

By: Bryan

To:

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 1
(As Adopted by Senate)

1 A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE PERMANENT RULES OF THE SENATE.
2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI STATE SENATE, That the
3 following be adopted as permanent rules:

4 **SENATE RULES**
5 **PRESIDENT**

6 1. The Lieutenant Governor shall be the President of the
7 Senate. He shall take the Chair at the hour to which the Senate
8 shall have adjourned, shall call the Senate to order, and on the
9 appearance of a quorum, shall proceed with the regular order of
10 business.

11 2. The President shall preserve order and decorum, may speak
12 to points of order in preference to other members, and shall
13 decide all questions of order. His decision thereon shall be
14 subject to an appeal to the Senate as provided in Rule 112 and may
15 be denied or sustained by a majority of those present and voting.

16 3. The President shall rise to put a question but may state
17 it sitting, and he shall put the question in this form: "As many
18 as are in favor (as the question may be) say 'Aye'," and, after
19 the affirmative voice is had: "As many as opposed, say 'No'." If
20 he doubts or a division is called for, the Senate shall divide,
21 and those in the affirmative shall rise first; then those in the
22 negative. Count of division votes shall be made by the Secretary
23 and announced by the President.

24 4. The President shall call some Senator to the Chair when
25 the Senate goes into Committee of the Whole. He shall have the
26 right also during sessions of the Senate to name a Senator to
27 perform the duties of the Chair, but such substitution shall not
28 extend beyond adjournment of that legislative day. When both the
29 Lieutenant Governor and the President Pro Tempore shall be absent,
30 the Senate may call any Senator to preside from day to day during
31 such absences.

32 5. (Omitted)

33 6. (Omitted)

34 7. The President shall appoint the membership of committees
35 as provided in Rule 37 and Rule 38.

36 8. The President shall sign all bills, resolutions or
37 measures; and all writs, warrants and subpoenas issued by the

38 Senate shall be signed by him and attested by the Secretary.

39 **PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE**

40 9. There shall be elected a President Pro Tempore in the
41 manner provided in Section 5-1-15, Mississippi Code of 1972. The
42 President Pro Tempore shall not be eligible for appointment as
43 chairman of any standing Senate committee, with the exception of
44 the Rules Committee.

45 10. In the election of the President Pro Tempore, the
46 candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped
47 after the first ballot and on each succeeding ballot until one (1)
48 candidate receives a majority of all votes cast, and the vote
49 shall be by viva voce vote on roll call of the members.

50 11. In the absence of the President, or at his request, the
51 President Pro Tempore shall act in his stead, assuming the duties
52 and responsibilities herein granted to the President.

53 **SECRETARY**

54 12. The Secretary of the Senate shall keep a correct Journal
55 of the proceedings of the Senate as provided by law. The
56 Secretary shall be elected by the Senate and shall serve during
57 the term of the Senate by which he was elected, unless removed as
58 provided by Rule 65.

59 13. The Secretary shall insert in an appendix to the Journal
60 the Rules of the Senate and the Joint Rules of the two (2)
61 branches, and the constitutional provisions governing the powers
62 and procedures of the Legislature.

63 14. The Secretary shall retain all bills, resolutions or
64 other papers in reference to which any Senator has a right to move
65 a reconsideration until the right to reconsideration has expired.
66 This rule shall not apply when unanimous consent of the Senate
67 shall be given to the Secretary to immediately transmit any such
68 bill or resolution to the House of Representatives. However, the
69 constitutional rights of Senators to enter motions to reconsider
70 shall not be abridged.

71 15. In the event a bill or resolution is transmitted
72 immediately to the House by unanimous consent and a proper motion
73 to reconsider is later entered, it shall be the duty of the
74 Secretary to recall by message such bill or resolution from the
75 House, whereupon such bill or resolution shall take its proper
76 place on the Calendar.

77 16. The Secretary shall keep a separate and distinct Journal
78 of the proceedings of the Senate when in executive session.

79 17. The Secretary, with the approval of the Senate Rules
80 Committee, shall provide for the appointment of Pages, whose
81 salaries shall be fixed by the Rules Committee. Not more than six
82 (6) Pages shall serve throughout the session as senior pages, and
83 one (1) of these six (6) shall be designated as Head Page by the
84 Secretary. Nominations of Pages by members of the Senate shall be
85 submitted to the Secretary as soon as possible so that they may be
86 properly scheduled. Pages shall be not less than twelve (12)
87 years of age.

88 18. (Omitted)

89 **ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

90 19. There shall be an Assistant Secretary, and an additional
91 Assistant Secretary when needed, appointed by the Senate Rules
92 Committee. The duties of the Assistant Secretary shall be
93 comparable to those of the Secretary.

94 **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**

95 20. The duties of the Sergeant-at-Arms shall be those
96 enumerated in Section 5-1-35, Mississippi Code of 1972, and such
97 other related duties as may be assigned by the Senate Rules
98 Committee or the Senate. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be elected by
99 the Senate and shall serve during the term of the Senate by which

100 he was elected, unless removed as provided by Rule 65.

101 **TIME OF CONVENING**

102 21. The time of convening of the Senate, unless otherwise
103 ordered by a majority vote of the Senators elected, shall be at
104 ten o'clock A.M. each legislative day, except on Mondays when the
105 time shall be two o'clock P.M.; and there shall be no Saturday or
106 Sunday meetings unless specifically ordered by a majority vote of
107 the Senators elected.

108 **QUORUMS**

109 22. A quorum of the Senate shall consist of not less than
110 twenty-seven (27) Senators.

111 23. A quorum of any standing committee, subcommittee or
112 special committee shall consist of not less than a majority
113 thereof.

