of the term shall be made not later than five calendar days after the member takes the oath of office, and may be made, at the discretion of the appointing authority, to any committee. ³⁰ | Joint Rule 3(d): Committee Appointments – Appointments of committee members, except to fill a vacancy caused by death or incapacity or by resignation from the General Assembly or a committee of the General Assembly, shall be made on or before the fifth regular session day of the first year of the term and, except as otherwise provided in the rules of each chamber, shall be for the entire term for which the members were elected. Committee appointments of a member elected after the fifth regular session day of the first year of the term shall be made not later than five calendar days after the member takes the oath of office, and may be made, at the discretion of the appointing authority, to any committee. ³¹ |
| Georgia | No rule for temporary replacements found. | Rule 2-3.1(b): After the public announcement of the standing committees and subcommittees, no other senators shall be placed thereon, except when senators have been elected to fill vacancies caused by death or resignation from the Senate. ³² |
| Hawaii | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Idaho | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Iowa | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Kentucky | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |

States without rules for temporary committee member replacements

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|----------------|---|---|
| Louisiana | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Maine | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Maryland | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Massachusetts | Rule 18A: No member shall be removed from a standing committee except upon the recommendation of the speaker or minority leader, as the case may be, subject to the ratification by their respective caucuses; provided, however, that the speaker and the minority leader may, without a majority vote of their respective parties, remove a member appointed pursuant to this rule who has been criminally indicted by a court of competent jurisdiction; and provided further, that if any vacancy occurs in a position to which Rule 18 does not apply, subsequent to the initial ratification, the speaker or minority leader shall fill such vacancy. ³³ | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Minnesota | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Mississippi | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Missouri | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| New Hampshire | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| North Carolina | Rule 26(d): The speaker may not appoint new members to committees after April 15 of an odd-numbered year or at any time during an even-numbered year except to fill vacancies caused by the resignation, death, removal or inability to serve of a member. As to select committees established after March 1 of an odd-numbered year or during an even-numbered year, the speaker may not appoint new members more than 60 calendar days after the select committee is established, except to fill vacancies caused by the resignation, death, removal, or inability to serve of a member. ³⁴ | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| North Dakota | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Oklahoma | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Oregon | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Pennsylvania | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Rhode Island | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| South Carolina | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| South Dakota | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Texas | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Utah | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Vermont | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| Washington | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |
| West Virginia | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |

States without rules for temporary committee member replacements

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|---------|---|---|
| Wyoming | No rule for temporary replacements found. | No rule for temporary replacements found. |

Appendix C

Changing order of business other than by special order

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|-------------|--|---|
| Alabama | No rule found. | <p>Rule 9(a): The regular order of business shall not be set aside except by a majority vote of the Senate, upon a resolution reported by the Committee on Rules, following a meeting of the Rules Committee in which a majority of its members are recorded as voting in the affirmative to submit such resolution before the Senate. All items on such proposed special order calendar shall be posted by the Rules Committee 24 hours prior to said resolution being offered, unless a majority of the Rules Committee votes to set this provision aside.</p> <p>Rule 18(a): Approval of a motion to carry over to the call of the chair is not subject to debate and requires unanimous consent of the Senate.</p> <p>Rule 18(d): A bill carried over or carried over to the call of the chair shall be returned to the regular order calendar, but at the discretion of the presiding officer, a bill carried over to the call of the chair may be called by the presiding officer on motion by the president pro tempore, the bill sponsor or the bill manager at any time when other business is not pending.³⁵</p> |
| Alaska | Rule 17: Unless changed by a two-thirds vote of the full membership of the House, the daily order of business of each house is [set]. ³⁶ | |
| Arizona | Rule 12B: In Committee of the Whole, business shall be transacted in accordance with its priority on the calendar, unless such priority be determined by the House before going into Committee of the Whole. ³⁷ | No rule found. |
| Arkansas | Rule 19(n): Take out of proper order (nondebatably) (two-thirds of a quorum). ³⁸ | No rule found. |
| California | Rule 40(b): With the exception of special orders of business, the speaker may determine that a different order of business will result in a more expeditious processing of the business of the Assembly by ordering resolutions honoring an individual or an organization, introductions, and adjournments in memory of individuals to be taken up in a different order than that listed in subdivision (a). ³⁹ | No rule found. |
| Colorado | Rule 6(f): Except as provided in subsection (b) of this rule, the House may, upon the affirmative vote of a majority of all members present, proceed out of order to any order of business or return to an order already passed, but should any business be set for consideration on a certain day and hour, it shall in no event be considered at an earlier day or hour. ⁴⁰ | Rule 3(c): Except as otherwise provided in Rules 3 (b), 6, 7, 9 (b), 9 (c), and 25 (b), the Senate may at any time, by the affirmative vote of a majority of all members present, proceed out of order to any order of business or return to an order already passed. ⁴¹ |
| Connecticut | No rule found. | Rule 9(a): All bills and resolutions starred for action shall be acted upon only when reached in their regular order, and any bill or resolution passed over when so reached shall retain its place on the calendar unless it is passed temporarily, put on the foot of the calendar or its consideration is made the order of the day for some specified time. ⁴² |

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|----------|--|--|
| Delaware | House Rule 2(b): The order of business may be changed when necessary by the speaker unless a majority of the members present object. ⁴³ | No rule found. |
| Florida | No rule found. | Rule 4.16: Consideration out of regular order – A bill shall be considered out of regular order on the calendar on unanimous consent of those senators present obtained in the following manner: Prior to the consideration of the motion, the senator moving for unanimous consent of those senators present shall orally give the membership not fewer than 15 minutes notice of his or her intention to move and shall specify the number of the bill and its position on the calendar. On entertainment of the motion, the moving senator shall be allowed 1 minute to explain his or her purpose, and unanimous consent of those senators present shall be given or refused without further debate. ⁴⁴ |
| Georgia | Rule 52: All bills and resolutions on the calendar shall be called as directed by the Committee on Rules or as otherwise directed by the speaker. However, the general appropriations bill shall have precedence on the third reading over all other matters, even special orders, until final disposition of such bill. ⁴⁵ | Rule 4-2.1(b): The order of business shall in no case be changed except by two-thirds vote of the members to which the Senate is entitled, unless prohibited by any other rule of the Senate. ⁴⁶ |
| Hawaii | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| Idaho | Rule 9(1): The speaker shall cause the clerk of the House to make a list of all bills, memorials, resolutions, reports of committees and other proceedings of the House, which are committed to a Committee of the Whole House for amendment, and which are not made the order of the day for any particular day. Such list shall be called the “General Orders of the Day,” and items on the general orders calendar shall be taken up in the order in which they are committed, unless otherwise ordered by the House by majority vote of the members present. ⁴⁷ | No rule found. |
| Illinois | Rule 43(a): Any order of business may be changed at any time by the speaker or presiding officer. (b) Any order of business may be changed at any time upon the motion of any member, supported by five additional members, if the motion is adopted by an affirmative vote of 71 members elected. (c) This Rule may be suspended only by the affirmative vote of 71 members elected. ⁴⁸ | Rule 4-4: Unless otherwise determined by the presiding officer. ⁴⁹ |
| Indiana | Rule 12: Order of business – suspension. The order of business may be suspended with the consent of a majority. ⁵⁰ | Rule 5(b): The regular order of business may be suspended upon a majority vote of the senators present and voting. ⁵¹ |
| Iowa | No rule found. | No rule found. |

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|---------------|---|---|
| Kansas | <p>Rule 1503: Change in the sequence on general orders</p> <p>(a) The order of a bill or resolution on general orders may be changed by unanimous consent or by the affirmative vote of 70 [of 125] members. (b) Also, the order of a bill or resolution on general orders may be changed by vote of a majority of all members then elected (or appointed) and qualified of the House on a motion made as provided in this subsection (b). Such a motion shall be made in writing, giving the reasons for the proposed change. Such motion shall be rules of the House made under the order of business introduction and notice of original motions and House resolutions. Only one bill or resolution may be named in such a motion. The motion shall be read by the chief clerk or the member making the motion and shall be printed in the calendar of the next legislative day under the order of business consideration of motions and House resolutions offered on a previous day. The motion shall be considered on the legislative day following the day it is made. If such a motion fails, a motion to change the order on general orders of such bill shall not be in order until the fifth legislative day following such failure. (c) Motions to change the order of a bill or resolution on general orders are not subject to amendment or debate. (d) This Rule 1503 does not apply to the addition or removal of a bill or resolution from general orders.⁵²</p> | <p>Rule 54: Changing order on calendar. Not more than one bill or resolution may be named in a motion to change the order of the calendar, and on each motion, no senator except the senator making the motion shall speak more than once, nor longer than two minutes.⁵³</p> |
| Kentucky | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| Louisiana | <p>Rule 8.6: Order of business, vote required to change; special order, vote required to establish the order of business, as established by the rules of the House, shall not be postponed or changed except by a favorable vote of at least two-thirds of the members present; however, a legislative instrument may be placed in special order for consideration on a succeeding day by a majority of those present and voting if the standing committee which reported such legislative instrument has recommended such placement. A motion to suspend this rule shall be a debatable motion.⁵⁴</p> | <p>Rule 10.5: Order of business; vote required to change:</p> <p>A: The order of business shall not be postponed or changed except by the favorable vote of at least a majority of the members.</p> <p>B: A legislative instrument may be placed in special order for consideration on a succeeding day by a majority of the senators present and voting.</p> <p>C: A motion to call up a bill out of its regular order shall require the consent of a majority of the senators.⁵⁵</p> |
| Maine | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| Maryland | <p>Rule 7(b): The order of business may be changed at any time by the vote of a majority of the members present or, unless a majority of the members present object, by the speaker.⁵⁶</p> | <p>Rule 7(b): The order of business may be changed at any time by the president, unless a majority of the members present object.⁵⁷</p> |
| Massachusetts | <p>Rule 45: After entering upon the consideration of the orders of the day, the House shall proceed with them in regular course as follows: Matters not giving rise to a motion or debate shall first be disposed of in the order in which they stand in the calendar; after which the matters that were passed over shall be considered in like order and disposed. The provisions of this paragraph shall not be suspended unless by unanimous consent of the members present. Notwithstanding the provisions of this rule, during consideration of the orders of the day, the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading may present matters for consideration of the House after approval of two-thirds of the members present and voting, without debate.⁵⁸</p> | No rule found. |

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|----------------|--|--|
| Michigan | No rule found. | Rule 3.703: Bills, joint resolutions, and alternative measures referred to the Committee of the Whole shall constitute general orders and shall be considered in the Committee of the Whole on a day subsequent to such referral in the order of their reference, unless the Senate or the Committee of the Whole otherwise determines. ⁵⁹ |
| Minnesota | Rule 1.03: The House may advance or revert from any order of business to any other order of business either without objection, or by majority vote of the whole House. ⁶⁰ | Rule 22.2: Items on general orders may be taken up in the order in which they are numbered, as ordered by the chair of the Committee on Rules and Administration, or as otherwise ordered by a majority of the committee. ⁶¹ |
| Mississippi | Rule 55: The order of business shall not be changed except by two-thirds vote of those present and voting, and all questions relating to the priority shall be decided without debate. ⁶² | Rule 96: No matter which has been duly placed on the calendar shall be discharged therefrom or considered out of its regular course except by a two-thirds vote of the Senate, subject to the provisions of Section 68 of the Constitution. However, matters affecting the public interest and regarded as of immediate necessity may be advanced on the calendar by the Committee on Rules. ⁶³ |
| Missouri | No rule found | Rule 6: A recommendation to consider bills out of order shall require approval by a majority of the Committee on Rules, joint rules, resolutions, and ethics with the concurrence of two-thirds of the Senate members. ⁶⁴ |
| Montana | Rule H40-130: Amending House second and third reading agendas – vote requirements; (1) A majority of representatives present may rearrange or remove legislation from either the second or third reading agenda on that legislative day; (2) legislation may be added to the second or third reading agenda on that legislative day on a motion approved by not less than three-fifths of the members present and voting. ⁶⁵ | Rule S40-60(3): The majority leader shall arrange legislation on the agenda in the order in which the bills will be considered, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate or Committee of the Whole. ⁶⁶ |
| Nebraska | Rule 1, Sec. 16: Report order of bills: (a) The speaker, with the approval of the executive board, shall report to the Legislature the order in which bills and resolutions shall be considered on general file. The speaker's orders, as approved, are final unless changed by a three-fifths vote of the elected members of the Legislature. General appropriation bills shall be given precedence over all other bills. ⁶⁷ | |
| Nevada | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| New Hampshire | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| New Jersey | Rule 15:5: Order of the day. Any bill or resolution may, by vote of at least 41 members, be made the order of the day, on which day it shall be considered in preference to any others whether or not it is on the calendar for that day. ⁶⁸ | Rule 17:7: Order of the day – limitations on bills and resolutions considered: Any bill or resolution may, on motion with the consent of its sponsor, be made the order of the day, and shall be considered whether or not it is on the calendar for that day, and in preference to all other business of the Senate. ⁶⁹ |
| New Mexico | Rule 5-3(d): The chief clerk shall see that all bills and other papers shall be presented to the House in the order in which they are reported or stand upon the calendar, unless otherwise directed by the House. ⁷⁰ | Rule 5-3: The chief clerk shall (d) see that all bills and general or special orders shall be acted upon by the Senate in the order in which they were reported or stand upon the calendar, unless otherwise ordered by a majority vote of those senators present. ⁷¹ |
| New York | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| North Carolina | Rule 40: The clerk shall number all bills and resolutions in the order in which they are introduced. All bills and resolutions shall be taken up as they appear in each category (Rule 5(10)). Except by leave of the House, the speaker shall not vary from the order. ⁷² | Rule 48: Calendar – order to be followed: The presiding officer and the principal clerk of the Senate shall see that all bills are acted upon by the Senate in the order in which they stand upon the calendar, unless otherwise ordered in accordance with Rule 47. ⁷³ |

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|----------------|---|---|
| North Dakota | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| Ohio | Rule 75: Taking bill out of order: No bill upon the calendar shall be taken up out of its order thereon, unless otherwise ordered by a majority vote upon motion. ⁷⁴ | Rule 8: Order of business, how changed: The business of the Senate shall be disposed of in the order provided by Rule 7. To revert to or advance to a new order of business requires only a majority vote of the members of the Senate. ⁷⁵ |
| Oklahoma | No rule found. | Rule 8-22(B): Order of Consideration of legislation: The majority floor leader, or a designee, shall determine the order in which legislation is considered by the Senate. Nothing in this section nor these rules shall be construed as to guarantee a right to a hearing on any legislation. ⁷⁶ |
| Oregon | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| Pennsylvania | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| Rhode Island | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| South Carolina | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| South Dakota | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| Tennessee | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| Texas | No rule found. | Rule 5.13: No bill, joint resolution, or resolution affecting state policy may be considered out of its regular calendar order unless the regular order is suspended by a vote of three-fifths of the members present. ⁷⁷ |
| Utah | Rule HR4-3-101(2): Legislation on third reading calendar shall be considered in the order that it appears on the calendar unless a constitutional majority vote of the members of the House directs other action. ⁷⁸ | Rule SR4-3-102(2): Legislation on the third reading calendar shall be considered in the order that it appears on the calendar unless a constitutional majority vote of the members of the Senate directs other action. ⁷⁹ |
| Vermont | No rule found. | Rule 36: The orders of the day shall then be taken up. At the request of the president pro tempore, unless a majority of the Senate objects, bills or resolutions may be taken up out of their normal sequence. Otherwise, unfinished orders of the preceding day shall be disposed of first. It shall not be in order to interrupt the orders of the day with any other business, except a motion to adjourn, or that when the Senate adjourn it be to a time certain, or to recess, or to suspend the rules, and to receive messages from the governor or from the House. ⁸⁰ |
| Virginia | Rule 52: The regular order of business herein established shall not be changed, nor shall any special order be made, except by vote of two-thirds of the members present. However, a majority may postpone the calendar not exceeding one day at a time, or postpone for a specified time or purpose any subject coming up in order without changing its place, or agree to a joint order with the Senate, or postpone or discharge any special order. ⁸¹ | Rule IX (25)(a): All bills, resolutions or other business originating in the Senate and all bills, resolutions or other business sent from the House of Delegates shall be dispatched in the order in which they are introduced or received, unless the Senate shall otherwise direct. ⁸² |
| Washington | Rule 14(C) Exceptions: Exceptions to the order of business are as follows: (1) The order of business may be changed by a majority vote of those present; (2) By motion under the eighth order of business, a bill in the Rules Committee may be placed on the calendar by the affirmative vote of a majority of all members of the House; (3) House resolutions and messages from the Senate, governor, or other state officials may be read at any time. ⁸³ | Rule 17(a): The order of business established by this rule may be changed and any order of business already dealt with may be reverted or advanced to by a majority vote of those present. ⁸⁴ |

