

BAUMUN'24 TEXAS STATE SENATE Rules of Procedure

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BAUMUN'24 | 3 - 5 MAY #WelcomeToBosphorus

Article 1: Scope

1. Pursuant to the Rules of Procedure of BAUMUN and the Constitution of the United States, the Texas Senate adopts the following rules to govern its operations and procedures. These Rules of Procedure shall have precedence over BAUMUN Rules of Procedure if any contradictions arise. If a situation arises that is not addressed in either these Rules of Procedure or the Rules of Procedure of BAUMUN, the Secretariat will have final authority upon the matter.

Article 2: Quorum

- Two-thirds of all the Senators elected shall constitute a quorum, but a smaller number may adjourn or recess from day to day and compel the attendance of absent members.
- 2. No Senator shall absent himself from the service of the Senate without leave.
- 3. If, at any time during the daily sessions of the Senate, a question shall be raised by any Senator as to the presence of a quorum, the Presiding Officer shall forthwith direct the Secretary to call the roll and shall announce the result, and these proceedings shall be without debate.

Article 3: Senate Presidency

- The Lieutenant Governor of the State of Texas shall, by virtue of office, be President of the Senate and decide all questions of order subject to appeal by any member.
- 2. The Senate Presidency shall have its complete power, given by the Under-Secretary-General, to preside the Senate in its entirety.
- 3. The Lieutenant Governor of the State of Texas shall be accompanied by the Secretary of the Senate at all times. The Secretary shall have no jurisdiction to decide any questions of order unless it is explicitly stated by the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Texas.

Article 4: Roll Call

- Upon every roll call, the names of the members shall be called alphabetically by surname, except when two or more have the same surname, in which case the name of the county shall be added.
- 2. The Senators who either were not in the Chamber during the roll call or failed to respond can send a message paper to the Presidency stating their Presence and their excuse for absence. The Presidency shall decide whether the Senator's excuse is adequate or not. The Presidency reserves the right not to accept a Senator's presence at all times.

Article 5: Conducting of Debate

- Upon the administration of the call of the Senate, the Senate shall begin conducting debate through either a moderated caucus, an unmoderated caucus, or a party caucus.
- Rules governing a party caucus shall be considered the same as an unmoderated caucus. A party caucus is similar to an unmoderated caucus; however, Senators are only permitted to speak with members of their party and will be split into different parts of the room accordingly.

Article 6: Filibuster

- 1. A Senator can, at any time, including during moderated caucus, may wish to filibuster.
- 2. The filibuster has to be on-topic, either in the form of long speeches or reading material that is relevant to the agenda.
- 3. Filibuster of a senator shall continue without disruption until the Senator stops talking or leaves the vicinity of their assigned Senator's desk.
- 4. A filibuster can be forced to end early if another senator introduces a motion to cloture, which requires % majority, and if passed, the

- filibustering senator shall immediately yield the floor back to the Presidency.
- 5. A motion to cloture can only be introduced through a message paper addressed to the Presidency, and the Presidency shall decide whether to entertain it or not.
- 6. A single senator can not introduce more than one motion to cloture for a single round of filibuster.

Article 7: Bill Submission

- Bills will be processed in the same manner as Draft Resolutions in General Assemblies.
- 2. A bill can be submitted by any Senator and needs the Presidency's approval to be eligible to be presented.
- 3. Each Draft Bill shall be sponsored by at least 1 senator and 2 at most.
- 4. A bill requires at least 5 co-sponsors for the Presidency to approve it. Co-sponsors are deemed as signatories.
- 5. Co-sponsoring a bill does not require the co-sponsoring senators to vote in favor of the Bill, and those senators can still choose to vote 'no.'

Article 8: Draft Bill Presentation

- Sponsoring Senators can raise a motion to present/introduce a draft bill at any moment after the Secretariat of the Senate approves the Draft Bill. This motion requires a simple majority to pass.
- 2. If there is more than one Draft Bill, presentations will be conducted in order of submission.
- 3. No more than 2 senators can sponsor a bill, and if that may be the case, both senators will be asked to take the floor to present the Draft Bill.
- 4. Concurrent with the adoption of a motion to present, Sponsoring Senators should take the floor and present the Draft Bill by first

- reading the whole document out loud and then briefly explaining the reasoning and objectives of the Bill.
- 5. After the initial presentation of a Draft Bill is completed, the Senate shall enter a Q&A session, in which other Senators shall be given the opportunity to raise Points of Information to the Sponsors regarding the Draft Bill.
- 6. Each Q&A session following a Draft Bill shall be limited to 20 minutes, and no extensions shall be granted.