114 24. Upon the appearance of lack of a quorum, the President
115 or any Senator may demand a call of the Senate, but no such call
116 shall be in order after the voting on any question has begun nor
117 while any Senator is speaking. It shall be the duty of the
118 Sergeant-at-Arms to search for absentee members and notify them of
119 such call. By majority vote of Senators present and voting the
120 Senate may direct the Sergeant-at-Arms to compel the attendance of
121 absent Senators.

122 **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

123 25. The order of business shall be:

- 124 (1) Roll Call
- 125 (2) Invocation
- 126 (3) Reading of the Journal
- 127 (4) Presentation of petitions
- 128 (5) Reports of standing committees
- 129 (6) Reports of select committees
- 130 (7) Introduction of bills and concurrent resolutions
- 131 (8) Reference of bills and concurrent resolutions
- 132 (9) Presentation of Senate resolutions
- 133 (10) Unfinished business
- 134 (11) Consideration of bills and resolutions
- 135 (12) At midnight on a deadline day, the Senate clock

136 shall determine the end of that calendar day regardless of whether
137 the Senate is then operating under the previous question. Any
138 measure pending before the Senate on a deadline upon which the
139 final vote has not been both taken and announced shall
140 automatically fail, and no announcement to the contrary may be
141 made by the Chair. If the Senate clock is not in working order,
142 the Presiding Officer shall keep the time.

143 On the first legislative day of each week the Daily Order of
144 Business shall include, after prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance to
145 the Flag of the United States of America.

146 26. When the order of unfinished business is reached, the
147 unfinished business in which the Senate was engaged at the time of
148 last adjournment shall have precedence in the consideration of
149 bills and resolutions, except as to special orders which shall
150 have precedence.

151 27. The order of business for any day may be changed by a
152 two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senators present and voting; but when
153 the Senate shall have passed from one order to another, no action
154 shall be had on those passed except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of

155 the members present and voting.

156 27A. No Senator shall be allowed to interrupt the business
157 for purposes of introducing guests. At appropriate times during
158 the transacting of business, the presiding officer shall announce
159 an opportunity for the Senators to recognize and introduce their
160 guests.

161 VISITORS

162 28. No person shall be entitled to enter upon the floor of
163 the Senate while in session except the following persons: members
164 and their immediate families; elected state officials; former
165 members of the Legislature, unless the former member is a
166 registered lobbyist; officers and employees of the Senate;
167 members, officers and employees of the House of Representatives;
168 joint legislative employees; ministers or other official guests
169 invited by the President on behalf of the Senate; and such others
170 as the Rules Committee may designate by name. The
171 Sergeant-at-Arms shall clear the Senate of all other visitors
172 thirty (30) minutes before each session convenes and shall not
173 allow other visitors on the floor of the Senate for ten (10)
174 minutes after the session has recessed.

175 RULES - SUSPENSION AND ADOPTION

176 29. The rules of the Senate may be suspended upon motion by
177 an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Senators present
178 and voting, except where prohibited by the Constitution.

179 30. Temporary rules of the Senate may be adopted by
180 resolution on a majority vote of the Senators present and voting,
181 and such temporary rules may be designated by reference to the
182 rules of a certain previous session. Permanent rules may be
183 adopted by majority vote, and any subsequent changes therein or
184 amendments thereto shall require one day's notice thereof by
185 resolution entered in the Journal and adoption by a vote of
186 two-thirds (2/3) of the Senators present and voting.

187 DECORUM

188 31. If any Senator, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses
189 the rules of the Senate, the presiding officer shall, or any
190 Senator may, call him to order; and when a Senator shall be called
191 to order by the presiding officer or a Senator, he shall sit down
192 and shall not proceed without leave of the presiding officer or by
193 a majority vote of the Senate.

194 32. No Senator shall absent himself from the Senate without
195 leave. In case a less number than a quorum of the Senate shall
196 convene, a majority of such number is empowered to direct the
197 Sergeant-at-Arms or authorize any other person or persons to
198 compel the attendance of absent Senators, and at the expense of
199 the absent Senators, respectively, unless such excuse for
200 nonattendance shall be made as the Senate by majority vote, when a
201 quorum shall have convened, deems sufficient, in which case the
202 expense shall be paid out of the Senate Contingent Fund.

203 33. Leave of absence may be granted to any Senator at his
204 own request or at the request of another Senator.

205 34. No Senator shall entertain private discourse while the
206 President is putting a question or addressing the Senate.
207 Senators shall not be permitted to interrupt another while such
208 other is speaking except by rising to call to order or as provided
209 in Rule No. 69.

210 35. Members of the Senate, shall be held personally
211 responsible for the return of bills, resolutions and other
212 official records which they may receive from the Secretary's
213 office.

214 35A. Whenever a Senator is on the floor of the Senate while
215 the Senate is in session, each male Senator shall wear a coat and
216 necktie, and each female Senator shall wear appropriate attire.
217 Whenever a Senator is on the floor of the Senate while the Senate
218 is in session, he or she shall not be allowed to smoke a
219 cigarette, cigar or pipe or consume food.