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|---------------|--|---|
| West Virginia | Rule 70: Special Calendar – The House may by resolution authorize the Committee on Rules to arrange a special daily calendar, and the consideration of bills on this calendar shall take precedence over the regular House calendar. ⁸⁵ | Rule 17: Bills and resolutions in numerical order – unless otherwise directed by the Committee on Rules, all bills, resolutions or business originating in the Senate shall be considered at the appropriate order of business in the order in which they are introduced, and all bills and resolutions received from the House of Delegates shall be introduced in the order in which they are received and shall be considered at the appropriate order of business in their numerical order. ⁸⁶ |
| Wisconsin | No rule found. | No rule found. |
| Wyoming | No rule found. | No rule found. |

Appendix D

Special orders and special order calendar

| Special order set by means other than presiding officer, or no special order found | | |
|--|---|--|
| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
| Alabama | <p>Rule 11: No special order for the consideration of bills shall be set except by a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules and adopted by a vote of a majority of the members present and voting. Debate on any special order calendar reported from the Rules Committee is limited to 2 hours, at which time the speaker shall call for a vote on the pending substitutes or amendments, or both, if there be any, in their order, and then on the main motion. The speaker shall endeavor to equitably apportion debate time among the various members or groups of members wishing to debate.⁸⁷</p> | <p>Rule 9(a): The regular order of business shall not be set aside except by a majority vote of the Senate, upon a resolution reported by the Committee on Rules, following a meeting of the Rules Committee in which a majority of its members are recorded as voting in the affirmative to submit such resolution before the Senate. All items on such proposed special order calendar shall be posted by the Rules Committee 24 hours prior to said resolution being offered, unless a majority of the Rules Committee votes to set this provision aside. This notice shall not apply during special sessions. Any amendment or substitute to a Rules Committee report of a special order calendar shall prevail only with a concurrence of not less than 21 affirmative votes. The total debate prior to the voting of its adoption shall not exceed 20 minutes. The adoption of any special order calendar shall be by a majority on a recorded vote.</p> <p>Rule 9(b): A special order calendar may not be amended after adoption and items must be called in the order listed, but a special order calendar may be superseded by a new special order calendar. Business not on the special order calendar may be taken up by unanimous consent.</p> <p>Rule 9(c): A House bill on the Senate regular order calendar may be substituted for an identical Senate bill on a special order calendar in a single motion carrying over the Senate bill and calling the House bill with unanimous consent. If necessary, the Senate bill may first be amended or substituted in order to make it identical to the House bill.⁸⁸</p> |
| Alaska | <p>Rule 19: Special order of business – Any subject not otherwise specifically provided for in the rules may, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, be made a special order of business, and when the time fixed for its consideration arrives, the presiding officer shall lay it before the house.⁸⁹</p> | <p>Rule 19: Special order of business – Any subject not otherwise specifically provided for in the rules may, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, be made a special order of business, and when the time fixed for its consideration arrives, the presiding officer shall lay it before the house.⁹⁰</p> |
| Arizona | No special order found. | No special order found. |
| Arkansas | <p>Rule 19(o): Special order of business (debatable) (two-thirds of a quorum).⁹¹</p> | <p>Rule 11.02: Special orders may be made by suspension of the rules or by unanimous consent, and it is in order, by motion of the Senate, to provide that a subject be made a special order for a given date, or make a special order by motion to postpone to a day certain.⁹²</p> |
| California | <p>Rule 88: A motion to set any matter before the Assembly as a special order of business is adopted by an affirmative recorded vote of 54 [two-thirds] or more members. The motion is debatable only as to the propriety of setting the main question as a special order of business, and may be amended only as to the time.⁹³</p> | <p>Rule 30: Any measure or subject may, by vote of a majority of those voting, be made a special order and, when the time fixed for its consideration arrives, he or she who is presiding shall lay it before the Senate.⁹⁴</p> |

Special order set by means other than presiding officer, or no special order found

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|-------------|---|--|
| Colorado | No special order found. | Rule 4(a): No bill or bills, or any other measure which takes the same course as a bill, may be made a special order unless approved by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members elected. In discussion of a motion to make a special order, no senator shall speak more than once, nor longer than 10 minutes, and a vote shall thereafter immediately be taken. Whenever any bill or other measure is made a special order for a particular day and hour, and the consideration thereof shall not be completed at that sitting, it shall retain its place as a special order and be considered immediately following the reading and approval of the journal on the next succeeding day of actual session. When a special order is under consideration, it shall take precedence over any special order for a subsequent hour of the same day, but such subsequent special order may be taken up immediately after the previous special order has been disposed of. ⁹⁵ |
| Connecticut | Rule 44: Upon motion made and adopted, the House may schedule consideration of any matter appearing on the calendar for a date certain by special order, but no sooner than the later of (i) the second day, excluding weekends and holidays, after the adoption of the special order or (ii) the day after the matter first appears on the calendar double starred. ⁹⁶ | No special order found. |
| Delaware | No special order found. | Rule 15: Special Order of Business – Any subject may, without objection by any member elected to the Senate, be made a special order; when the time so fixed for its consideration arrives, the presiding officer shall lay it before the Senate. ⁹⁷ |
| Florida | Rule 10.11: Special Order Calendar – (a) Regular Session (1) The Rules, Calendar and Ethics Committee shall periodically submit, as needed, a special order calendar determining the sequence for consideration of legislation. The special order calendar may include bills on second reading, bills on unfinished business, resolutions, and specific sections for local bills, trust fund bills and bills to be taken up at a time certain. Upon adoption of a special order calendar, no other bills shall be considered for the time period set forth for that special order calendar, except that any bill appearing on that special order calendar may be stricken from it by a majority vote or any bill may be added to it pursuant to Rule 10.13. A previously adopted special order calendar shall expire upon adoption by the House of a new special order calendar. (2) Any committee, subcommittee or member may apply in writing to the chair of the Rules, Calendar and Ethics Committee to place a bill on the special order calendar. The Rules, Calendar and Ethics Committee may grant such requests by a majority vote. (3) During the first 55 days of a regular session, the special order calendar shall be published in two calendars of the House, and it may be taken up on the day of the second published calendar. After the 55th day of a regular session, the special order calendar shall be published in one calendar of the House and may be taken up on the day the calendar is published. (b) Extended or Special Session. (1) If the Legislature extends a legislative session, all bills on the calendar of | Rule 4.17: (1) Commencing 15 days prior to a regular session and continuing through any extension thereof, the rules chair, majority leader and minority leader shall together submit a special order calendar determining the list of bills for consideration by the Senate. The president shall determine the order in which such bills appear on the published special order calendar. ⁹⁹ |

Special order set by means other than presiding officer, or no special order found

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|----------|--|---|
| Florida | the House at the time of expiration of the regular session shall be placed in the Rules, Calendar and Ethics Committee. (2) During any extended or special session, all bills upon being reported favorably by the last committee or subcommittee of reference shall be placed in the Rules, Calendar and Ethics Committee. (3) During any extended or special session, the Rules, Calendar and Ethics Committee shall establish a special order calendar and only those bills on such special order calendar shall be placed on the calendar of the House. (4) During any extended or special session, the special order calendar shall be published in one calendar of the House and bills thereon may be taken up on the day the calendar is published. ⁹⁸ | |
| Georgia | Rule 34: Every motion to make special orders shall be submitted in writing to the Committee on Rules and reported on by the committee before being submitted to the House. ¹⁰⁰ | No special order found. |
| Hawaii | Rule 30: Order of business: Special – The House may, by previous motion, direct that any matter be made a special order of business. Special orders shall take precedence over all business after the fourth order in the order of business. The House may also specify that special orders be taken up at a later specified point in the order of business. ¹⁰¹ | Rule 40: Order of business: Special – The Senate, by previous motion, may direct that any matter named shall be made a special order of business and that such special order shall take precedence of all business after the fourth order, or that it shall take any other position lower down on the calendar. ¹⁰² |
| Idaho | No special order found. | Rule 4: Special Orders – (B) Any question brought before the Senate for consideration may be made a special order by a two-thirds majority vote. Unless otherwise ordered, special orders shall be taken up during the first call of the fourteenth order of business, and matters on special order shall be disposed of in rotation prior to call of the general calendar. Whenever any matter is made a special order and the consideration thereof shall not be completed at that sitting, it shall be returned to and retain its place as a special order for the next call of the fourteenth order of business or such other hour at the next session as may have been originally fixed. ¹⁰³ |
| Indiana | No special order found. | No special order found. |
| Kansas | Rule 4302: Special order – Any matter may be made the special order for any particular time or day, but all requests and motions for special orders shall be referred to the Committee on Rules and Journal, which may designate particular times and days for such special orders and report to the House for its approval. Upon adoption of such report by two-thirds of the members present, the matters designated shall stand as special orders for the times stated, but no special order shall be made more than seven days in advance. This Rule 4302 shall not apply to executive reorganization orders or resolutions relating thereto. ¹⁰⁴ | Rule 6: Special order – Whenever any bill or other matter is made the special order for a particular day, and shall not be reached or completed on that day, it shall be returned to its place in the general order, unless it shall be made the special order for another day. When any special order is under consideration, it shall take precedence over any special order for a subsequent hour of the same day, but such subsequent special order shall be taken up immediately after the previous order has been disposed of. Notation of a special order shall be placed before the first order of business on the calendar for that day, giving the subject to be considered and the time fixed for its consideration. When that time arrives, other business shall be suspended until the special order has been considered. ¹⁰⁵ |
| Kentucky | No special order found. | No special order found. |

Special order set by means other than presiding officer, or no special order found

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|---------------|--|---|
| Louisiana | Rule 8.6: Order of business, vote required to change; Special order vote required to establish – The order of business, as established by the rules of the House, shall not be postponed or changed except by a favorable vote of at least two-thirds of the members present; however, a legislative instrument may be placed in special order for consideration on a succeeding day by a majority of those present and voting if the standing committee which reported such legislative instrument has recommended such placement. A motion to suspend this rule shall be a debatable motion. ¹⁰⁶ | Rule 10.5(B): A legislative instrument may be placed in special order for consideration on a succeeding day by a majority of the senators present and voting. ¹⁰⁷ |
| Maine | No special order found. | No special order found. |
| Maryland | Rule 91(b): (1) A motion to special order is a motion of this class and, if adopted, the matter to which the motion relates shall be scheduled on the day specified in the motion, under special orders of the day, in such a manner that all matters made a special order of business for that day are taken up, without regard to the hour specified in the motion, in the same sequence in which they were made special orders of business for that day. (2) A matter made a special order for a particular hour may not interfere with the order of business, provided in Rule 7, on the day specified in the motion. ¹⁰⁸ | Rule 91(b): (1) A motion to special order is a motion of this class and, if adopted, the matter to which the motion relates shall be scheduled on the day specified in the motion, under special orders of the day, in such a manner that all matters made a special order of business for that day are taken up, without regard to the hour specified in the motion, in the same sequence in which they were made special orders of business for that day. (2) A matter made a special order for a particular hour may not interfere with the order of business, provided in Rule 7, on the day specified in the motion. ¹⁰⁹ |
| Massachusetts | Rule 7B: The Committee on Rules shall be authorized to originate and report special orders for the scheduling and consideration of legislation on the floor of the House. Said committee shall not be subject to the notification provisions contained in Rule 17A but may hold public hearings and shall accept testimony only from the members of the House. A majority of the members appointed to the committee shall constitute a quorum. When reported, such orders may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, and shall be subject to approval by a majority of the members of the House present and voting. Debate on the question on adoption of such orders shall be limited to one hour. No orders adopted pursuant to this paragraph shall limit the powers of the speaker as provided in Rules 1 to 6, inclusive. Such orders shall not be subject to reconsideration. ¹¹⁰ | Rule 13A: The Committee on Rules may originate and report special orders for the scheduling and consideration of matters on the floor of the Senate. When reported, such orders may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, and shall be subject to approval by a majority of the members of the Senate present and voting. Debate on the question on adoption of such orders shall be limited to 30 minutes. Such orders shall not be subject to reconsideration. ¹¹¹ |
| Michigan | No special order found. | No special order found. |
| Minnesota | No special order found. | Rule 26.1: The chair of the Committee on Rules and Administration, or the chair's designee, may designate a special order for a bill that has been given its second reading. ¹¹² |

Special order set by means other than presiding officer, or no special order found

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|---------------|---|--|
| Mississippi | Rule 81: (1) A motion to postpone to a day certain shall require a majority of those present and voting for its adoption, but a motion to postpone to a time certain shall be deemed, and treated as, a motion to set as a special order. (2) A motion to set a special order may be amended as to time. It is debatable only as to the question of setting the special order and does not open up the main question to debate. (3) A motion to set a special order shall require a two-thirds vote of those members present and voting. (4) When special orders that have been made at different times come into conflict, the one that was first made takes precedence over all special orders made afterwards, although the latter were made for an earlier hour. ¹¹³ | Rule 66: A bill, resolution or measure may be made a special order for a day and hour certain by a majority vote of senators present and voting. Upon the arrival of such time, the president shall lay before the Senate the bill, resolution or measure under special order, and the Senate shall proceed to its consideration on third reading until it has been temporarily or permanently disposed of. ¹¹⁴ |
| Missouri | No special order found. | No special order found. |
| Montana | No special order found. | No special order found. |
| Nebraska | No special order found. | |
| New Hampshire | No special order found. | Moves consideration of a future scheduled item to another time by a simple majority vote. ¹¹⁵ |
| New Jersey | No special order found. | No special order found. |
| New Mexico | No special order found. | Rule 8-8: Any matter may be made the special order for any particular time or day by consent of a majority of the senators elected. Whenever any bill or other matter is made a special order for a particular day, and consideration of the bill is not completed on that day, it shall, unless otherwise ordered, retain its place on the calendar as a special order in the order of business in which it was considered. When a special order is under consideration, it shall take precedence over any other special order. A subsequent special order may be taken up immediately after the previous special order has been disposed of. ¹¹⁶ |
| New York | Rule II §3(e): Any matter may be made a special order for any particular day by the assent of two-thirds of the members present. When so made, a similar vote shall be required to rescind or postpone such matter. ¹¹⁷ | Rule VI(10)(c): Except for bills reported from a standing committee and placed on that part of the calendar designated as "order of special report," bills reported from a standing committee shall be placed on the first report calendar and, unless starred, shall be automatically advanced to the second report part of the calendar after one calendar legislative day. Bills on second report shall, unless starred, be advanced to the order of third reading after one calendar legislative day. No debate shall be allowed on the advancement of bills on the order of first or second report or special report. The order of special report shall be marked with an asterisk to indicate that such bills will be subject to debate on the next calendar legislative day. In the event that such bills are not debated on such day, they shall be removed from the order of special report and placed on that part of the calendar designated "bills on order of first report." ¹¹⁸ |