Article 9: Amendments

- Amendment process, including submitting and introducing amendments, are deemed the same as the Resolution Amendment process in General Assemblies unless it is specifically specified under Article 9.
- 2. A friendly amendment, which simply needs approval from sponsoring senators, will be automatically implemented into the bill.
- 3. An unfriendly amendment requires 2 for and 2 against format debating for consideration. A substantive voting procedure shall be followed for the amendment to be accepted.

Article 10: Structure of a Bill

Texas Senate Bill TSB [Number] ----- [List sponsors here] introduced the following bill; Co-sponsored by: [List co-sponsors here].

A BILL

To [clearly state the purpose of the Bill].

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Texas,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Act Name Here."

SEC. 2. [Title]

- a) With the use of sub-sub clauses if needed:
 - i) Clauses should be written in full sentences.

SEC. 3. [Title]

a) Clauses should be written in full sentences. When listing specific details within a sub-clause, a colon is used at the end of the clause, and a semicolon is used at the end of the sub-clauses, with the exception of the final sub-clause, which should be punctuated with a period.

Article 11: Example Bill

S. [New Bill Number]

Ms. Warren (D-MA), Mr. Cruz (R-TX), Mr. Johnson (R-WI), Mr. Sanders (I-VT), Mr. Scott (R-FL), and Ms. Murkowski (R-AK) introduced the following bill; Co-sponsored by: Ms. Klobuchar (D-MN), Mr. Lee (R-UT), Mr. Gillibrand (D-NY), Mr. Burr (R-NC), Mr. Schumer (D-NY), Mr. Kennedy (R-LA), Mr. Durbin (D-IL), Mr. Thune (R-SD), Ms. Cantwell (D-WA), and Ms. Ernst (R-IA).

A BILL

To establish an integrated national approach to promote technological innovation in renewable energy and sustainable infrastructure and to ensure economic growth while mitigating environmental impacts, in cooperation with state, local, and tribal governments and other entities, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Texas,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Renewable Energy Advancement and Environmental Sustainability Act" or the "RENEW Act".

SEC. 2. ENERGY AND SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT.

a)The Secretary of Energy, in collaboration with the States, Indian tribes, and other partner organizations, shall establish a National Renewable Energy Innovation Center.

i)The Center shall assess and develop scientific information, tools, strategies, and techniques to support the Working

Group, Federal and State agencies, tribes, regionally based technology and innovation centers, regional coordinating entities, and other interested parties in promoting renewable energy and sustainable infrastructure.

- ii) The Secretary may enter into contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements with State agencies, academic institutions, research organizations, technology companies, tribal organizations, federal and private agencies, individuals, and any other contractor or recipient.
- b) Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), the Secretary of Energy shall establish an Advisory Committee on Renewable Energy and Environmental Sustainability.
 - i) The Committee shall be comprised of 25 members who represent federal agencies, state, local, and tribal governments, technology companies, environmental organizations, academic institutions, and the private sector. The members should have expertise in renewable energy technologies, sustainable infrastructure development, environmental science, economics, and other relevant disciplines.

SEC. 3. STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.

- a) Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act and not later than 1 year after the date of each revision of the National Strategy, the Working Group shall complete a strategy implementation plan, provide opportunities for public review and comment on the plan, and submit the plan to the President for approval.
- b) The strategy implementation plan shall identify and prioritize specific initiatives and actions that promote the adoption and

advancement of renewable energy technologies and sustainable infrastructure development, including:

- i) Promotion of clean energy research and development;
- ii) Establishment of sustainable transportation networks;
- iii) Encouragement of energy-efficient building practices;
- iv) Conservation of natural resources and ecosystems affected by infrastructure development; and
- v) Mitigation of environmental impacts from energy production and consumption.