220 **STANDING COMMITTEES**

221 36. The following shall be standing committees of the
222 Senate:

223	Agriculture.....	13 members
224	Appropriations.....	26 members
225	Business and Financial Institutions.....	13 members
226	Constitution.....	9 members
227	Corrections.....	11 members
228	County Affairs.....	9 members
229	Economic Development, Tourism and Parks.....	15 members
230	Education.....	15 members
231	Elections.....	9 members
232	Environmental Protection, Conservation and	
233	Water Resources.....	15 members
234	Fees, Salaries and Administration.....	13 members
235	Finance.....	26 members
236	Forestry.....	9 members
237	Highways and Transportation.....	19 members
238	Insurance.....	13 members
239	Interstate and Federal Cooperation.....	5 members
240	Judiciary.....	21 members
241	Juvenile Justice.....	13 members
242	Labor.....	9 members
243	Local and Private.....	5 members
244	* * *	
245	Municipalities.....	11 members
246	Oil, Gas and Other Minerals.....	11 members
247	Ports and Marine Resources.....	11 members
248	Public Health and Welfare.....	19 members
249	Public Property.....	7 members
250	Public Utilities.....	11 members
251	Rules, as provided for in Rule 65	
252	Universities and Colleges.....	13 members
253	Veterans and Military Affairs.....	7 members
254	Wildlife and Fisheries.....	11 members

255 **JOINT COMMITTEES**

256	Executive Contingent Fund....	(5 Senators, 5 Representatives)
257	Investigate State Offices....	(9 Senators, 9 Representatives)
258	State Library.....	(5 Senators, 5 Representatives)
259	Enrolled Bills.....	(5 Senators, 5 Representatives)

260 **FUNCTION OF COMMITTEES**

261 37. Standing, select and conference committees shall be
262 appointed by the President.

263 38. The first member named on a committee shall be its
264 chairman and the second member named shall be its vice chairman,

265 unless it is specifically provided that they shall be elected.
266 There shall be no further rank on the committees, the remaining
267 members being listed thereon in alphabetical order. In the event
268 of a vacancy in the chairmanship or vice chairmanship, or
269 membership, the vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the
270 President.

271 39. Each committee shall, after its organization,
272 immediately determine by a majority vote what number shall
273 constitute a sufficient quorum for it to proceed to business,
274 which quorum shall not be less than the majority required by Rule
275 23, and shall report that action, together with the name of the
276 secretary of the committee, to the Secretary of the Senate.

277 40. Committee chairmen and secretaries will be held
278 responsible for the return of all bills, resolutions, papers and
279 committee books taken from the Secretary of the Senate's office to
280 the respective committee meetings.

281 41. A committee of the Senate shall report on the
282 sufficiency of the titles of all bills and resolutions before
283 their being put on final passage; and it shall be in order, before
284 the passage of every bill or resolution, to move to commit or
285 recommit for report upon the sufficiency of the title. Titles
286 shall indicate clearly the subject matter of the proposed
287 legislation.

288 42. When motions are made for reference of the same subject
289 to a select committee and a standing committee, the motion for
290 reference to a standing committee shall be first put.

291 43. The following named committees shall have preference at
292 any time on matters herein stated, viz: the Committee on Rules,
293 on rules, joint rules and order of business; the Committee on
294 Elections, on the right of a member to take his seat; the
295 Committee on Enrolled Bills, on enrolled bills, except they shall
296 not have precedence over appropriations and revenue bills (see
297 Const. Sec. 68); conference committees may report at any time,
298 except they shall not have precedence over appropriations and
299 revenue bills.

300 44. The chairman of the various standing committees shall
301 announce or lay on the desk of the Secretary, to be read previous
302 to adjournment each day, notice of the time and place of meeting
303 of such committees, and all members of such committees shall be
304 required to attend all such meetings, unless previously excused by
305 the chairman. A quorum must be present when any bill, resolution
306 or measure is reported by such committees. The names of those
307 members present and of those absent must show in the record kept
308 by the committee secretary at each meeting of a committee. The
309 Secretary of the Senate shall post the time of committee meetings
310 on the bulletin board provided for this purpose.

311 45. A committee's request to be discharged from further
312 consideration of a subject, with or without recommendations that
313 it be referred to another committee, shall be immediately
314 considered.

315 46. No committee, except the Committee on Rules, shall
316 absent itself from the Senate Chamber while the Senate is in
317 session, except by unanimous consent of the Senate.

318 47. No committee shall be allowed to occupy the Senate
319 Chamber without an affirmative vote of a majority of the Senators

320 present and voting, except the Committee on Rules.

321 47A. Whenever a Senator is in a committee meeting room while
322 the committee is meeting, he or she shall only be allowed to smoke
323 a cigarette, cigar or pipe at the discretion of the committee
324 chairman.

325 **CONFERENCE COMMITTEES**

326 48. A conference committee on the part of the Senate shall
327 consist of three (3) Senators, unless otherwise ordered by
328 majority vote of the Senate, and they shall be appointed as
329 provided in Rule 37.

330 49. A motion to instruct conferees is not in order until
331 their conference report has failed of adoption.

332 50. When a bill is sent to conference, only matters in
333 disagreement between the Houses are subject to consideration by
334 the conference committee. However, when one House strikes out of
335 a bill all after the enacting clause and inserts new germane text
336 as an amendment thereto, the conferees may disregard the text of
337 the original bill and the amendment and exercise wide discretion
338 in the incorporation of germane text and may even report a new
339 bill on the germane subject matter of the original bill.

340 51. No report from a conference committee or other joint
341 committee shall be acted upon in the Senate unless subscribed to
342 by a majority of the members of the Senate acting on the
343 committee. No matter reported on the recommendation of a joint
344 committee or conference committee of the two (2) Houses shall be
345 in order for consideration by the Senate if it shall appear that
346 the members of such joint committee on the part of the Senate, if
347 in attendance on the Legislature, shall not have been notified,
348 and for that reason not present, when the matter was acted on by
349 the committee.

350 52. Conference reports may not be (a) tabled, (b) referred
351 to a committee, or (c) amended.

352 53. Mere changes in phraseology, without material alteration
353 of the subject matter, are not sufficient to render a conference
354 report subject to point of order that the conferees exceeded their
355 authority.

356 54. It is legislatively recognized that it is the function
357 of a conference committee to submit a compromise of the difference
358 between the Houses, which might be acceptable to both, and liberal
359 interpretation looking to that end is indicated.