Special order set by means other than presiding officer, or no special order found

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|----------------|--|---|
| North Carolina | <p>Rule 39: Discharge Petition – (a) A motion to discharge a committee from consideration of a bill may be filed with the principal clerk by a primary sponsor of that measure if accompanied by a petition asking that the committee be discharged from further consideration of the bill. No motion may be filed until 10 legislative days after the bill has been referred to the committee. No petition may be filed until notice has been given on the floor of the House that the petition is to be filed and the primary sponsor giving notice has obtained a fiscal note from the Fiscal Research Division on the bill, which note shall be attached to the petition. Members may sign the petition only in the office of the principal clerk, and when the signatures of 61 members appear on the petition, the principal clerk shall place that motion on the calendar for the next legislative day as a special order of business. Members may withdraw their names at any time until 61 names appear. If the motion is adopted by the House, then the committee to which the bill or resolution has been referred is discharged from further consideration of the bill, and that bill is placed on the calendar for the next legislative day as a special order of business. The principal clerk shall provide a form for discharge petitions.¹¹⁹</p> | <p>Rule 51: Special orders – Any bill or other matter in consideration before the Senate may be made a special order for a subsequent day or hour by a vote of the majority of the senators voting, and if action on the bill is not completed on that day, it shall be returned to its place on the calendar, unless it is made a special order for another day; and when a special order is under consideration it shall take precedence over any special order or subsequent order for the day, but such subsequent order may be taken up immediately after the previous special order has been disposed of.¹²⁰</p> |
| North Dakota | No special order found. | No special order found. |
| Ohio | <p>Rule 4: (Special order of business.) Any matter may be made a special order of business for any particular day and hour with the assent of two-thirds of the members present.¹²¹</p> | <p>Rule 39: (Special order, how made.) A bill or resolution may be made a special order by a three-fifths vote of the Senate.¹²²</p> |
| Oklahoma | <p>Rule 7.23: Special orders (a) After a measure is scheduled for consideration on the House floor, a two-thirds majority of the House may vote to designate a measure as a “special order” to be taken up on a specific date or at a specific time. Such a vote shall be recorded in the House journal.¹²³</p> | No special order found. |
| Oregon | <p>Rule 4.01 (8): The general order of business shall not be varied except upon suspension of the rules. However, any subject before the House may be made a special order of business upon the vote of a majority of the members present and, when the time fixed for consideration of the subject arrives, the presiding officer shall take up the subject.¹²⁴</p> | <p>Rule 4.01 (5): The general order of business shall not be varied except upon suspension of the rules. However, any subject before the Senate may be made a special order of business upon the vote of a majority of the members present. When the appropriate time for consideration of the subject arrives, the Senate shall take up the subject.¹²⁵</p> |
| Pennsylvania | <p>Rule 17: Any question may, by a majority vote of the members elected, be made a special order of business. When the time arrives for its consideration, the speaker shall lay the special order of business before the House.¹²⁶</p> | <p>Rule 9(b): Special order of business – Any subject may, by a vote of a majority of the members present, be made a special order; and when the time so fixed for its consideration arrives, the presiding officer shall lay it before the Senate.¹²⁷</p> |
| Rhode Island | No special order found. | No special order found. |

Special order set by means other than presiding officer, or no special order found

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|----------------|---|---|
| South Carolina | <p>Rule 6.3: Consideration of statewide contested bills and joint resolutions on second reading in the order in which they appear on the calendar; a. Notwithstanding the order of business set forth in Rule 6.3 a matter may be set for special order for consideration on a particular day at a particular hour or at a particular place on the calendar. b. Special orders may be set for appropriations bills and local bills by majority vote of the House. Special orders on all other bills on the calendar shall be set only by written resolution, which has been referred to the Rules Committee or originates therein, and agreed to by two-thirds of the members of that committee and agreed to by majority of the members of the House present after the committee has made its report; provided, however, that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 9 governing the amendability of bills and resolutions, no amendments may be offered to any Special Order resolution, which amendments do not pertain to the bill which is the subject of the Special Order resolution, except as to the time and date called for in such resolution. Provided, that for the purpose of explaining any Special Order resolution the time limit for opponents shall not exceed five minutes and the time limit for proponents shall not exceed five minutes. c. A Special Order set for a certain day and hour, not being considered by the House at the hour named, shall be transferred by the Clerk of the House to the Special Orders of the following day until disposed of, in the chronological order of original appointment. Any member may insist upon a Special Order of the Day, or other Special Orders, until it be discharged.¹²⁸</p> | <p>Rule 33B: During the motion period, all motions to set a bill or resolution for special order on a subsequent legislative day shall be in order irrespective of whether the bill or resolution was given a reading on the legislative day the motion is made. Said motions shall be considered in the priority established by the recognition of the senators making said motions. Each such motion shall relate to a separate bill or resolution. Except for explanatory remarks authorized in subsection A, such motions shall be determined without debate and by two-thirds of the senators present and voting. Provided, that, when authorized in writing by a majority of the members of the Rules Committee and delivered to the desk, a motion to set a bill for special order, shall require a vote of a majority of the members present and voting. At no time may the special order calendar have more than one bill which is set for special order by a motion authorized by the Rules Committee. During the motion period, no bill or resolution can be made a special order ahead of bills or resolutions which have already been placed in the status of adjourned debate. If a bill is set for special order on a date and/or time certain, such bill is not subject to consideration at the specified date and/or time unless the Senate reaches that order of business or unless by unanimous consent the Senate has agreed that consideration of the bill will be to the exclusion of all other matters pending before the Senate at such time. If a bill or resolution is set for special order for second reading and subsequently receives such reading, the bill or resolution shall remain on special order unless otherwise agreed to by three-fifths of the senators present and voting.¹²⁹</p> |
| South Dakota | <p>Rule 4-2: Special orders – Any bill, resolution, memorial or other subject matter may be made a special order for some subsequent time by a majority vote of the members present.¹³⁰</p> | <p>Rule 4-2: Special orders – Any bill, resolution, memorial or other subject matter may be made a special order for some subsequent time by a majority vote of the members present.¹³¹</p> |
| Tennessee | <p>Rule 13: Special order – It shall require an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the members to which the House is entitled under the Constitution to set a special order of business; however, when a motion has been made to set for a special order any bill, resolution, or motion, the motion having failed for lack of a two-thirds majority but having received a majority vote of the members of the House present, it shall be in order, upon the demand of 5 members of the House, for the Committee on Calendar and Rules to meet and report for the adoption or rejection by a majority vote of the House a rule or order fixing a time for the consideration of said bill or measure. It shall require a majority vote of the members of the House to postpone any special order set.¹³²</p> | <p>No special order found.</p> |
| Texas | <p>Rule 6, Section 2: Special Orders – (a) Any bill, resolution, or other measure may on any day be made a special order for the same day or for a future day of the session by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present.¹³³</p> | <p>Rule 5.11: (a) Any bill, resolution, or other measure may on any day be made a special order for a future time of the session by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the members present. (c) Upon the affirmative vote of four-fifths of the members present, a special order may be reset to an earlier time than previously scheduled.¹³⁴</p> |

Special order set by means other than presiding officer, or no special order found

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|---------------|---|---|
| Utah | <p>Rule HR1-5-301: Special order of business – Time certain: (1)(a) Except as provided in subsection (2), a representative may make a motion, or the House Rules Committee may recommend, that a piece of legislation become a special order of business on the time certain calendar.</p> <p>(b) If the motion is approved by a majority of the members present, the chief clerk shall place the legislation on the time certain calendar. (2) A motion to place a piece of legislation as a special order of business on the time certain calendar may not be made if the legislation has not yet been placed on the third reading calendar. (3) At the time set for consideration of the legislation, the presiding officer shall place the legislation before the House.¹³⁵</p> | <p>SR1-5-201: Special order of business – Time certain: (1) (a) A senator, on the senator’s own initiative or upon recommendation from the president, may make a motion that a piece of legislation become a special order of business on the time certain calendar. (b) If the motion is approved by a majority of the members present, the secretary of the Senate shall place the legislation on the time certain calendar. (2) At the time set for consideration of the legislation, the presiding officer shall place the legislation before the Senate.¹³⁶</p> |
| Virginia | <p>Rule 52: The regular order of business herein established shall not be changed, nor shall any special order be made, except by vote of two-thirds of the members present. However, a majority may postpone the calendar not exceeding one day at a time, or postpone for a specified time or purpose any subject coming up in order without changing its place, or agree to a joint order with the Senate, or postpone or discharge any special order.¹³⁷</p> | <p>Rule 23(a): Notwithstanding Rule 21 and Rule 22, any subject may, by a recorded vote of a majority of the members present and voting, be made a special and continuing order, to commence at a time to be fixed by the Senate, and when the time so fixed for its consideration arises, the presiding officer shall lay it before the Senate.¹³⁸</p> |
| Vermont | No special order found. | No special order found. |
| West Virginia | <p>Rule 67: Special orders – Any subject made a special order of business shall be laid before the House by the speaker, or may be called up by any member, when the time fixed for its consideration arrives. If not called up or acted upon at the time fixed, it shall lose its standing as a special order.¹³⁹</p> | No special order found. |
| Wisconsin | <p>Rule 33: Resolutions for special orders of business – At any time after a proposal is placed on a calendar or referred to or introduced or offered by the Committee on Rules, that committee may offer a resolution making the proposal a special order of business at a time and on a date specified in the resolution. A single resolution may make several proposals special orders of business.</p> <p>(1) Any such resolution may limit the time for debate on the proposal or proposals involved.</p> <p>(a) The majority leader and the minority leader or their designees, respectively, shall serve as floor managers for the proponents and for the opponents of each such proposal.</p> <p>(b) Within the time limits established by the resolution, the floor managers shall allocate debate time among the members of their respective sides. The floor managers shall inform the presiding officer of the names of members to be recognized in debate.</p> <p>(2) A resolution offered by the Committee on Rules to make a proposal a special order of business is not amendable.</p> <p>(3) Any resolution offered by the Committee on Rules to make a proposal a special order is privileged and may be received under any order of business. Such a resolution shall be taken up and acted upon immediately, ahead of all other proposals. The question before the Assembly is adoption of the resolution. The only motion in order with regard to any such resolution is the motion to reject.</p> | <p>Rule 17: (2) A proposal or other matter may be made a special order for a specified date and time by the Committee on Senate Organization or by two-thirds of the members present. Once established, a special order can be postponed to a future date or time only by the Committee on Senate Organization or by two-thirds of the members present. When the time for the special order has arrived and the special order is announced by the presiding officer, or attention thereto is called by any member, the special order has precedence over the regular orders of business. Whenever the rules are suspended to advance such proposal or other matter to a subsequent stage, its precedence as a special order continues. Whenever any such special order is under consideration, it shall not be interrupted by the arrival of the time for the consideration of another special order.</p> <p>(3) Special orders, once established, continue to be special orders, and when laid over under the rules are special orders on their proper calendar, unless otherwise ordered by the Senate. Subsequent special orders shall be considered in their chronological order and their priority over regular orders on the calendars remains.¹⁴¹</p> |

Special order set by means other than presiding officer, or no special order found

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|-----------|---|-------------------------|
| Wisconsin | <p>Debate on the questions of adoption and rejection is limited to 5 minutes each.</p> <p>(4) Any special order created by adoption of a resolution under this rule shall be taken up at the time indicated in the resolution or 12 hours following its adoption, whichever is later. Any motion to reconsider an action on the special order shall be taken up immediately unless a different time is set by vote of a majority of the members present and voting for a specific motion to reconsider. The motion to advance the proposal to its 3rd reading and the motion to message the proposal to the other house may be adopted by a majority of the members present and voting.</p> <p>(5) If ordered to a 3rd reading, any proposal made a special order under this rule shall appear as a continuing special order of business on the calendar for the 2nd legislative day after the order. Any such continuing special order shall be listed by the time and date of the original order and takes precedence over all other proposals that appear on the same calendar except continuing special orders of an earlier time and date.</p> <p>(6) Any resolution under this rule must be provided to the members before action is taken thereon.</p> <p>(7) If any bill that is introduced in the Assembly or Senate under section 227.19 (5) (e) or 227.26 (2) (f) of the statutes is not advanced to a 2nd reading within 40 days after the date of referral to an Assembly standing committee, the Committee on Rules shall offer a resolution to make the bill a special order of business. This subsection does not apply if the bill is introduced within 40 days after the time at which further proposals may not be introduced or offered in the regular session under Joint Rule 83 (2).¹⁴⁰</p> | |
| Wyoming | No special order found. | No special order found. |

Special order set by presiding officer

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|------------|---|---|
| Illinois | <p>Rule 44: (a) A special order of business may be set by the Rules Committee or by the speaker. The principal sponsor of a bill or resolution must consent to the placement of the bill or resolution on a special order. A special order shall fix the day to which it applies and the matters to be included. The speaker, or the Rules Committee by a vote of a majority of those appointed, may establish time limits for a special order and may establish limitations on debate during a special order (notwithstanding Rule 52), in which event the allotted time shall be fairly divided between proponents and opponents of the legislation to be considered. A special order of business takes the place of the standing order for such time as may be necessary for its completion. Only matters that may otherwise properly be before the House may be included in a special order. (b) A special order shall appear on the daily calendar for 3 legislative days. This subsection (b) may be suspended only by the affirmative vote of 71 [of 118] members elected. (c) A special order may be suspended, amended, or modified by motion adopted by an affirmative vote of 60 [of 118] members. A special order shall be suspended by a written objection signed by 3 members of the Rules Committee and filed during the first legislative day on which the special order appears on the calendar.¹⁴²</p> | No special order found. |
| Iowa | <p>Rule 31:7: A bill reported out by committee shall go to the speaker who shall direct that the bill be placed on the regular calendar unless it covers subject matter more properly within the jurisdiction of some other standing committee, in which case the speaker shall refer the bill to the proper standing committee. In order to expedite important business and set a definite time for the bill's consideration, the speaker may direct the bill to be placed on the special order calendar.¹⁴³</p> | No special order found. |
| Nevada | No special order found. | <p>Rule 125: Special order of business – The president shall call the Senate to order on the arrival of the time fixed for the consideration of a special order, and announce that the special order is before the Senate, which shall be considered, unless it be postponed by a majority vote of the Senate, and any business before the Senate at the time of the announcement of the special order shall go to unfinished business.¹⁴⁴</p> |
| Washington | No special order found. | <p>Rule 18: The president shall call the Senate to order at the hour fixed for the consideration of a special order, and announce that the special order is before the Senate, which shall then be considered unless it is postponed by a majority vote of the members present, and any business before the Senate at the time of the announcement of the special order shall take its regular position in the order of business, except that if a cutoff established by concurrent resolution occurs during the special order, the Senate may complete the measure that was before the Senate when consideration of the special order was commenced.¹⁴⁵</p> |

Appendix E

Discharge/forcing committee action by state

Shaded sections indicate chambers that do not conform to the table heading.

| Discharge is automatic/less than majority can discharge | | |
|---|---|--|
| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
| Hawaii | Rule 37.1: Any bill that has been referred to a committee may be recalled from that committee 20 days after referral, if one-third of the members to which the House is entitled vote in favor of the recall. ¹⁴⁶ | Rule 52: Bills: Recall from Committee – Twenty days after a bill has been referred to a committee, the same may be recalled from such committee by the affirmative vote of one-third of the members of the Senate. ¹⁴⁷ |
| Idaho | Rule 45: Call for Bills or Memorials or Resolutions – When any bill, memorial or resolution has been in the hands of any committee for five days, any member of the House may, at the fifth or seventh order of business, upon the floor of the House, call for the same; whereupon it shall be the duty of said committee to report said bill, memorial or resolution to the House under the order of business of committee reports, not later than the following morning session. The House may, however, upon motion approved by a majority of the members present, grant said committee further time; provided, that after the thirtieth day of the session any bill, memorial or resolution must be reported forthwith out of the committee to which it has been referred, with or without recommendations, upon the request of any member, unless otherwise ordered by the House by a vote of a majority of the members present. ¹⁴⁸ | Rule 14: Calling for a Bill – (E) When a bill, resolution, or memorial has been in the hands of a committee for three days after its reference, any senator may, at the Tenth Order of Business, serve notice that he may call for the bill, resolution, or memorial and the committee report thereon. On the day following the giving of notice, during the thirteenth or not later than the fourteenth Order of Business, the senator may make the call, and the committee, unless excused by the Senate, shall, during the sixth Order of Business only on the following day, report the bill, resolution, or memorial to the desk; provided that after the forty-fifth day of the regular session or the fifteenth day of a special session, notice of the call shall be dispensed with and unless excused or granted additional time, the committee shall report the bill, resolution, or memorial forthwith; and provided further, no bill may be called for from a committee more than once in any consecutive three-day period except after the fifty-fifth legislative day of a regular session or the fifteenth day of a special session and then no bill may be called for more than once in any one day and if two-thirds of those voting excuse the committee, it may not be called for again. ¹⁴⁹ |
| Maryland | Rule 42: Petitions from Committee – (a) A bill or resolution referred to a committee during the first 30 days of a regular session may be petitioned to the floor of the House if the bill or resolution has been in committee for more than 20 days; and a bill or resolution referred to a committee after the thirtieth day of a regular session may be petitioned out if it has been in committee for more than 15 days. (b) A petition pursuant to this rule may be presented by any 47 members. Rule 32: (b) Notwithstanding other provisions of these rules, a House bill or joint resolution introduced during the last 59 calendar days of a regular session: (1) Shall be referred by the speaker to the Committee on Rules and Executive Nominations; (2) May not be required to be returned to the floor except upon the affirmative votes of at least two-thirds of all the members elected; and (3) May not be petitioned from the committee. ¹⁵⁰ | Rule 42: Petitions from Committee – (a)(1) A bill or resolution referred to a committee during the first 30 days of a regular session may be petitioned to the floor of the Senate if the bill or resolution has been in committee for more than 20 days. (2) A bill or resolution referred to a committee after the thirtieth day of a regular session may be petitioned out if it has been in committee for more than 15 days. (b) A petition pursuant to this Rule may be presented by any 16 members. (c) Upon the presentation of a petition, the bill or resolution, either with or without a recommendation of the committee, shall be returned promptly to the Senate by the chair of the committee. (d) This rule does not apply to: (1) The operating budget bill, which shall be governed by the provision of Article III, Section 52 of the Constitution; and (2) Any bill or resolution referred to the Committee on Rules pursuant to Rule 32. Rule 32(b): Notwithstanding other provisions of these Rules, a Senate bill or joint resolution introduced after the twenty-fourth calendar day of a regular session: (1) Shall be referred by the president to the Committee on Rules; (2) May not be required to be returned to the floor except upon the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all the members elected; and (3) May not be petitioned from a committee. ¹⁵¹ |