360 55. When a conference report is called up, only three (3)
361 courses are open: (a) adopt, (b) not adopt or (c) recommit to the
362 same or another conference committee, provided adoption of the
363 report has not occurred in the House.

364 56. Should a point of order prevail against consideration of
365 a conference committee report, the bill returns to the status it
366 had before being sent to conference.

367 57. When conference results in disagreement, conferees
368 reporting such disagreement are thereby discharged, and new
369 conferees may be appointed.

370 **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

371 58. Upon a motion supported by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of
372 those Senators present and voting, the Senate may resolve itself
373 into a Committee of the Whole to consider a bill, concurrent
374 resolution or measure; and if the Committee of the Whole reports

375 such bill, concurrent resolution or measure favorably, it may be
376 taken up immediately by a suspension of the rules; otherwise, it
377 takes its place on the Calendar along with other favorably
378 reported bills, concurrent resolutions and measures.

379 59. Motions for forming a Committee of the Whole for the
380 immediate consideration of any Senate bill or resolution at the
381 time of their introduction, or of House bills or resolutions at
382 the time of their receipt from the House, except bills of local
383 and private nature, should be made before such bills or
384 resolutions are referred to standing committees, as provided by
385 Rule No. 75.

386 60. In forming a Committee of the Whole, the President shall
387 call some Senator to preside, and rules governing the Committee of
388 the Whole shall be the rules of the Senate so far as they may be
389 made applicable.

390 61. A Committee of the Whole may, during any session
391 thereof, consider more than one bill or resolution; no additional
392 bills or resolutions may be so considered unless the Senate has by
393 a two-thirds (2/3) vote previously agreed thereto.

394 **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

395 62. Special committees shall in all cases report to the
396 Senate a state of facts and their opinion or recommendation on the
397 subject matter referred to them. Such reports may on motion be
398 incorporated in the Journal.

399 63. No Senator offering a motion or resolution for the
400 appointment of a special committee shall be appointed chairman of
401 such committee.

402 **MINORITY REPORTS**

403 64. Bills and resolutions unfavorably reported by committees
404 shall not be placed on the Calendar at all unless accompanied by a
405 Minority Report signed by one or more members who were present at
406 the committee meeting at which the bill or resolution was
407 reported. Minority Reports must be filed within three (3)
408 legislative days after the bill or resolution has been reported by
409 the committee. Minority reported bills and resolutions shall be
410 placed on the Calendar at the heel of favorably reported bills and
411 resolutions and shall not be considered until all favorably
412 reported bills and resolutions are disposed of, except by a vote
413 of two-thirds (2/3) of the Senators present and voting.

414 **RULES COMMITTEE**

415 65. (1) There shall be a standing Committee on Rules which
416 shall consist of the President (who shall be a non voting member),
417 the President Pro Tempore and five (5) Senators, each having
418 served at least three (3) years in the Senate, one (1) from each
419 congressional district of the state as constituted on January 1,
420 1996, to be selected by the Senators from their respective
421 congressional districts by caucus. The voting precinct of the
422 Senator representing such district shall determine the
423 congressional district caucus in which he shall participate and
424 for which he may hold membership on the Rules Committee. The
425 President Pro Tempore shall serve as chairman of the committee;
426 the vice chairman shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore
427 from among the Senators on the committee.

428 * * *

429 (2) The Rules Committee shall, in addition to the functions

430 of a standing committee and any other responsibilities assigned by
431 the Senate, perform the following duties:

432 (a) Conduct the business affairs of the Senate;

433 (b) Pursuant to authority granted in Section 29-5-2,
434 Mississippi Code of 1972, assign such space in the Capitol or in
435 such other buildings or parts thereof as may be reserved for the
436 Senate and have complete control, authority and jurisdiction over
437 such rooms, chambers, offices and other areas. Any assignment of
438 space shall be subject to change by the Rules Committee. No other
439 branch of the government, or a department or agency thereof, shall
440 use any such room, chamber, office or other area without specific
441 written authorization from the Rules Committee. The Rules
442 Committee may delegate its powers with regard to any such room,
443 chamber, office or other area in connection with the use,
444 maintenance, repairing, construction, reconstruction and
445 refurbishing thereof in such a manner as it deems advisable;

446 (c) Assign staff for interim and special committees;

447 (d) Assign staff for standing committees;

448 (e) Continually assess ways and means to improve the
449 organization, procedures, facilities and working conditions of the
450 Senate;

451 (f) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (5) for
452 the staffing of the office of the President and the office of the
453 President Pro Tempore, have the authority to employ all personnel
454 necessary to execute the duties and responsibilities of the
455 Senate. Unless otherwise specifically provided, the Rules
456 Committee shall have full and exclusive authority over the
457 Secretary, other officials and employees of the Senate, and all
458 such officials and personnel shall serve at the pleasure of the
459 Rules Committee. Complaints with respect to any misconduct,
460 inefficiency or omission by the Secretary, officials or employees
461 of the Senate shall be heard by the Rules Committee which may
462 discharge the Secretary, officials or employees therefor;

463 (g) Fix the salaries of the Senate officials and
464 employees;

465 (h) Assign news, radio and television reporters wishing
466 to take down or broadcast the debates and proceedings of the
467 Senate, places in the Senate so as not to interfere with the
468 convenience of the Senate;

469 (i) Authorize the reimbursement of Senators and Senate
470 officials and employees who are required to travel in the
471 performance of their official duties. The Rules Committee may
472 establish regulations governing such travel which include the
473 prior approval of such travel by the Rules Committee. Senators
474 attending out-of-state conventions or conferences at state expense
475 shall make a report to the Senate, including the purpose, work and
476 recommendations resulting from the out-of-state meeting attended.