Discharge is automatic/less than majority can discharge

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|--------------|--|--|
| Missouri | <p>Rule 36: No bill shall be taken away from any regular standing committee, special standing committee, or select standing committee of the House, as provided by the Constitution, until after 10 legislative days have expired after referral to the committee by the speaker. Pursuant to the Constitution, one-third of the members of the House shall have the power to relieve a committee of any bill. Such power may be exercised by filing a petition to that effect with the chief clerk of the House. Upon receipt of such petition containing the signatures of at least 55 members, the chief clerk shall publish such petition in the journal and place the discharged bill upon the regular calendar of House bills taken from committee, as provided by the Constitution.¹⁵²</p> | <p>Rule 50: After a bill has been referred to a committee, one-third of the senators elected has the power to relieve a committee of further consideration of a bill and place it on the calendar for consideration. In any case where a committee has been relieved of further consideration of a bill as herein provided, a majority of the senators present but not less than one-third of the senators elected, may, at any time before final passage thereof, again refer the bill to the same or some other committee for consideration. No bill or resolution shall be reported adversely by any committee until the author of the bill or resolution has been given an opportunity to appear and be heard before the committee to which it is referred. One-third of the senators elected may relieve a committee of an appointment and a motion to grant advice and consent of the Senate to that appointment is then in order upon a vote of the majority of the Senate.¹⁵³</p> |
| North Dakota | <p>Unanimous consent, except a bill or resolution not reported back as required after a designated period of time must automatically be placed on the calendar without recommendation. (House Rules 331, 509).¹⁵⁴</p> | <p>Unanimous consent, except a bill or resolution not reported back as required after a designated period of time must automatically be placed on the calendar without recommendation. (Senate Rules 331, 509).¹⁵⁵</p> |
| Rhode Island | <p>Rule 12(g): In the event a committee fails to afford consideration to any bill or resolution within the prescribed time where such consideration has been properly requested, and where no other exceptions or considerations apply by the rules herein, the principal sponsor may report such failure in writing to the speaker of the House and the speaker thereupon may order the immediate discharge of the bill or resolution from a committee to the House floor.¹⁵⁶</p> | <p>Rule 6.10: Discharge from committee – No bill shall be taken or called from any such committee, or the committee discharged from the consideration thereof, except: (a) Any senator may present a petition, in writing, to discharge a committee from further consideration of a bill which has been in the possession of the committee for thirty legislative days without having been considered, but only one petition on a particular bill may be presented during the course of a session. Prior to presenting the petition, the senator must introduce a resolution of intent to discharge such committee. Such resolution of intent shall contain the bill number and the committee to be discharged. The presiding officer shall cause the resolution of intent to be printed in the journal of the Senate. The petition shall be placed in the custody of the presiding officer who shall arrange some convenient place for the signatures of the senators to be placed thereon in the presence of the reading clerk during the hours in which the Senate is in session. A signature may be withdrawn by a senator at any time before the petition shall become effective. On the first day of each week, there shall be printed in the journal of the Senate the petitions pending under these rules, together with the signatures thereto; provided, however, that as soon as a majority of all the senators elected to the Senate shall have affixed their signatures to any such petition to discharge a committee under this rule, the presiding officer shall cause notice thereof to be given to chair and clerk of the committee to which such bill was referred, and such notice shall, thereupon, automatically discharge the committee from further consideration of the bill and the bill shall be placed upon the calendar in accordance with section 7.6 hereof.¹⁵⁷</p> |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|------------|--|--|
| Alaska | Rule 18: A bill may not be withdrawn from the Rules Committee but the House may order a bill in possession of the Rules Committee to be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day by a majority vote of the full membership of the House. ¹⁵⁸ | Rule 18: A bill may not be withdrawn from the Rules Committee but the House may order a bill in possession of the Rules Committee to be placed on the calendar for the next legislative day by a majority vote of the full membership of the House. ¹⁵⁹ |
| Arkansas | Rule 67: Upon written request by the author of a bill directed to the chair of the committee, a bill shall be considered by the full committee within 10 days of the time of such request, but the committees may delay final action on a bill by a majority vote of the committee. ¹⁶⁰ | Rule 7.05(l): After a bill, resolution, or other matter has been referred to a committee for twenty calendar days, the bill, resolution or other matter may be extracted from the committee and placed on the calendar upon a vote of at least a majority of the members of the Senate or upon a vote of at least the number of members necessary to pass the bill or other measure, whichever is greater. After the fiftieth calendar day of any regular session, and at any time during a special session, any bill, resolution or other matter may be extracted from a committee by the vote of at least a majority of the members of the Senate or by a vote of at least the number of members necessary to pass the bill, whichever is greater, regardless of committee. No motion to extract a bill or other matter shall be in order prior to the bill or other matter being assigned, or, if not heard by the committee, not before the author of said measure has requested a hearing before said committee. No bill receiving a “Do Not Pass” recommendation from the committee to which referred shall be placed on the calendar of bills to be acted on the Senate except on approval of 60 percent of the members elected to the Senate, or upon the approval of at least the number of members elected to the Senate, or upon approval of at least the number of members necessary to pass the bill, whichever is greater. Once a bill, resolution or other matter has been extracted from a committee by such a vote of the Senate, the bill, resolution or other matter shall not thereafter be referred to a committee except by the vote of at least a majority of the members of the Senate, notwithstanding any action taken on the measure by the Senate. Any bill, resolution or other matter extracted from a committee shall be placed upon to a vote by the full Senate until the expiration of two legislative calendar days. ¹⁶¹ |
| California | Rule 51: Except as otherwise provided in this rule, the Committee on Rules shall refer each bill to a committee by a majority vote of the membership of the committee, unless upon a motion the Assembly, by an affirmative recorded vote of 41 or more members, refers it to some other committee. A motion to refer a bill is not debatable, except as to the propriety of the motion, and it may not open the main question to debate. The Committee on Rules may require that, if a bill is reported out of the committee to which it has been referred, it shall be re-referred to another committee that shares jurisdiction of the subject matter of the bill. ¹⁶² | Rule 28: A bill or resolution may not be withdrawn from committee except upon written notice being first given to the Committee on Rules and by 21 [of 40] votes of the Senate. |
| Colorado | Rule 30(a): Three days after reference of any bill to a committee of reference, and upon a 24-hour demand by any member for a report, the committee of reference may be required to report such bill back to the House upon a motion adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of all members elected. ¹⁶³ | No committee discharge found, no Rules Committee. |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|-----------|--|--|
| Delaware | Rule 25: Every bill or resolution which has been in committee for a period of more than 12 legislative days, except those assigned to the Appropriations Committee pursuant to Rule 20, shall, upon written request of the majority of the members elected to the House, be reported to the House for a decision as to its further disposal. ¹⁶⁴ | Rule 16: Petition out of Committee – Upon written request signed by the majority of the members elected to the Senate and directed to the presiding officer, any bill, joint resolution or other business that has been in a committee for a period exceeding 12 legislative days, except those assigned to the Bond Bill or Finance Committees, shall be reported to the Senate. ¹⁶⁵ |
| Iowa | Rule 60: A bill, joint resolution or nullification resolution which has been in committee for 18 legislative days following notation of such referral in the journal may be withdrawn from the committee and placed on the calendar by an affirmative vote of not less than 51 members of the House. ¹⁶⁶ | Rule 42: The secretary of the Senate shall note on each bill and resolution the date of its reference to committee. No bill or resolution shall be withdrawn from any committee within 15 legislative days after the bill or resolution has been referred to the committee and thereafter only upon written petition for the withdrawal of such bill or resolution signed by a constitutional majority of the senators, except as provided in Rule 38. Only senators may circulate such a petition. |
| Kentucky | Rule 48: Discharge petition – Whenever a committee fails or refuses to report within a reasonable time a bill submitted to it, a member may sponsor and file with the clerk a written request, signed by 25 or more members, to call the same up for consideration on the next succeeding legislative day after the filing of the request. The effect of this petition shall be to bring before the House the question of whether the committee to which the bill has been assigned has held the bill for an unreasonable time. Upon the motion of the member sponsoring the request, and if a majority of the members elected to the House concur that the bill has been held an unreasonable time, the bill shall be considered as though it had been regularly reported, and sent to the Rules Committee. | Rule 48: Failure to Report. Whenever a committee fails or refuses to report a bill submitted to it, any member may, upon filing with the clerk a written petition to determine if the committee has held the bill for an unreasonable time, call the petition for consideration on the next succeeding legislative day after its filing. If a majority of the members elected to the Senate concur that the bill has been held an unreasonable time by voting to approve the petition, the bill shall be considered as though it had been regularly reported and shall be given its first reading and thereafter treated as any other bill which had been reported from a committee. ¹⁶⁷ |
| Louisiana | Rule 6.13: Directing committee to report; discharging committee – A. No legislative instrument which shall have been referred to a committee shall be acted upon or considered by the House until the committee shall have reported the same; however, a majority of the elected members of the House of Representatives may by motion or resolution direct a committee to report a legislative instrument, in which case the committee so directed shall report the instrument as directed. B. In addition, a majority of the elected members of the House may by motion or resolution recall a legislative instrument from a committee and discharge the committee from further consideration of the same, in which case the instrument shall be recommitted to another committee or heard in the Committee of the Whole. Such a motion or a motion to adopt such a resolution shall not be in order unless the author of the legislative instrument and the chair of the committee to which the legislative instrument is referred are present in the chamber at the time the motion is made. ¹⁶⁸ | Rule 13.11: Directing committee to report – No legislative instrument which has been referred to a committee shall be acted upon or considered by the Senate until the committee has reported it; however, a majority of the elected members of the Senate, by motion or resolution, may direct a committee to hold a public hearing on and report a legislative instrument and may direct the time of such hearing or report, or both. In such case, the committee shall hold the hearing and shall report the instrument as directed. In addition, a majority of the elected members of the Senate, by motion or resolution, may recall a legislative instrument from a committee and discharge the committee from further consideration of the bill, in which case the instrument shall be recommitted to another committee. ¹⁶⁹ |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|---------------|---|--|
| Massachusetts | <p>Rules 28: (1) Motions directing the committee on Ways and Means to report certain matters to the House, or motions discharging said committees from further consideration of certain matters, shall not be considered until the expiration of seven calendar days and shall require a majority vote of the members present and voting for adoption. Committees so directed to report shall file a report with the clerk within four legislative days. The Committee on Ways and Means may not be directed to report or be discharged from further consideration of any appropriation or capital outlay measure.</p> <p>(2) The Committee on Rules, except as provided in Rule 24, and the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading shall not be discharged from consideration of any measure or be directed to report on any measure within 10 calendar days of its reference without the unanimous consent of the House, or after such 10-day period except by a vote of a majority of the members present and voting thereon.</p> <p>(3) Matters discharged under the provisions of this rule shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next sitting. Petitions discharged under the provisions of this rule shall be considered as favorably reported and the bill, resolve, resolution or order accompanying such petitions shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next sitting. (4) During the last week of the session the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (3) of this rule shall be inoperative.</p> <p>(5) A second motion to discharge a matter from a committee or a second motion to direct a committee to report a matter shall not be entertained until the first such motion has been disposed of.</p> <p>(6) As an alternative procedure to that provided under the provisions of this rule, the members of the House may, by filing a petition signed by a majority of the members elected to the House, discharge the House Committee on Ways and Means, the House Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, and the House Committee on Rules from further consideration of a legislative matter. Seven days following the filing of the petition with the House clerk, the committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the legislative matter specified in the petition and the House clerk shall place the matter in the Orders of the Day for the next calendar day that the House is meeting.</p> <p>(7) For the purpose of this rule, matters not appearing on the calendar which are not before any committee shall be deemed to be before the Rules Committee. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, a bill which has been engrossed by the House and Senate, shall be placed before the House for enactment. Any member may request to the House that a matter, engrossed in the House and Senate, returned for final passage by the engrossing division and reviewed and released by the Committee on Bills in Third Reading be placed before the House for enactment. The speaker shall, in response to such a request of a member, put the matter before the House at the conclusion of the matter then pending. (8) This rule shall not be suspended unless by unanimous consent of the members present. (27C, 32A).¹⁷⁰</p> | <p>Rule 27C: With the exception of appropriation bills and capital outlay bills, the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Rules may be discharged from the further consideration of matters referred to them under the following procedure. The consideration of a motion to discharge such committees from further consideration of a certain matter shall be postponed without question to the day after that on which the motion is made. Such motion shall require a majority vote of the members present and voting for adoption, if made after the expiration of 45 calendar days after referral to said committees, but shall require a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting, if made prior to the expiration of said 45 calendar days after referral to said committees. On the motion to discharge such committees, not more than 15 minutes shall be allowed for debate, and no member shall speak more than three minutes.</p> <p>In addition to the above procedure, the Committee on Ways and Means shall be discharged from further consideration of a certain matter upon the written petition of a majority of the members of such committee presented to the chair after 45 calendar days following referral of the matter to said committee. When directed to discharge a certain matter under this rule said committees shall either report or be discharged of said matter within five legislative days of the vote or petition calling for such discharge. A petition discharged under this rule shall be considered as favorably reported and the matter accompanying said petition shall be designated as “discharged,” and shall be placed in the Orders of the Day for the next day for a second reading or question on adoption, as the case may be, unless subject to Senate Rule 27.¹⁷¹</p> |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| Michigan | <p>Rule 42: (3) Nothing in these rules shall prevent a majority of the members elected to and serving in the House from discharging a committee from further consideration of any measure. (See Mich. Const. art. 4, § 16.) A notice of one session day shall be given of a motion to discharge any such committee, the notice to be in writing and entered upon the House journal. If a committee of the House is discharged from further consideration of a bill, the bill shall be placed on the order of Second Reading and if a committee of the House is discharged from further consideration of a resolution the resolution shall be placed on the order of motions and resolutions.¹⁷²</p> | <p>Rule 3.203(e): The vote of a majority of the senators elected and serving shall be required to discharge a committee from further consideration of any item referred to that committee.¹⁷³</p> |
| Minnesota | <p>Rule 4.30: Recalling bill from committee or division – A bill or resolution may be recalled from a committee or division at any time by majority vote of the whole House, be given a second reading and be placed on the General Register. A motion to recall a bill or resolution is in order only under the order of business “Motions and Resolutions.” This rule does not apply in a special session or after the deadline for committee reports on House files.</p> <p>Rule 4.31: Time limit to consider bills – If 20 legislative days after a bill has been referred to a committee or division (other than the Committee on Ways and Means, the Committee on Taxes, or a division of one of those committees), a report has not been made on it by the committee or division, its chief author may request that it be returned to the House. The request must be entered in the journal.</p> <p>The committee or division must vote on the bill requested within 10 calendar days after the day of the request. If the committee or division fails to vote on it within ten days, the chief author may present a written demand to the speaker for its immediate return to the House. The demand must be presented within five calendar days after the day that the committee or division is required to vote. If the demand is presented in the time allowed, it must be entered in the journal and is the demand of the House. The bill is then considered to be in the possession of the House and must be given its second reading and placed on the General Register.</p> <p>The bill may be re-referred by a majority vote of the whole House. If the motion to re-refer is made on the day of the demand or on the next House legislative day, the motion takes precedence over all other motions except privileged motions and is in order at any time.¹⁷⁴</p> | <p>Rule 5.1: Before the applicable deadline for committee action on a bill, a majority of the whole Senate may recall the bill from a committee and re-refer it to any other committee or place it on General Orders. After the committee deadline for action on a bill, 41 affirmative votes of the whole Senate may recall the bill from any committee and re-refer it to any other committee or place it on General Orders. Recall of a bill under this rule requires the concurrence of the chief author of the bill.</p> <p>5.2: By a report of the Committee on Rules and Administration adopted by the Senate, the Committee on Rules and Administration, on request of the chief author, may remove a bill from committee and re-refer it to any other committee or place it on General Orders.¹⁷⁵</p> |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| Mississippi | <p>Rule 95: (1) Except as otherwise provided in this rule, every House bill, resolution or measure referred to any committee, and not reported therefrom with a recommendation by the twenty-seventh day of a 90-day session and by the sixty-second day of a 125-day session, and every Senate bill, resolution or measure referred to any committee, and not reported therefrom by the fifty-fifth day of a 90-day session and by the ninetieth day of a 125-day session, may be withdrawn from the committee on a motion made in writing, which motion must be read by the clerk immediately upon its introduction, setting forth the reasons why the bill should be withdrawn from the committee, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting. It may then be taken up and considered by the Committee of the Whole House in accordance with the procedure set forth in House Rule 56, or, by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting it may be recommitted to a standing committee. During extraordinary or special sessions of the Legislature, any bill, including an appropriation or revenue bill, may be withdrawn from committee after three days from the date of reference. A motion to withdraw a bill from a committee shall not be voted upon by the House on the day which the motion is made, except upon suspension of the rules by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.</p> <p>(2) Any House appropriation bill or revenue bill referred to the House Appropriations Committee or the House Ways and Means Committee and not reported therefrom with a recommendation within 10 legislative days after referral may be withdrawn from the committee in accordance with the procedure set forth in subsection (1) of this rule if the motion for withdrawal is made by the fiftieth day of a 90-day session and by the eighty-fifth day of a 125-day session.</p> <p>(3) Any Senate appropriation bill or revenue bill referred to the House Appropriations Committee or the House Ways and Means Committee and not reported therefrom with a recommendation within ten 10 legislative days after referral may be withdrawn from the committee in accordance with the procedure set forth in subsection (1) of this rule if the motion for withdrawal is made by the seventieth day of a 90-day session and by the one-hundred-fifth day of a 125-day session.</p> <p>(4) Any House resolution or House concurrent resolution that is referred after the twenty-ninth day of a 90-day session or after the sixty-fourth day of a 125-day session, and any Senate concurrent resolution that is referred to a House committee after the fifty-seventh day of a 90-day session or after the ninety-second day of a 125-day session, and not reported therefrom with a recommendation within 10 legislative days after referral may be withdrawn from the committee in accordance with the procedure set forth in subsection (1) of this rule.</p> <p>(5) For the purposes of this rule, the term “revenue bill” shall include only those bills whose primary purpose is to increase or decrease taxes or to authorize the issuance of bonds or the borrowing of money. Bills which are primarily for regulatory purposes which have revenue provisions included shall not be considered as revenue bills for the purposes of this rule.</p> | <p>Rule 87: No bill, resolution, concurrent resolution or measure having been referred to a committee shall be taken from such committee, or the committee be discharged from the consideration thereof, other than by a motion signed by a majority of all senators elected; except that during the last six days of a session, a majority of the senators present and voting may call a bill, resolution or concurrent resolution from a committee by a signed motion.¹⁷⁷</p> |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| Mississippi | (6) If the Legislature shortens a 90-day regular session or a 125-day regular session by moving the deadlines for processing legislation that are set forth in Joint Rule 40 to dates earlier than the dates otherwise set for those sessions, the dates set forth in this subsection (6) shall apply to the motion for withdrawing a bill. ¹⁷⁶ | |
| Nebraska | <p>Rule 3, Section 20: Request from Committee, Bills Held – (a) Except for the general appropriation bills necessary for the support of the state government for the biennium, the Legislature may, by vote of a majority of the elected members, request a status report from any committee at any time after said committee shall have been in possession of a bill or resolution for 20 legislative days.</p> <p>(b) Any senator may move that a bill be placed on General File 20 calendar days or more after the committee hearing, if the committee has not taken final action on the bill, and by a vote of a majority of the elected members, said bill shall be placed on General File. Final action taken by the committee following a motion filed pursuant to this subsection, and prior to when debate is initiated on the motion by the Legislature, shall take precedence over such motion. If, at the expiration of eight calendar days from the date final action was taken, the chair has not reported the bill, any senator may file with the speaker a motion that the chair be compelled to submit a report. After determining that final action on the bill has been taken at least eight calendar days prior to the date the motion was submitted, the speaker shall accept the motion and compel the chair to file the committee's report on the matter.</p> <p>Rule 9, Section 7: Bills and Resolutions Held by Committee. If the committee has not taken final action on a bill or resolution within two legislative days after the committee hearing, any senator may move that the bill or resolution be placed on General File. If a majority of the elected members vote in favor of the motion, the bill shall be placed on General File.¹⁷⁸</p> | |
| Nevada | No committee discharge found, no Rules Committee. | <p>Rule 50: Return from committee – 1. Any bill or other matter referred to a committee of the Senate must not be withdrawn or ordered taken from the committee for consideration by the Senate, for re-referral, or for any other reason without a majority vote of the Senate, and at least one day's notice of the motion therefor.</p> <p>2. No such motion is in order: (a) If the bill to be withdrawn or ordered taken from the committee may no longer be considered by the Senate; or (b) On the last day of the session, or on the day preceding the last day of the session.</p> <p>3. This rule does not take from any committee the rights and duties of committees provided for in Senate Standing Rule No. 43.¹⁷⁹</p> |
| New Hampshire | Rule 60: All committees must report all bills referred to them seven days prior to any deadline for the House to take action unless otherwise provided in Rule 65. Any bill not reported shall be placed on the calendar by the speaker with a report of No Recommendation, and the reference to committee shall be revoked. ¹⁸⁰ | Motion to withdraw from committee brings an item back from committee and puts it before the entire Senate (Table 1, Main Motions, page 7). ¹⁸¹ |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| New Jersey | <p>Rule 10:23: a. Any motion to relieve a reference committee of a bill or resolution shall only be made by the prime sponsor of the bill or resolution or, in the case of a Senate bill or resolution, a member acting on behalf of the prime sponsor of the bills or resolution. The motion to relieve shall not be in order unless 24 hours' notice is given the General Assembly of the introduction of the motion and the reference committee has met at least three times since the bill or resolution was referred to the committee.</p> <p>b. When the motion is moved, debate shall be limited to whether or not the reference committee has given the bill or resolution fair and reasonable consideration. The prime sponsor, in the case of an Assembly bill or resolution, or a member acting on behalf of the prime sponsor of a Senate bill or resolution, shall be entitled to speak first on the motion. The chair of the reference committee, or designee, shall be entitled to speak next in response.</p> <p>c. A motion to lay the motion to relieve a reference committee of a bill or resolution on the table shall not be in order until the parties, as set forth in subsection b., have been given the opportunity to comment or respond.</p> <p>d. The motion to relieve a reference committee of a bill or resolution shall not prevail unless it receives at least 41 affirmative votes.</p> <p>e. No motion to relieve a reference committee of a bill or resolution may be offered on more than two occasions for any bill or resolution during an annual session.¹⁸²</p> | <p>The prime sponsor, or first co-prime sponsor of any Senate bill or resolution, or a senator acting on behalf of the prime sponsor or first co-prime sponsor of an Assembly bill or resolution, may move to relieve a reference committee of a bill or resolution. The motion shall not be in order unless 60 days have elapsed since the bill was referred to committee and 24 hours' notice of the motion has been given to the Senate. The motion shall not prevail unless it receives at least 21 [of 40] votes.¹⁸³</p> |
| New Mexico | <p>Rule 11-18-1: No bill, resolution or memorial shall be recalled after its reference to a committee except upon a majority vote of all members elected to the House.¹⁸⁴</p> | <p>Rule 11-13: Upon introduction, each bill, resolution and memorial shall be read the first and second time by its title, unless reading in full is demanded by any senator. The president shall make announcement of each such reading of the bill. No bill shall be amended or committed until it has been read twice.</p> <p>Rule 11-14: At the time of second reading, or any time thereafter, each bill shall be referred by the Senate to a standing committee, a select committee or the Committee of the Whole; provided, however, that upon every bill, resolution or memorial introduced by any senator, such senator shall endorse the name of the appropriate committee to which the bill, resolution or memorial should be referred. The endorsement shall be as follows: "Referred to the ... committee." Should objection be made to the reference so endorsed, the Senate shall determine the committee to which such bill, resolution or memorial shall be referred. No bill shall be referred to more than two standing committees except upon two-thirds vote of the members present; provided, however, that a referral to the finance committee shall not be considered a committee referral within the two-committee limitation.¹⁸⁵</p> |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| New York | <p>Rule IV, §7: a. No standing committee shall be discharged from the consideration of a bill or resolution until after the printed bill or resolution has been assigned by the index clerk to the committee and only in accordance with the provisions of this section.</p> <p>b. A standing committee shall not be discharged from the consideration of a bill or resolution except upon motion and by a vote of a majority of all the members elected to the Assembly. No such motion shall be in order, until the committee has had 60 days from the date of referral to such committee to consider such bill nor shall such motion be in order on or after the first Tuesday in May except with unanimous consent of the members or in the discretion of the speaker where proper notice has been given prior to the first Tuesday in May.</p> <p>c. 1. On any legislative day, not more than one motion to discharge shall be in order;</p> <p>2. A motion to discharge may only be made by the sponsor of the bill or resolution who has timely filed a request for consideration pursuant to section five of this rule.</p> <p>d. Each motion to discharge, when timely made, shall be placed on the motion to discharge calendar, which shall be printed within two legislative days. No motion to discharge may be considered by the House until such motion has been on such calendar for a period of five calendar legislative days.¹⁸⁶</p> | <p>Rule XII, Sec. 3: Petition for consideration – a. The sponsor of any bill may file with the journal clerk, no less than 45 days after a bill has been referred to a committee, a petition requesting that such bill be moved to the calendar for consideration. Such petition shall be filed with the journal clerk, once the petition is signed by at least three-fifths of the members elected. The petition shall be read during the order of presentation of petitions and the bill reported to the third reading calendar. b. No petition for consideration shall be in order on or after the first Monday in June.¹⁸⁷</p> |
| North Carolina | <p>Rule 39: Discharge petition – (a) A motion to discharge a committee from consideration of a bill may be filed with the principal clerk by a primary sponsor of that measure if accompanied by a petition asking that the committee be discharged from further consideration of the bill. No motion may be filed until 10 legislative days after the bill has been referred to the committee. No petition may be filed until notice has been given on the floor of the House that the petition is to be filed and the primary sponsor giving notice has obtained a fiscal note from the Fiscal Research Division on the bill, which note shall be attached to the petition. Members may sign the petition only in the office of the principal clerk, and when the signatures of 61 members appear on the petition, the principal clerk shall place that motion on the calendar for the next legislative day as a special order of business. Members may withdraw their names at any time until names appear. If the motion is adopted by the House, then the committee to which the bill or resolution has been referred is discharged from further consideration of the bill, and that bill is placed on the calendar for the next legislative day as a special order of business. The principal clerk shall provide a form for discharge petitions.</p> <p>(b) This rule shall not be temporarily suspended without one day's notice on the motion given in the House and delivered in writing to the chair of the standing committee, and to sustain that motion two-thirds of the members shall be required.¹⁸⁸</p> | <p>Rule 47: Recall of bill from committee and discharge petition; re-calendaring or referral of a bill to committee. – (a) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, only the president pro tempore, the chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, or the chair of a committee to which a bill or other matter is assigned may, with the consent of a majority of the membership of the Senate present and voting, recall the measure from its assigned committee to be referred to another committee or the floor. Only the president pro tempore or the chair of the Committee on Rules and Operation of the Senate may, with the consent of a majority present and voting, re-calendar a bill or resolution appearing on the calendar or refer or re-refer it to committee.</p> <p>(b) A motion to discharge a committee from consideration of a bill or resolution may be filed with the principal clerk if accompanied by a petition signed by two-thirds of the members of the Senate asking that the committee be discharged from further consideration of the bill or resolution. No petition may be circulated for signatures until 10 legislative days after the bill has been referred to the committee. No petition may be circulated for signature until notice has been given on the floor of the Senate that the petition is to be circulated. If such a motion accompanied by a valid petition is filed, the principal clerk shall place that motion on the calendar for the next legislative day as a special order of business. If the motion is adopted by two-thirds of the members of the Senate, then the committee to which the bill or resolution has been referred is discharged from further consideration of the bill or resolution, and that bill or resolution is placed on the calendar for the next legislative day as a special order of business. If the committee had, prior to discharge, adopted any amendment or committee substitute for</p> |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| North Carolina | | <p>the bill, it shall be in order to offer that amendment or substitute on the floor as if it were a committee amendment or substitute. The principal clerk shall provide a form for discharge petitions.</p> <p>(c) This rule shall not be temporarily suspended.¹⁸⁹</p> |
| Ohio | <p>Rule 87: (Motion to discharge a committee) – (a) A motion to discharge a committee of further consideration of a bill or resolution which has been referred to such committee thirty calendar days or more prior thereto shall be in order under the order of business, “Motions and Resolutions.” Such motion shall be in writing and deposited in the Office of the Clerk.</p> <p>(b) To initiate a discharge motion a member shall obtain from the clerk a blank discharge motion and designate the bill to which the discharge motion applies. Before such motion may be filed with the clerk, there shall be attached thereto the signatures of a majority of the members elected to the House. Each member who signs the motion shall do so in the presence of the clerk or an assistant of the clerk.</p> <p>(c) Such motion, together with the signatures thereto, shall be printed in the journal as of the day upon which the motion was filed with the clerk.</p> <p>(d) Only one discharge motion can be presented for each bill or resolution.¹⁹⁰</p> | <p>Rule 32: (Motion to discharge a committee) – A motion to discharge a committee of further consideration of a bill or resolution which has been referred to such committee thirty calendar days or more prior thereto, shall be in writing and deposited in the office of the clerk. Before such motion may be filed with the clerk, there shall be attached thereto the signatures of a majority of the members elected to the Senate, and each member so signing must do so in the office of the clerk and in the clerk’s presence, or in the presence of one of the clerk’s assistants. Such motion, together with the signatures, shall be printed in the journal on the day the motion was filed with the clerk. Only one motion can be presented for each bill or resolution.¹⁹¹</p> |
| Oregon | <p>Rule 9.30: Withdrawing measure from committee – (1) A measure, including one referred by the House to a joint committee, may be withdrawn from a committee by the affirmative vote of 31 members.</p> <p>(2) The motion to withdraw a measure from committee shall be in order only under the order of business Propositions and Motions. (3) Immediately following a motion to withdraw a measure from committee, the presiding officer shall direct the clerk to read the measure’s number, title and summary and without debate place the question and call for the vote. The measure shall be scheduled in compliance with Rules 9.32, 9.35 and 9.37. The version withdrawn from committee shall be the version that exists at the time the motion is made as provided under subsection (2) of this rule.¹⁹²</p> | <p>Rule 8.42: Withdrawing measure from committee – A measure, including one referred by the president to a joint committee, may be withdrawn from a committee by a motion to withdraw, and by the affirmative vote of a constitutional majority (16) of the members of the Senate.¹⁹³</p> |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| Pennsylvania | <p>Rule 53: Discharge of Committee – A member may present to the chief clerk a resolution in writing to discharge a committee from the consideration of a bill or resolution which has been referred to it 15 legislative days prior thereto (but only one motion may be presented for each bill or resolution). The discharge resolution shall be placed in the custody of the chief clerk, who shall arrange some convenient place for the signature of the members. A signature may be withdrawn by a member in writing at any time before the discharge resolution is entered in the journal. When 25 members of the House shall have signed the resolution, it shall be entered in the journal and the title of the bill or resolution and the name of the committee to be discharged shall be printed on the calendar. Any member who has signed a discharge resolution which has been on the calendar at least one legislative day prior thereto and seeks recognition, shall be recognized for the purpose of calling up the discharge resolution and the House shall proceed to its consideration without intervening motion except one motion to adjourn; however, no discharge resolution shall be considered during the last six legislative days of any session of the House. A majority vote of all the members elected to the House shall be required to agree to a resolution to discharge a committee. When any perfected discharge resolution has been acted upon by the House and defeated it shall not be in order to entertain during the same session of the House any other discharge resolution from that committee of said measure, or from any other committee of any other bill or resolution substantially the same, relating in substance to or dealing with the same subject matter.¹⁹⁴</p> | <p>Rule 14(j): Discharging Committees – (1) No standing committee shall be discharged from consideration of any bill, resolution or other matter within 10 legislative days of its reference to committee without the unanimous consent of the Senate or after such 10-day period except by majority vote of all members elected to the Senate. (2) Such discharge shall be by resolution which shall lie over one day for consideration upon introduction and which may be considered under the order of business of resolutions on the calendar.¹⁹⁵</p> |
| Rhode Island | <p>Rule 12(g): In the event a committee fails to afford consideration to any bill or resolution within the prescribed time where such consideration has been properly requested, and where no other exceptions or considerations apply by the rules herein, the principal sponsor may report such failure in writing to the speaker of the House and the speaker thereupon may order the immediate discharge of the bill or resolution from a committee to the House floor.¹⁹⁶</p> | <p>Rule 6.10: Discharge from committee – No bill shall be taken or called from any such committee, or the committee discharged from the consideration thereof, except: (a) Any senator may present a petition, in writing, to discharge a committee from further consideration of a bill which has been in the possession of the committee for 30 legislative days without having been considered, but only one petition on a particular bill may be presented during the course of a session. Prior to presenting the petition, the senator must introduce a resolution of intent to discharge such committee. Such resolution of intent shall contain the bill number and the committee to be discharged. The presiding officer shall cause the resolution of intent to be printed in the journal of the Senate. The petition shall be placed in the custody of the presiding officer who shall arrange some convenient place for the signatures of the senators to be placed thereon in the presence of the reading clerk during the hours in which the Senate is in session. A signature may be withdrawn by a senator at any time before the petition shall become effective. On the first day of each week, there shall be printed in the journal of the Senate the petitions pending under these rules, together with the signatures thereto; provided, however, that as soon as a majority of all the senators elected to the Senate shall have affixed their signatures to any such petition to discharge a committee under this rule, the presiding officer shall cause notice thereof to be given to chair and clerk of the committee to</p> |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| Rhode Island | | which such bill was referred, and such notice shall, thereupon, automatically discharge the committee from further consideration of the bill and the bill shall be placed upon the calendar in accordance with section 7.6 hereof. ¹⁹⁷ |
| South Carolina | Rule 4.6: After 20 days from the date of reference, the chair of the committee in possession of a measure shall, upon written request of a sponsor or, in the case of a Senate measure, a House member, set a time for consideration of the measure by the full committee or subcommittee which shall be no later than seven legislative working days thereafter. Provided, however, that a member may request consideration of a bill or resolution pursuant to this rule only one time per bill or resolution during a legislative session. ¹⁹⁸ | Rule 22: All bills referred to committees, and to provide for recalling bills from committees – All bills or joint resolutions when first read shall be referred to the appropriate committees. After the expiration of five legislative days from the date of reference, any bill, or joint or concurrent resolution, except the General Appropriation Bill may be recalled from any committee by a majority vote of the senators present and voting; before the expiration of five days from the date of reference, any bill, or joint or concurrent resolution may be recalled from committee by the vote of three-fourths of the senators present and voting. All concurrent resolutions which invite persons to address the General Assembly in joint session shall be referred to the Invitations Committee and shall only be voted on by the Senate after they have been approved by a majority of the members of such committee or the invitation discharged from the committee by a majority vote. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to concurrent resolutions which invite, in the opinion of the chair of the Invitations Committee, persons of national prominence to address the General Assembly. However, such an invitation must be approved by a majority vote of the Senate. The clerk is authorized to endorse resolutions expressing congratulatory messages or sympathy without a reading. ¹⁹⁹ |
| Tennessee | Rule 53: Recall of bill from committee – Except during the organizational session, after any bill or other matter shall have been in any standing committee for seven days, the same may be called for by two-thirds of the members to which the body is entitled under the Constitution and placed upon the calendar of the Calendar and Rules Committee. Such action shall be in order only after a signed notice giving the number of the bill to be called has been filed with and announced by the clerk at least one day prior to offering a motion to withdraw said bill from the standing committee in which it is held. When a bill has been recalled from a standing committee to which it was assigned by the speaker, it shall be placed at the top of the Calendar and Rules Committee on the next day on which the committee meets. This rule may not be suspended. ²⁰⁰ | Rule 63: Recall – After any bill or other matter shall have been for seven legislative days in any standing committee, the same may be called for by a majority of the members to which the body is entitled under the Constitution and placed upon the calendar of the Senate. Such action shall be in order only after a notice signed by the sponsor giving the number of the bill to be called for has been filed with and announced by the clerk at least one day prior to offering a motion to withdraw said bill from the committee in which it is held. When a bill has been recalled from a committee to which it was assigned by the speaker or from the Committee on Calendar, it shall be placed at the foot of the calendar on the next day on which general bills are considered. ²⁰¹ |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| Virginia | Va. Const. art. IV, §11(d): upon its final passage a vote has been taken thereon in each house, the name of each member voting for and against recorded in the journal, and a majority of those voting in each house, which majority shall include at least two-fifths of the members elected to that house, recorded in the affirmative. Only in the manner required in subdivision (d) of this section shall ... either house discharge a committee from the consideration of a bill and consider the same as if reported. ²⁰² | Va. Const. art. IV, §11(d): upon its final passage a vote has been taken thereon in each house, the name of each member voting for and against recorded in the journal, and a majority of those voting in each house, which majority shall include at least two-fifths of the members elected to that house, recorded in the affirmative. Only in the manner required in subdivision (d) of this section shall ... either house discharge a committee from the consideration of a bill and consider the same as if reported. ²⁰³ |
| Washington | Rule 24(D)(2): A majority recommendation of a committee must be signed by a majority of the entire membership of the committee in a regularly called meeting before a bill, memorial, or resolution may be reported out: provided, that by motion under the eighth order of business, a majority of the members elected to the House may relieve a committee of a bill and place it on the second reading calendar. ²⁰⁴ | Rule 48: Any standing committee of the Senate may be relieved of further consideration of any bill, regardless of prior action of the committee, by a majority vote of the senators elected or appointed. The Senate may then make such orderly disposition of the bill as they may direct by a majority vote of the members of the Senate. ²⁰⁵ |
| West Virginia | Rule 82: Discharging committee from consideration of bill – When a bill or resolution has been in the hands of a committee five legislative days after having been referred to it, the committee may be discharged from further consideration of the bill or resolution by a majority vote of all the members present. The chair of a committee may move that his committee be discharged from consideration of the matter at any time after commitment, and after the fiftieth day of the session any member may move to discharge a committee from consideration of any bill or resolution at any time after the same has been referred to it. ²⁰⁶ | Rule 34: Bills and resolutions withdrawn from committee – Any bill, resolution or business may, by majority vote of the members present, be withdrawn from the committee to which it had been referred or be taken from the table, and placed upon the calendar of the Senate in such order of business as the Senate may direct: Provided, that those bills, resolutions or business referred to the Committee on Rules under authority of Rule No. 17 may by two-thirds vote of the members present be withdrawn from the Committee on Rules. ²⁰⁷ |
| Wisconsin | Rule 15: Withdrawing a proposal from committee – (1) A proposal may not be withdrawn from any committee until 21 calendar days have expired since the proposal was referred to the committee. After the 21-day period, a proposal may be withdrawn either by motion or by petition, but: (a) A bill may not be withdrawn from a joint survey committee. (b) A bill requiring, but not having, an emergency statement for passage may not be withdrawn from the Joint Committee on Finance or from the Committee on Rules. (2) The motion to withdraw a proposal from committee is in order only on the first day in any week on which the call of the roll is taken under the first order of business. The motions shall be decided by vote of a majority of the members present and voting. (3) Once a motion to withdraw a proposal from a committee which requires a vote of a majority of the members present and voting fails, all subsequent motions to withdraw that proposal from the same committee require a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting for adoption and must be decided without debate. (4) A petition to withdraw a proposal from committee requires the personal signatures of a majority of the Assembly's current membership. (a) All such petitions shall be prepared upon request by the chief clerk's office. The chief clerk shall submit a copy to the chair of the committee and another to the speaker. | Rule 41: Re-reference in order; withdrawing from committee. (1)(a) A proposal or other matter may be rereferred at any time prior to its passage, except that a motion to withdraw from committee may not take effect during the seven days preceding any scheduled committee meeting or the seven days following the date on which a committee meeting is held. (b) A motion to withdraw and rerefer or to withdraw is in order, except that if the Senate has once refused to withdraw and rerefer or to withdraw a proposal or other matter from committee, any subsequent motion to withdraw and rerefer or to withdraw requires a suspension of the rules. (c) A motion to withdraw a matter from the Committee on Senate Organization, if approved, places the matter on the next succeeding calendar established by the Committee on Senate Organization under Rule 18 (1). A motion to withdraw a matter from any other committee, if approved, places the matter in the Committee on Senate Organization unless the Senate rerefers the matter to a different committee. (d) Whenever a bill is introduced in the Senate or Assembly under section 227.19 (5) (e) or 227.26 (2) (f) of the statutes, the bill is considered reported without recommendation and shall be placed before the Committee on Senate Organization if a report is not received from the standing committee within 30 days after the date of referral. |