477 If more than one Senator attends such convention or conference,
478 one report may be made as the report of the delegation; and

479 (j) Upon request of the chairman of any standing or
480 select committee of the Senate, authorize expenses, to include per
481 diem, mileage, meals and lodging, to be paid for members attending
482 the meeting of any such committee or subcommittee thereof during
483 the period in which the Legislature is not in session. The Rules
484 Committee may adopt rules and regulations concerning time, places

485 and number of meetings that may be held for which members will be
486 compensated, such rules and regulations to require prior approval
487 of meetings in order for members to be compensated.

488 (3) The committee may designate the Secretary of the Senate
489 to be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the duties
490 assigned to the committee and for implementing the policies of the
491 committee adopted pursuant to this rule.

492 (4) The committee shall function on a year-round basis; and,
493 when the Legislature is not in session, members of the committee
494 shall be compensated as provided in Section 25-3-69, Mississippi
495 Code of 1972, for each day spent in actual discharge of their
496 duties and shall receive the expense allowance and mileage
497 reimbursement provided in Section 5-1-47, Mississippi Code of
498 1972. No committee member may incur per diem, travel or expense
499 allowance unless authorized by vote at a meeting of the committee,
500 which action shall be recorded in the official minutes of the
501 committee. The Rules Committee shall meet at such times as are
502 necessary for the proper exercise of its functions and may adopt
503 rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the rules of the
504 Senate, as it deems necessary for the efficient operation of the
505 committee. Action by a majority vote of the Rules Committee shall
506 be conclusive on any matter properly within the jurisdiction of
507 the committee.

508 (5) (a) In providing for the staffing of the President's
509 office, the Rules Committee shall fill up to four (4) positions
510 when requested by the President, and the persons employed for such
511 positions shall be hired with the approval of the President. The
512 President shall recommend the compensation to be paid to the
513 President's staff, and the Rules Committee may pay the
514 compensation so established.

515 (b) In providing for the staffing of the President Pro
516 Tempore's office, the Rules Committee shall fill one (1) staff
517 position as requested by the President Pro Tempore, and the person
518 employed for such position shall be hired with the approval of the
519 President Pro Tempore. The President Pro Tempore shall recommend
520 the compensation to be paid to the person so employed, and the
521 Rules Committee may pay the compensation so established.

522 (c) Persons employed under this subsection to staff the
523 President's office shall serve at the will and pleasure of the
524 President; persons employed to staff the President Pro Tempore's
525 office shall serve at the will and pleasure of the President Pro
526 Tempore.

527 (6) In providing for the staffing of committees, the Rules
528 Committee shall have the responsibility for determining the
529 necessity of any staff positions requested by the chairman of a
530 committee.

531 (7) The Rules Committee shall cooperate with the House
532 Management Committee in maintaining a Joint Legislative Printing
533 Office and a reference library which shall contain, but shall not
534 be limited to, study reports and information gathered by the
535 departments and the various committees of the Legislature so as to
536 provide a continuity of information from year to year.

537 (8) The Rules Committee shall have the responsibility for
538 the proper operation of the Senate Legislative Services Office.

539 (9) The Rules Committee shall have jurisdiction over any

540 questions concerning improper or unethical conduct by members of
541 the Senate.

542 (10) The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this
543 rule shall be paid from the Senate Contingent Fund.

544 (11) The Rules Committee may meet jointly with the House
545 Management Committee when necessary to more effectively carry out
546 the provisions of this rule.

547 **SPECIAL ORDERS**

548 66. A bill, resolution or measure may be made a Special
549 Order for a day and hour certain by a majority vote of Senators
550 present and voting. Upon the arrival of such time, the President
551 shall lay before the Senate the bill, resolution or measure under
552 Special Order, and the Senate shall proceed to its consideration
553 on third reading until it has been temporarily or permanently
554 disposed of.

555 67. Should the consideration as a Special Order of a bill or
556 resolution not be completed by the time set for Special Order of
557 another bill or resolution, the consideration of the first Special
558 Order shall continue until disposition is made, even though it may
559 run over the time set for the second Special Order, or into the
560 succeeding day. In such event another day and hour certain may be
561 set for consideration of the displaced bill or resolution, or it
562 may be regarded as unfinished business of the succeeding
563 legislative day, at the option of the chairman of the committee
564 reporting the bill or resolution. Such option, however, shall be
565 announced by the chairman during the legislative day for which the
566 Special Order was originally set, with the approval of a majority
567 vote of those Senators present and voting.

568 **SPEAKING**

569 68. When any member of the Senate desires to speak or
570 present any matter to the Senate, he shall rise and respectfully
571 address himself to "Mr. President" and, upon being recognized,
572 shall confine himself to the question under debate and avoid
573 personalities.

574 69. Senators shall not be interrupted, when addressing the
575 Senate, by other Senators, except when a Senator seeking
576 information may address the presiding officer, who shall endeavor
577 to secure the consent of the Senator speaking to the offered
578 interruption. The presiding officer shall declare Senators
579 violating this rule out of order.

580 70. If any Senator be called to order by another for words
581 spoken, the exceptional words shall immediately be taken down in
582 writing by the Secretary so that the presiding officer may be
583 better able to judge the matter.

584 71. No Senator shall speak more than twice to the same
585 question, except as elsewhere provided, except by majority vote of
586 those Senators present and voting, nor more than once until every
587 Senator wishing to speak shall have spoken, and no longer than
588 twenty (20) minutes to the main question. When a subsidiary
589 question is under debate, the time limit shall be five (5)
590 minutes. When the time of a Senator is extended, it must be for a
591 specific time.

592 72. No Senator shall, before resuming his seat after
593 speaking to a question, make a motion cutting off or limiting
594 debate.