Majority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|-----------|--|--|
| Wisconsin | <p>(b) Each withdrawal petition signature shall be dated by the signer. Withdrawal petitions may not be circulated before the expiration of the 21-day period.</p> <p>(c) Any withdrawal petition shall be filed with the chief clerk, who shall immediately examine it for compliance with this rule. All questions concerning the adequacy of a withdrawal petition shall be decided by the speaker.</p> <p>(d) The receipt of each proper withdrawal petition shall be announced by the chief clerk under the 4th order of business on the legislative day following its receipt. The text of the petition, including the names of the signers, shall be reproduced in the journal.</p> <p>(5) Immediately upon adoption of a withdrawal motion or the chief clerk's announcement of receipt of a proper withdrawal petition, the affected proposal is taken from committee and placed in the committee on rules for calendar scheduling, but, if the withdrawal is from that committee, the affected proposal is placed directly on the calendar for the 2nd legislative day thereafter.</p> <p>(6) Whenever a bill is introduced in the Assembly or Senate under section 227.19 (5)(e) or 227.26 (2) (f) of the statutes, the bill is considered reported without recommendation and is placed before the Committee on Rules if a report is not received from the standing committee within 30 days after the date of referral. This subsection does not apply if the bill is introduced within 30 days after the time at which further proposals may not be introduced or offered in the regular session under Joint Rule 83(2).²⁰⁸</p> | <p>This paragraph does not apply if the bill is introduced within 30 days after the time at which further proposals may not be introduced or offered in the biennial session under Joint Rule 83 (2).</p> <p>(e) If the Committee on Senate Organization receives a standing committee's report on a proposal that by statute requires review by the Joint Committee on Finance before being passed, the Committee on Senate Organization may rerefer that proposal to the Joint Committee on Finance. The chief clerk shall promptly record the rereferral in the journal. The Committee on Senate Organization may, with the consent of the Senate co-chair of the Joint Committee on Finance, withdraw a proposal from the Joint Committee on Finance and make the proposal available for scheduling. Withdrawal under this rule satisfies section 13.093 (1) of the statutes.</p> <p>(2) Reference to committee is not in order after a proposal is passed or indefinitely postponed or finally disposed of by any action equivalent thereto. Questions of reconsideration, concurrence in amendments of the Assembly, conference committee reports, or executive vetoes may be placed on the table, but may not be referred to committee.</p> <p>(3) The legislative council is not a legislative committee within the meaning of this rule and reference of proposals thereto for recommendation as in the case of standing or special committees is not in order.²⁰⁹</p> |
| Wyoming | <p>Rule 5-6: Recalling bills from committees – Any bill or other matter which has been referred to any committee may be recalled after a reasonable time by a motion duly made and seconded by five members and adopted by a majority of the elected members.²¹⁰</p> | <p>Rule 5-5: Recalling bills from committee – Any bill, resolution, petition or memorial in the hands of any committee may be recalled from such committee after a reasonable time upon regular motion seconded by three senators. Approval of the motion requires a simple majority of those present.²¹¹</p> |