595 **BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

596 73. All bills and resolutions must be typewritten, double
597 spaced on 8-1/2 X 14 inch white paper * * *. Titles must be
598 written single spaced and in capital letters. Bills or
599 resolutions must be introduced in original form (not carbon or
600 photocopied) and shall be free from interlineations, corrections
601 and strikeouts, whether with ink, pencil or typewriter. The
602 enacting clause, typed immediately preceding Section 1 of a bill,
603 shall contain the following words in capital letters: "BE IT
604 ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI." No
605 additional enacting words shall be used. The Secretary may
606 decline to accept for introduction a bill or resolution not
607 conforming hereto.

608 74. Senators may introduce bills and concurrent resolutions
609 and Senate resolutions by placing them in the box at the
610 Secretary's desk at any time, or they may send them to the
611 Secretary's desk when the order for introduction is reached. All
612 bills, concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions placed in the
613 box will be considered as being introduced on the legislative day
614 following the day on which they were placed in the box except for
615 (a) bills and constitutional amendments placed in the box on the
616 day of the deadline for introduction of general bills and
617 constitutional amendments, and (b) appropriation and revenue bills
618 placed in the box on the day before the deadline for original
619 floor action on appropriation and revenue bills originating in the
620 Senate; bills and constitutional amendments described in items (a)
621 and (b) of this sentence will be considered as being introduced on
622 the day on which they are placed in the box. The deadlines
623 referred to in this paragraph shall be those established in the
624 Joint Rules of the Senate and the House, and the determination of
625 what is a revenue bill for purposes of this paragraph shall be as
626 prescribed in the Joint Rules of the Senate and the House.

627 In addition to any other time provided by law or by rule,
628 members of the Senate may file bills or resolutions with the
629 Secretary of the Senate at any time during the period between
630 sessions of the Legislature. Such prefiled bills shall be
631 numbered by the Secretary of the Senate and referred by the
632 President to the appropriate standing committee of the Senate for
633 study. Such prefiled bills shall be introduced in the order filed
634 on the first day of the next succeeding regular session of the
635 Legislature, or extraordinary session if included within the
636 Governor's call, and referred to committee in the regular order of
637 business of the Senate. No bills may be prefiled in any year of a
638 general election until after a member of the Senate has been
639 finally elected in the November general election.

640 75. Upon introduction of Senate bills, the Secretary shall
641 read the titles thereof and then give the bills to the President
642 for his study and reference to proper committees. The President
643 may retain such bills in his possession until the opening of the
644 next succeeding legislative day's session when he shall return
645 such bills to the Secretary with the committee references noted
646 thereon. Whereupon, the Secretary shall give such bills serial
647 numbers, and, at the proper time in the Order of Business, the
648 Secretary shall read the numbers, titles and committee references,
649 and have the titles reproduced for distribution. House bills

650 received with messages from the House shall be treated likewise
651 regarding references to committees and reading of titles by the
652 Secretary. Provided, however, that the President may, at his
653 option, refer Senate bills immediately upon their introduction and
654 House bills immediately upon their receipt from the House.
655 Provided, further, that a motion is in order for the immediate
656 consideration in Committee of the Whole of any bill or resolution,
657 except bills of Local and Private nature, before such bill or
658 resolution is referred to a standing committee.

659 76. Every bill and concurrent resolution and all reports of
660 committees, except the report of the Committee of the Whole, shall
661 lie on the table one day before being considered by the Senate.

662 77. General bills and resolutions shall be called up for
663 consideration in numerical order as revealed by item numbers on
664 the Calendar. When a bill or resolution is reached on the
665 Calendar and it is not then considered, it shall go to the heel of
666 the Calendar unless by a vote of a majority of the Senators
667 present and voting it retains its place on the Calendar.
668 Appropriation bills and resolutions reported by the Appropriations
669 Committee and revenue bills and resolutions reported by the
670 Finance Committee or other committees shall be subject to Section
671 68 of the Constitution. Bills and resolutions reported by the
672 Rules Committee shall have precedence above all others, except
673 appropriations and revenue bills and resolutions.

674 78. No bill, concurrent resolution or measure (except Senate
675 resolutions which may be called up for consideration any time by
676 suspension of the rules) shall be considered or voted upon by the
677 Senate unless the same shall have been referred to a committee,
678 considered and reported by a majority of a quorum of the committee
679 to which it was referred, subject to the provisions of Rule 64.

680 79. It is the duty of the chairman or vice chairman of a
681 committee to call up bills and resolutions on the floor or to
682 designate another member of the Senate so to do.

683 80. Complete titles of bills and resolutions shall be used
684 upon introductions, * * * but abbreviated titles may be used
685 elsewhere.

686 81. When a bill or concurrent resolution is originally
687 referred to two (2) committees and favorably reported by both, the
688 chairman of the first named committee shall have the option of
689 handling the bill or resolution on the floor.

690 82. When a bill or resolution is called up for final
691 passage, the Senator introducing such measure, if present, shall
692 have the right to open and close the debate. In the event there
693 are several authors of a bill or resolution, they shall agree
694 among themselves which shall open and close the debate and shall
695 so notify the chairman of the committee.

696 83. When a bill or resolution is being considered by the
697 Senate, it shall be read throughout by the Secretary and then may
698 be again read and debated by clauses, paragraphs or sections,
699 leaving the title to be considered last.

700 84. It shall always be in order, before the final passage of
701 a bill or resolution, to move its recommitment.

702 85. When a bill or measure has been referred to the Finance
703 Committee or Appropriations Committee, which deals with another
704 major subject as well as finance or appropriations, the committee

705 may, in its discretion, recommend that it be sent to the related
706 committee for study and recommendation. Such bill shall be
707 reported in the usual manner by the related committee within five
708 (5) legislative days, whereupon the Secretary shall return the
709 bill to the Finance Committee or Appropriations Committee with the
710 report. The final report of the Finance Committee or
711 Appropriations Committee shall govern the status of the bill or
712 resolution.

713 86. All motions contemplating legislation shall be founded
714 upon bills or concurrent resolutions; and committees, to which may
715 be referred messages from the Governor, reports of the state
716 officers, boards, commissions and others authorized to report to
717 the Legislature, including petitions for legislation, may report
718 by bill, resolution or written recommendation such legislation as
719 may be germane to the subject matter referred to them.

720 87. No bill, resolution, concurrent resolution or measure
721 having been referred to a committee shall be taken from such
722 committee, or the committee be discharged from the consideration
723 thereof, other than by a motion signed by a majority of all
724 Senators elected; except that during the last six (6) days of a
725 session, a majority of the Senators present and voting may call a
726 bill, resolution or concurrent resolution from a committee by a
727 signed motion.

728 88. All bills, concurrent resolutions or measures
729 originating in the House and passed by that body and sent to the
730 Senate for consideration shall pursue the same course and shall be
731 subject to the same rules as though such bills, concurrent
732 resolutions or measures had originated in the Senate.

733 89. Any bill, resolution, concurrent resolution or measure
734 recalled from a committee by the method provided in Rule 87 shall
735 be referred to another standing committee, unless the Senate votes
736 to form a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering
737 the same.

738 90. No law shall be repealed by reference to its chapter,
739 bill number or code number only, but there shall be included in
740 its title and in a section within the bill a brief statement of
741 the nature of the law sought to be repealed.

742 91. In the event of the loss or misplacement of a bill or
743 resolution, the Secretary is authorized to prepare an exact copy
744 thereof which, upon his certification that such bill or resolution
745 is a true and correct copy of the original, shall be considered as
746 though it were the original bill or resolution.

747 **SENATE RESOLUTIONS**

748 92. Senate resolutions may be considered without having been
749 referred to or reported by a committee, except as provided in Rule
750 30. However, such resolutions may be referred to a committee by
751 majority vote of Senators present and voting, or the President may
752 refer them on his own initiative.

753 93. All resolutions authorizing committees of the Senate to
754 travel or employ stenographers or other assistants, and all such
755 resolutions involving special investigations or expense by
756 committees of the Senate shall be referred, without debate, to the
757 Committee on Rules, * * * which shall report thereon within two
758 (2) days recommending what action should be taken.

759 **CALENDAR**

760 94. The Secretary each day shall prepare a Calendar of all
761 matters in order for consideration. Such Calendar and a copy of
762 each bill and resolution shown thereon shall be placed on the desk
763 of each Senator prior to the hour of convening. Titles of bills
764 and resolutions shall clearly indicate the subject matter thereof,
765 but such titles may be abbreviated. General bills and resolutions
766 favorably reported by committees shall be given an item number in
767 sequence and placed on the Calendar from day to day in order as
768 they are reported and placed under the head of "General Calendar."
769 Bills and resolutions favorably reported by committees on Finance,
770 on Appropriations, on Rules and on Local and Private Legislation;
771 revenue bills; and bills and resolutions subject to secondary
772 considerations, shall be shown separately under appropriate
773 headings, with item numbers in sequence.

774 The Rules Committee is hereby authorized to create a
775 "Noncontroversial Calendar" for the consideration of
776 noncontroversial bills, resolutions or measures. Senate bills,
777 resolutions or measures shall be placed on the Noncontroversial
778 Calendar upon the written request of the chairman of the committee
779 reporting the measure, the primary author, and by a majority vote
780 of the Rules Committee; House bills, resolutions or measures shall
781 be placed upon the Noncontroversial Calendar on the request of the
782 chairman of the committee reporting the measure and by a majority
783 vote of the Rules Committee. A bill, resolution or measure shall
784 be removed from the Noncontroversial Calendar upon the demand of
785 six (6) or more Senators made in open session. Any such demand
786 shall require the bill or resolution to be placed at the heel of
787 the General Calendar.

788 95. Bills, resolutions, measures or motions reported by
789 committees, and reports of special committees, shall be placed on
790 the Calendar in the regular order of the next day after that on
791 which they were made to the Senate or received from the House, as
792 the case may be.

793 96. No matter which has been duly placed on the Calendar
794 shall be discharged therefrom or considered out of its regular
795 course except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate, subject to
796 the provisions of Section 68 of the Constitution. However,
797 matters affecting the public interest and regarded as of immediate
798 necessity may be advanced on the Calendar by the Committee on
799 Rules.

800 MOTIONS

801 97. Order of Precedence:

- 802 (1) To adjourn
803 (2) To lay on the table
804 (3) To lay on the table subject to call, when five (5)
805 minutes' debate shall be allowed the Senator having the measure in
806 charge unless the Senator shall yield the floor to another Senator
807 (4) For the previous question
808 (5) To limit debate
809 (6) To close debate at a specific time
810 (7) To postpone to a day certain
811 (8) To recommit
812 (9) To re-refer
813 (10) To amend
814 (11) To postpone indefinitely

815 These motions shall have precedence in the above order; and
816 any such motion being made and being decided adversely shall not
817 again be entertained on the same day at the same stage of the
818 question.

819 98. A motion to postpone indefinitely opens to debate the
820 merits of the proposition.

821 99. Any motion shall be reduced to writing if the President
822 so directs or a Senator or the Secretary so requests.

823 100. When a motion is made, it shall be stated by the
824 President or, being in writing, it shall be read aloud by the
825 Secretary.

826 101. After a motion is stated by the President or read by
827 the Secretary, it shall be deemed to be in the possession of the
828 Senate, and it may be withdrawn only by a majority vote of
829 Senators present and voting at any time before decision or
830 amendment.