Supermajority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| Arizona | <p>Rule 37: Discharge of Committee – Notwithstanding any other provision of these rules to the contrary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Every bill, resolution and memorial shall be referred to one or more standing committees, except death resolutions and Senate bills to be substituted on third reading pursuant to Rule 7C. 2. Except as provided in paragraph 3, if three-fifths or more of the members of the House sign a petition to discharge all committees from further consideration of a bill, resolution or memorial the measure shall be placed on an active calendar of the Committee of the Whole within one week unless the House adjourns sine die. If the measure is reported favorably by the Committee of the Whole, it shall be brought for third reading. 3. If three-fifths or more of the members of the House sign a removal request, a bill, resolution or memorial shall, irrespective of the measure’s status, be removed from the possession of the Rules Committee and shall be placed on an active calendar of the Committee of the Whole within one week unless the House adjourns sine die.²¹² | <p>Rule 2(J): If three-fifths or more of the members of the Senate petition the president to discharge committees from further consideration of a bill, resolution or memorial, the measure shall be withdrawn by the president from assigned committees which have not reported the measure. If a committee hearing has not been held on the measure, the president shall direct that a hearing be held by a committee within seven days and upon withdrawal or hearing, the matter shall be placed by the president on the active calendar of the Committee of the Whole. If the measure is reported favorably by the Committee of the Whole, it shall be placed by the president on the third reading calendar. If a discharge petition is presented to the president less than seven days before the Senate adjourns sine die, the president shall not be required to act upon the petition.²¹³</p> |
| Florida | <p>Rule 11.11: Motion to Withdraw or Refer a Bill – (a) A motion to withdraw a bill from a committee or subcommittee shall require a two-thirds vote on the floor.</p> <p>(b) Any member may, no later than under the order of business of Motions Relating to Committee and Subcommittee References on the legislative day following reference of a bill, move for reference from one committee or subcommittee to a different committee or subcommittee, which shall be decided by a majority vote.</p> <p>(c) A motion to refer a bill from one committee or subcommittee to another committee or subcommittee, other than as provided in subsection (b), may be made during the regular order of business and shall require a two-thirds vote.</p> <p>(d) A motion to refer a bill to an additional committee or subcommittee may be made during the regular order of business and shall require a two-thirds vote.²¹⁴</p> | <p>Rule 4.10: Reference to different committee or removal –</p> <p>(1) After the president has referred a bill, the rules chair may move for reference to a different committee or for removal from any committee after the introducer of the bill has filed a request with the rules chair signed by the chair of the affected committee, the rules chair, and the president. This motion may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of those senators present.</p> <p>(2) Notwithstanding these rules, a senator may, during the day of introduction of filed bills, but no later than under the order of business of Motions Relating to Committee Reference on the second day on which the Senate sits, move for reference to a different committee or for removal from a committee. This motion may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of those senators present.²¹⁵</p> |
| Georgia | <p>Rule 59.1: Whenever any bill or resolution has been referred to a committee and the committee has held the bill or resolution for in its custody for ten legislative days without reporting on it, or taking any action upon it, any member of the House shall have the right to initiate a petition for discharge of the bill or resolution. Such petition shall be in such form as shall be designed by the clerk of the House. If the petition is signed by two thirds of the members of the House, as set out below, the petition shall be filed by the initiating member with the clerk of the House, and the effect shall be the same as a report of the committee favorable to the passage of the bill or resolution. The bill or resolution shall then take its place on the general calendar in the same manner as a measure favorably reported by a committee. Subject to the provisions of Rule 33, a bill or resolution that has been on the general calendar in the Rules Committee at least five days, can be placed on the rules calendar by a petition signed by two thirds of the members of the House.²¹⁶</p> | <p>Rule 4-2.5: Reference of bills upon the introduction of any bill or resolution or other matter, requiring reference to a committee, the president of the Senate, shall as a matter of course and without debate, report the reference of the bill to the proper committee.²¹⁷</p> |

Supermajority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|----------|--|--|
| Illinois | <p>Rule 18(g): Notwithstanding any other provision of these rules, any bill pending before the Rules Committee shall be immediately discharged and referred to a standing committee, special committee, or order of the daily calendar, as provided in this rule, if the principal sponsor of the bill files a motion that is signed by no less than three-fifths of the members of both the majority and minority caucuses, provided each member signing the motion is a sponsor of the underlying bill subject to the motion and the motion specifies the appropriate standing committee, special committee, or order on the daily calendar to which the bill shall be referred. Such a motion shall be filed, in writing, with the clerk. All other legislative measures may be discharged from the Rules Committee only by unanimous consent of the House.</p> <p>Rule 58: Discharge of Committee – (a) Any member may move that a standing committee or a special committee be discharged from consideration of any legislative measure assigned to it and not reported back unfavorably. (b) The motion must be in writing and shall be carried on the daily calendar for the next legislative day under the order of “Motions.” No action shall be taken on the motion until it is on the calendar. (c) If the motion receives an affirmative vote of 60 [of 118] members, the legislative measure subject to the motion shall be referred to the House and placed on the appropriate order of business. (d) This rule may be suspended only by the affirmative vote of 71 members elected.²¹⁸</p> | <p>Rule 3-8(d-5): Notwithstanding any other provision of these Senate rules, any bill pending before the Committee on Assignments shall be immediately referred to the indicated standing committee if the chief sponsor of the bill files a discharge motion for that bill that is signed by no less than three-fifths of the members of both the majority and minority caucus, and each of the members signing the discharge motion is a sponsor of the bill. This subsection does not apply to bills dealing with the subject of appropriations or State revenue.</p> <p>Rule 7-9: Discharge of committee – (a) A committee may be discharged from further consideration of a legislative measure by a vote of three-fifths of the members elected. Upon concurrence of a majority of those appointed, the Committee on Assignments may advance any legislative measure pending before it to the Senate without referral to another committee; however, the Committee on Assignments shall not so report any bill that has never been before a standing committee of the Senate. (b) This rule may be suspended by a vote of three-fifths of the members elected.²¹⁹</p> |
| Indiana | <p>Rule 85: A bill may not be called back to the House from committee.²²⁰</p> | <p>Rule 65: After a committee, other than the Committee on Rules and Legislative Procedure, has had a bill under consideration for six days (Sunday and the day of its introduction not included) the author of such bill or any member of the Senate shall have the right to call the attention of the Senate to such fact. A bill or resolution shall remain in the possession of the committee to which it was assigned unless two-thirds of the senators elected shall vote to bring the bill or resolution to the floor. A bill or resolution brought to the floor by a vote under this rule shall be considered by the Senate as if such bill or resolution had been reported without recommendation.²²¹</p> |
| Kansas | <p>Rule 1309: Motion to withdraw a bill or resolution from a committee – (a) If a committee does not report on any bill or resolution within 10 legislative days after its reference to the committee, the bill or resolution may be withdrawn from the committee by an affirmative vote of 70 [of 125] members of the House. Such a motion shall be made in writing, giving the reasons for withdrawal from the committee. Such motion shall be made under the order of business introduction and notice of original motions and House resolutions. Only one bill or resolution may be named in such a motion. The motion shall be read by the chief clerk or the member making the motion and shall be printed in the calendar of the next legislative day under the order of business consideration of motions and House resolutions offered on a previous day. The motion shall be considered on the legislative day following the day it is made. If the motion prevails, the bill or resolution shall be placed on the calendar under the order of business General Orders.</p> | <p>Rule 11: Committee Action on Bills and Resolutions – (a) A committee may recommend that the Senate act favorably, unfavorably or without recommendation upon any measure or may recommend amendments to measures referred to it which are germane to the subject of the measure. Committee recommendations shall be made by committee report to the Senate. Committee reports shall be signed by the chair, and shall be transmitted to the Senate not later than the second legislative day following the action of the committee.</p> <p>(b) When a committee fails to report on any bill or resolution following reference to such committee, it may be withdrawn from the committee by an affirmative vote of 24 members of the Senate on a motion made as provided in this subsection. Such a motion shall be made in writing, giving the reasons for withdrawal from the committee. Such motion shall be made under the order of business introduction and notice of original motions and Senate resolutions. Only one bill or resolution may be</p> |

Supermajority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| Kansas | (b) Motions to withdraw a bill or resolution from a committee are not subject to amendment or debate. (c) The provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this rule shall not apply to resolutions adopting or amending rules of the House. Resolutions relating to the adoption or the amendment of rules of the House may be withdrawn from the Committee on Rules and Journal at any time by the affirmative vote of 63 [of 125] members of the House). ²²² | named in such a motion. The motion shall be read by the reading clerk or the member making the motion and shall be printed in the calendar of the next legislative day under the order of business consideration of motions and Senate resolutions offered on a previous day. The motion shall be considered on the legislative day following the day it is made. If the motion prevails, the bill or resolution shall be placed on the calendar under the order of business General Orders. (c) Motions to withdraw a bill or resolution from a committee are not subject to amendment or debate. ²²³ |
| Mississippi | <p>Rule 95: (1) Except as otherwise provided in this rule, every House bill, resolution or measure referred to any committee, and not reported therefrom with a recommendation by the twenty-seventh day of a 90-day session and by the sixty-second day of a 125-day session, and every Senate bill, resolution or measure referred to any committee, and not reported therefrom by the fifty-fifth day of a 90-day session and by the ninetieth day of a 125-day session, may be withdrawn from the committee on a motion made in writing, which motion must be read by the clerk immediately upon its introduction, setting forth the reasons why the bill should be withdrawn from the committee, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting. It may then be taken up and considered by the Committee of the Whole House in accordance with the procedure set forth in House Rule 56, or, by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting it may be recommitted to a standing committee. During extraordinary or special sessions of the Legislature, any bill, including an appropriation or revenue bill, may be withdrawn from committee after three days from the date of reference. A motion to withdraw a bill from a committee shall not be voted upon by the House on the day which the motion is made, except upon suspension of the rules by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.</p> <p>(2) Any House appropriation bill or revenue bill referred to the House Appropriations Committee or the House Ways and Means Committee and not reported therefrom with a recommendation within 10 legislative days after referral may be withdrawn from the committee in accordance with the procedure set forth in subsection (1) of this rule if the motion for withdrawal is made by the fiftieth day of a 90-day session and by the eighty-fifth day of a 125-day session.</p> <p>(3) Any Senate appropriation bill or revenue bill referred to the House Appropriations Committee or the House Ways and Means Committee and not reported therefrom with a recommendation within 10 legislative days after referral may be withdrawn from the committee in accordance with the procedure set forth in subsection (1) of this rule if the motion for withdrawal is made by the seventieth day of a 90-day session and by the one-hundred-fifth day of a 125-day session.</p> <p>(4) Any House resolution or House concurrent resolution that is referred after the twenty-ninth day of a 90-day session or after the sixty-fourth day of a 125-day session, and any Senate concurrent resolution that is referred to a House committee after the fifty-seventh day of a 90-day session or after the ninety-second day of a 125-day</p> | <p>Rule 87: No bill, resolution, concurrent resolution or measure having been referred to a committee shall be taken from such committee, or the committee be discharged from the consideration thereof, other than by a motion signed by a majority of all senators elected; except that during the last six days of a session, a majority of the senators present and voting may call a bill, resolution or concurrent resolution from a committee by a signed motion.²²⁵</p> |

Supermajority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| Mississippi | <p>session, and not reported therefrom with a recommendation within 10 legislative days after referral may be withdrawn from the committee in accordance with the procedure set forth in subsection (1) of this rule.</p> <p>(5) For the purposes of this rule, the term “revenue bill” shall include only those bills whose primary purpose is to increase or decrease taxes or to authorize the issuance of bonds or the borrowing of money. Bills which are primarily for regulatory purposes which have revenue provisions included shall not be considered as revenue bills for the purposes of this rule.</p> <p>(6) If the Legislature shortens a 90-day regular session or a 125-day regular session by moving the deadlines for processing legislation that are set forth in Joint Rule 40 to dates earlier than the dates otherwise set for those sessions, the dates set forth in this subsection (6) shall apply to the motion for withdrawing a bill.²²⁴</p> | |
| Montana | <p>Rule H40-90: Legislation withdrawn from committee. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), legislation may be withdrawn from a House committee by House motion approved by not less than three-fifths of the members present and voting.</p> <p>(2) For the 2015 Session, the majority party leadership and the minority party leadership may each make up to six separate requests to withdraw a bill from a House committee, and these requests require only a simple majority of those present and voting to withdraw a bill from a House committee.²²⁶</p> | <p>Rule S10-50(9): The president shall refer bills to committee upon introduction or reception in the Office of the Secretary of the Senate.²²⁷</p> |
| New York | <p>Rule IV, §7(a): No standing committee shall be discharged from the consideration of a bill or resolution until after the printed bill or resolution has been assigned by the index clerk to the committee and only in accordance with the provisions of this section.</p> <p>Rule IV, §7(a): A standing committee shall not be discharged from the consideration of a bill or resolution except upon motion and by a vote of a majority of all the members elected to the Assembly. No such motion shall be in order, until the committee has had 60 days from the date of referral to such committee to consider such bill nor shall such motion be in order on or after the first Tuesday in May except with unanimous consent of the members or in the discretion of the speaker where proper notice has been given prior to the first Tuesday in May.</p> <p>c. 1. On any legislative day, not more than one motion to discharge shall be in order;</p> <p>2. A motion to discharge may only be made by the sponsor of the bill or resolution who has timely filed a request for consideration pursuant to section five of this rule.</p> <p>d. Each motion to discharge, when timely made, shall be placed on the motion to discharge calendar, which shall be printed within two legislative days. No motion to discharge may be considered by the House until such motion has been on such calendar for a period of five calendar legislative days.²²⁸</p> | <p>Rule XII, Sec. 3: Petition for consideration – a. The sponsor of any bill may file with the journal clerk, no less than 45 days after a bill has been referred to a committee, a petition requesting that such bill be moved to the calendar for consideration. Such petition shall be filed with the journal clerk, once the petition is signed by at least three-fifths of the members elected. The petition shall be read during the order of presentation of petitions and the bill reported to the third reading calendar. b. No petition for consideration shall be in order on or after the first Monday in June.²²⁹</p> |

Supermajority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
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| North Carolina | <p>Rule 39: Discharge petition – (a) A motion to discharge a committee from consideration of a bill may be filed with the principal clerk by a primary sponsor of that measure if accompanied by a petition asking that the committee be discharged from further consideration of the bill. No motion may be filed until 10 legislative days after the bill has been referred to the committee. No petition may be filed until notice has been given on the floor of the House that the petition is to be filed and the primary sponsor giving notice has obtained a fiscal note from the Fiscal Research Division on the bill, which note shall be attached to the petition. Members may sign the petition only in the office of the principal clerk, and when the signatures of 61 members appear on the petition, the principal clerk shall place that motion on the calendar for the next legislative day as a special order of business. Members may withdraw their names at any time until names appear. If the motion is adopted by the House, then the committee to which the bill or resolution has been referred is discharged from further consideration of the bill, and that bill is placed on the calendar for the next legislative day as a special order of business. The principal clerk shall provide a form for discharge petitions.</p> <p>(b) This rule shall not be temporarily suspended without one day's notice on the motion given in the House and delivered in writing to the chair of the standing committee, and to sustain that motion two-thirds of the members shall be required.²³⁰</p> | <p>Rule 47: Recall of bill from committee and discharge petition; re-calendaring or referral of a bill to committee.</p> <p>– (a) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, only the president pro tempore, the chair of the Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate, or the chair of a committee to which a bill or other matter is assigned may, with the consent of a majority of the membership of the Senate present and voting, recall the measure from its assigned committee to be referred to another committee or the floor. Only the president pro tempore or the chair of the Committee on Rules and Operation of the Senate may, with the consent of a majority present and voting, re-calendar a bill or resolution appearing on the calendar or refer or re-refer it to committee.</p> <p>(b) A motion to discharge a committee from consideration of a bill or resolution may be filed with the principal clerk if accompanied by a petition signed by two-thirds of the members of the Senate asking that the committee be discharged from further consideration of the bill or resolution. No petition may be circulated for signatures until 10 legislative days after the bill has been referred to the committee. No petition may be circulated for signature until notice has been given on the floor of the Senate that the petition is to be circulated. If such a motion accompanied by a valid petition is filed, the principal clerk shall place that motion on the calendar for the next legislative day as a special order of business. If the motion is adopted by two-thirds of the members of the Senate, then the committee to which the bill or resolution has been referred is discharged from further consideration of the bill or resolution, and that bill or resolution is placed on the calendar for the next legislative day as a special order of business. If the committee had, prior to discharge, adopted any amendment or committee substitute for the bill, it shall be in order to offer that amendment or substitute on the floor as if it were a committee amendment or substitute. The principal clerk shall provide a form for discharge petitions.</p> <p>(c) This rule shall not be temporarily suspended.²³¹</p> |
| Oklahoma | <p>Rule 7.12: Discharge from Committee – (a) Any bill or resolution may be discharged from any standing committee of the House upon a request electronically signed by two-thirds of the members of the House.</p> <p>(b) The bill or resolution in question shall be identified on the face of the petition and an electronic copy of the measure shall be attached to the discharge petition.</p> <p>(c) The request for discharge of a bill or resolution and the attached measure shall be electronically submitted to the clerk of the House. No other person except the principal House author of the measure in question shall submit a discharge petition to the clerk. The clerk shall determine if the discharge petition contains the necessary signatures as required by this section. If the discharge petition contains the necessary signatures, the clerk shall forward the petition to the speaker of the House or the speaker's designee.²³²</p> | <p>Rule 7-9: Withdrawal from Committee – Any bill or resolution may be withdrawn from any committee of the Senate upon a two-thirds vote of the members of the Senate. Any bill or resolution so withdrawn shall be on general order. The provisions of this rule shall not prevent a bill or resolution from being reassigned from one committee to another, from being assigned directly to the calendar, or from being double-assigned as provided in subsection A of Rule 8-21.²³³</p> |

Supermajority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|-----------|--|--|
| Tennessee | <p>Rule 53: Recall of bill from committee – Except during the organizational session, after any bill or other matter shall have been in any standing committee for seven days, the same may be called for by two-thirds of the members to which the body is entitled under the Constitution and placed upon the calendar of the Calendar and Rules Committee. Such action shall be in order only after a signed notice giving the number of the bill to be called has been filed with and announced by the clerk at least one day prior to offering a motion to withdraw said bill from the standing committee in which it is held. When a bill has been recalled from a standing committee to which it was assigned by the speaker, it shall be placed at the top of the Calendar and Rules Committee calendar on the next day on which the committee meets. This rule may not be suspended.²³⁴</p> | <p>Rule 63: Recall – After any bill or other matter shall have been for seven legislative days in any standing committee, the same may be called for by a majority of the members to which the body is entitled under the Constitution and placed upon the calendar of the Senate. Such action shall be in order only after a notice signed by the sponsor giving the number of the bill to be called for has been filed with and announced by the clerk at least one day prior to offering a motion to withdraw said bill from the committee in which it is held. When a bill has been recalled from a committee to which it was assigned by the speaker or from the Committee on Calendar, it shall be placed at the foot of the calendar on the next day on which general bills are considered.²³⁵</p> |
| Texas | <p>Rule 7, Section 45: Motion to require committee to report – (a) During the first 76 calendar days of a regular session, when any bill, resolution, or other paper has been in committee for six calendar days, exclusive of the calendar day on which it was referred, it shall be in order for a member to move that the committee be required to report the same within seven calendar days. This motion shall require a two-thirds vote for passage.</p> <p>(b) After the first 76 calendar days of a regular session, when any bill, resolution, or other paper has been in committee for six calendar days, exclusive of the calendar day on which it was referred, it shall be in order for a member to move that the committee be required to report the same within seven calendar days. This motion shall require a majority vote for passage.</p> <p>(c) A motion to instruct a committee to report is not a privileged motion and must be made during the routine motion period unless made under a suspension of the rules.</p> <p>(d) The House shall have no authority to instruct a subcommittee directly; however, instructions recognized under the rules may be given to a committee and shall be binding on all subcommittees.</p> <p>Rule 6, Section 21: Motion to place on a calendar – (a) When a bill or resolution has been in the appropriate calendars committee for 30 calendar days, exclusive of the calendar day on which it was referred, awaiting placement on one of the calendars of the daily House calendar or on the local, consent and resolutions calendar, it shall be in order for a member to move that the bill or resolution be placed on a specific calendar of the daily House calendar or on the local, consent, and resolutions calendar without action by the committee. This motion must be seconded by five members and shall require a majority vote for adoption.</p> <p>(b) A motion to place a bill or resolution on a specific calendar of the daily House calendar or on the local, consent and resolutions calendar is not a privileged motion and must be made during the routine motion period unless made under a suspension of the rules.²³⁶</p> | <p>Rule 6.08: Any bill, petition, or resolution may be referred from one committee or subcommittee to another committee or subcommittee if the motion is approved by the chairs of both committees involved and by a three-fifths vote of the members present and voting. Any bill, petition, or resolution may be committed to any committee or subcommittee at any stage of the proceedings on such bill, petition, or resolution by a majority vote of the elected members of the Senate. A bill or joint resolution committed to a committee or subcommittee while on third reading shall be considered as on its second reading if reported favorably back to the Senate.²³⁷</p> |

Supermajority can discharge/force committee action

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|-------|--|---|
| Utah | <p>Rule HR4-4-203: Motion to lift legislation from committee – (1) A representative may make a motion to lift a piece of legislation from a standing committee or the House Rules Committee and place it on the third reading calendar.</p> <p>(2)(a) Except as provided in subsection (2)(b), if the motion is approved by a majority of the members present, the presiding officer shall direct that the legislation be placed on the bottom of the third reading calendar.</p> <p>(b) During the 43rd, 44th and 45th day of the annual general session, and during any special session, a motion to lift a piece of legislation from a standing committee or the House Rules Committee must be approved by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.²³⁸</p> | <p>Rule SR4-3-104: Action of bills tabled in committee – 1 (a) A senator may make a motion to lift a bill tabled in the standing committee from the secretary of the Senate or from the standing committee that has possession of the bill. (b) If the motion passes by a two-thirds vote of those senators present on the floor of the Senate, the bill is placed on the Senate second reading calendar. (2) The president of the Senate can reassign a bill tabled in a standing committee to another standing committee.²³⁹</p> |

No discharge provision found

| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
|-------------|---|---|
| Alabama | Rule 74: The chair of a standing committee shall honor a written request for a public hearing on a bill if such request is received by the chair prior to the posting of the notice of the committee meeting at which the bill is to be considered. ²⁴⁰ | No rule for discharge found. |
| Connecticut | Joint Rule 19: Upon presentation to the clerk of either chamber of a petition signed in the original by not less than a majority of the members of either chamber requesting a joint standing committee to report a bill or resolution in its possession, the clerk shall immediately give notice to the committee of the filing of the petition. The petition may not be presented sooner than the day following the committee's deadline, designated in the schedule shown in Rule 15, to report the bill or resolution out of committee and not later than 5 p.m. on the seventh calendar day after that deadline. Within two regular session days thereafter the committee shall report the bill or resolution with or without its recommendations to the chamber from which the petition was received. If no recommendation is made, the bill or resolution shall be considered as having received an unfavorable report and the procedures in Rule 20 shall be followed. Each petition or page of the petition shall contain a statement of its purpose and may be circulated only by a member of the chamber whose clerk will receive the petition. If the committee members of one chamber vote to report a bill or resolution favorably, the petition so circulated and presented to the clerk may be signed only by the members of the other chamber. Any bill or resolution so petitioned, except those carrying or requiring appropriations, shall not be referred to any other committee without first having been voted upon by the House or Senate. Those carrying or requiring appropriations shall be referred first to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations. The Appropriations Committee shall, within two session days after such reference, report such bill or resolution back to the chamber in which the petition originated with either a favorable or unfavorable report thereon and the bill or resolution shall then be voted upon. In the event of a conflict between the report of the original committee and that of the Appropriations Committee, the vote shall be on the report of the Appropriations Committee. ²⁴¹ | Joint Rule 19: Upon presentation to the clerk of either chamber of a petition signed in the original by not less than a majority of the members of either chamber requesting a joint standing committee to report a bill or resolution in its possession, the clerk shall immediately give notice to the committee of the filing of the petition. The petition may not be presented sooner than the day following the committee's deadline, designated in the schedule shown in Rule 15, to report the bill or resolution out of committee and not later than 5 p.m. on the seventh calendar day after that deadline. Within two regular session days thereafter the committee shall report the bill or resolution with or without its recommendations to the chamber from which the petition was received. If no recommendation is made, the bill or resolution shall be considered as having received an unfavorable report and the procedures in Rule 20 shall be followed. Each petition or page of the petition shall contain a statement of its purpose and may be circulated only by a member of the chamber whose clerk will receive the petition. If the committee members of one chamber vote to report a bill or resolution favorably, the petition so circulated and presented to the clerk may be signed only by the members of the other chamber. Any bill or resolution so petitioned, except those carrying or requiring appropriations, shall not be referred to any other committee without first having been voted upon by the House or Senate. Those carrying or requiring appropriations shall be referred first to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations. The Appropriations Committee shall, within two session days after such reference, report such bill or resolution back to the chamber in which the petition originated with either a favorable or unfavorable report thereon and the bill or resolution shall then be voted upon. In the event of a conflict between the report of the original committee and that of the Appropriations Committee, the vote shall be on the report of the Appropriations Committee. ²⁴² |
| Maine | Rule 519: A bill or resolve must be reported by a committee. ²⁴³ | No rule for discharge found. |
| Vermont | Rule 30: Upon the request of any House member the Committee on Rules may require a committee to report out a bill at a time certain. ²⁴⁴ | Rule 30: Each committee to which a bill shall be referred, committed or recommitted shall report the same to the Senate within 15 days after such reference unless otherwise ordered by the Senate. ²⁴⁵ |

Appendix F

Use of rules or other interim committees by state

| States that send bills to an interim committee before being heard by a substantive committee | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| State | House/Assembly | Senate |
| Illinois | Rule 18 ²⁴⁶ | Rule 3-8 ²⁴⁷ |
| California | Rule 51 ²⁴⁸ | Rule 22 ²⁴⁹ |
| Kentucky | Rule 37 ²⁵⁰ | Rule 37 ²⁵¹ |
| Maine | Rules 515, 517 ²⁵² | Rules 510, 511 ²⁵³ |
| Massachusetts | Rule 7A ²⁵⁴ | Rule 20 ²⁵⁵ |
| Nebraska | Rule 4, Sec. 8 ²⁵⁶ | |
| New Mexico | Rule 11-14 ²⁵⁷ | Rule 9-1-6 ²⁵⁸ |
| Ohio | Rule 37 ²⁵⁹ | Rule 35 ²⁶⁰ |
| Utah | HR3-1-102 ²⁶¹ | SR3-1-102 ²⁶² |
| States that do not send bills to an interim committee before being heard by a substantive committee | | |
| Alabama | Rule 12 ²⁶³ | Rule 23 ²⁶⁴ |
| Alaska | Rule 39(b) ²⁶⁵ | Rule 39(b) ²⁶⁶ |
| Arizona | Rule 8(J) ²⁶⁷ | Rule 2(J) ²⁶⁸ |
| Arkansas | Rule 11(g) ²⁶⁹ | Rule 14.03(a) ²⁷⁰ |
| Colorado | Rule 3(b)(9) ²⁷¹ | Rule 25(c) ²⁷² |
| Connecticut | Rule 11, Joint Rule 8(d) ²⁷³ | Joint Rule 8(d) ²⁷⁴ |
| Delaware | Rule 19(d) ²⁷⁵ | Rule 9(a) ²⁷⁶ |
| Florida | Rule 6.1-6.2 ²⁷⁷ | Rule 4.6 ²⁷⁸ |
| Georgia | Rule 54.1 ²⁷⁹ | Rule 4-2.5 ²⁸⁰ |
| Hawaii | Rule 2.1(14) ²⁸¹ | Rule 46 ²⁸² |
| Idaho | Rule 43 ²⁸³ | Rule 14 ^{*284} |
| Indiana | Rule 112 ²⁸⁵ | Rule 50 ²⁸⁶ |
| Iowa | Rule 31 ²⁸⁷ | Rule 38 ²⁸⁸ |
| Kansas | Rule 901 ²⁸⁹ | Rule 32 ²⁹⁰ |
| Louisiana | Rule 6.5 ²⁹¹ | Rule 3.3(18) ²⁹² |
| Maryland | Rule 33 ²⁹³ | Rule 33 ²⁹⁴ |
| Michigan | Rule 41(4) ²⁹⁵ | Rule 3.203 ²⁹⁶ |
| Minnesota | Rule 1.11 ²⁹⁷ | Rule 4.1 ²⁹⁸ |

**States that do not send bills to an interim committee
before being heard by a substantive committee**

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mississippi | Rule 48 ²⁹⁹ | Rule 75 ³⁰⁰ |
| Missouri | Rule 25 ³⁰¹ | Rule 50 ³⁰² |
| Montana | Rule H40-70 ³⁰³ | Rule S10-50(9) ³⁰⁴ |
| Nevada | Rule 109 ³⁰⁵ | Rule 109 ³⁰⁶ |
| New Hampshire | Rule 4 ³⁰⁷ | Rule 3-10 ³⁰⁸ |
| New Jersey | Rule 15:1(e) ³⁰⁹ | Rule 12:3(a) ³¹⁰ |
| New York | Rule III, Sec. 2 ³¹¹ | Rule VII, Sec. 1 ³¹² |
| North Carolina | Rule 32 ³¹³ | Rule 43 ³¹⁴ |
| North Dakota | Rule 328 ³¹⁵ | Rule 328 ³¹⁶ |
| Oklahoma | Rule 1.4 ³¹⁷ | Rule 2-4(B) ³¹⁸ |
| Oregon | Rule 9.01 ³¹⁹ | Rule 8.4 ³²⁰ |
| Pennsylvania | Rule 18 ³²¹ | Rule 5(a)(4) ³²² |
| Rhode Island | Rule 1 ³²³ | Rule 4.5 ³²⁴ |
| South Carolina | Rule 5.1 ³²⁵ | Rule 22 ³²⁶ |
| South Dakota | Joint Rule 6D-1 ³²⁷ | Joint Rule 6D-1 ³²⁸ |
| Tennessee | Rule 47 ³²⁹ | Rule 33 ³³⁰ |
| Texas | Rule 1, Sec. 4 ³³¹ | Rule 7.06(a) ³³² |
| Vermont | Rule 44(a) ³³³ | Rule 44 ³³⁴ |
| Virginia | Rule 37 ³³⁵ | Rule IV(8)(d) ³³⁶ |
| Washington | Rule 10(A) ³³⁷ | Rule 63 ³³⁸ |
| West Virginia | Rule 95 ³³⁹ | Rule 29 ³⁴⁰ |
| Wisconsin | Rule 42 ³⁴¹ | Rule 36 ³⁴² |
| Wyoming | Rule 4-7 ³⁴³ | Rules 2-2(g), 4-7 ³⁴⁴ |

Endnotes

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