831 102. No motion is in order while a point of order is pending
832 unless the President shall announce a delay in his ruling, and
833 then only matters not affected by a ruling on such pending point
834 of order may be considered.

835 103. When a question is under debate, the President shall
836 entertain no motion which does not relate to the question except a
837 motion to adjourn or some other motion which has precedence by
838 express rules of the Senate or because it is privileged in its
839 nature.

840 103A. After a motion to lay a bill on the table subject to
841 call or a motion to table has been adopted, only a member
842 authorized to call up the bill under Rule 79 shall have the right
843 to move to call the bill from the table.

844 **AMENDMENTS**

845 104. Amendments shall be in order after the third reading of
846 a bill or resolution requiring three (3) readings, but no
847 amendment, except committee amendments, shall be considered as
848 pending unless the author of such amendment shall have secured
849 recognition by the President for the purpose of offering such
850 amendment and moving its adoption. Such amendment shall then be
851 sent to the Secretary's desk, and disposition of it shall be made
852 before any additional amendments shall be placed on the
853 Secretary's desk or received by him.

854 105. Amendments to an amendment shall be voted on before a
855 substitute is taken up. Only one amendment to the amendment is in
856 order at one time; but as rapidly as one is disposed of by
857 rejection or adoption, another is in order as long as any member
858 desires to offer one. A substitute amendment may be offered to an
859 amendment. An amendment to the substitute may be offered. No
860 other amendment can be offered since the third degree has been
861 reached. The vote shall be taken in the following order: The
862 amendment to the amendment shall first be voted on; then the
863 amendment to the substitute; then the substitute amendment; and,
864 if the substitute is adopted, then the original amendment shall be
865 regarded as automatically tabled.

866 106. An amendment to a bill or resolution may be adopted by
867 a majority vote, notwithstanding it requires more than a majority
868 vote to pass the bill or resolution sought to be amended.

869 107. When a bill is reported with committee amendments, such

870 committee amendments shall have precedence for consideration over
871 amendments presented from the floor.

872 108. Amendments proposed by members or by committees must
873 not be written into a bill or resolution until such amendments
874 shall be adopted and the bill finally passed by the Senate, and
875 then only under the direction of the Secretary and/or the
876 Committee on Engrossed Bills.

877 109. Amendments to a Senate bill, resolution or measure
878 which have been adopted by the House and sent back to the Senate
879 for concurrence shall be considered as "unfinished business" of
880 the next day after that on which they were received, unless a
881 majority of the Senators present and voting order that such
882 amendments be considered immediately. House amendments to Senate
883 bills or resolutions shall be either concurred in or not concurred
884 in their entirety and not separately.

885 **PREVIOUS QUESTION**

886 110. There may be a motion for the previous question, which
887 shall not be debatable and which may be ordered upon any bill or
888 resolution or section thereof, amendment, motion or question which
889 is debatable, any of which shall be considered as the main
890 question for the purpose of applying the previous question. All
891 incidental questions of order arising after a motion for the
892 previous question has been applied and before the vote on the main
893 question has been taken shall be decided, whether on appeal or
894 otherwise, without debate.

895 111. When the previous question has been ordered, each side
896 shall have five (5) minutes for debate, the affirmative speaking
897 first; provided that after the previous question shall have been
898 ordered, the only motion in order shall be one motion to recommit
899 or re-refer, which motion shall not be debatable.

900 111A. When the motion to limit debate has been ordered, each
901 side shall have five (5) minutes for debate on each subsidiary or
902 main question, the affirmative speaking first.

903 **POINTS OF ORDER**

904 112. Every point of order shall be decided by the presiding
905 officer. Any decision of the presiding officer on a point of
906 order shall be subject to an appeal to the Senate without debate,
907 unless the presiding officer, in his discretion and for his
908 information, requests debate and/or a brief on any point of order.

909 He may require points of order in writing and may take reasonable
910 time to examine and study same before ruling thereon, during which
911 period consideration of that particular subject matter shall be
912 suspended without prejudice and the Senate shall proceed to the
913 next order of business.

914 **VOTING**

915 113. The presiding officer shall declare all votes. When a
916 question not requiring the yeas and nays is put, the sense of the
917 Senate shall be taken by the voice of the Senators, and the
918 President shall first announce the vote as it appears to him by
919 sound.

920 114. The yeas and nays shall be taken on the final passage
921 of every bill, concurrent resolution, conference report and House
922 amendments to Senate bills. The President of the Senate may order
923 a yea and nay or division vote on any subsidiary question.

924 115. Upon every roll call the names of the members shall be

925 called alphabetically by surname, except when two (2) or more have
926 the same surname, in which case the number of the district shall
927 be added; and if there be two (2) such members from the same
928 district, the name or initials shall be called. After the roll
929 has been once called, the Secretary shall call, in their
930 alphabetical order, the names of those not voting, and thereafter
931 the President shall not entertain a request to record a vote,
932 except that any Senator whose vote was recorded may change his
933 vote before the result is announced by the President.

934 116. The sense of the Senate shall be taken by yeas and nays
935 on any question whenever six (6) of the Senators present demand,
936 and, if the call for yeas and nays be not sustained, any Senator
937 may have his vote recorded if he so desires. Any Senator may have
938 the privilege of explaining his vote, which explanation containing
939 not more than one hundred (100) words shall be written and handed
940 to the Secretary before the approval of the Journal of the day
941 such vote was taken, and such explanation shall be spread upon the
942 Journal.

943 117. A Senator who by reason of absence from the Senate
944 chamber fails to vote on any yea and nay call may, during the next
945 succeeding legislative day of his presence, file with the
946 Secretary, for insertion in the Journal, a brief written statement
947 stating how he would have voted thereon. Anticipating his
948 absence, any Senator may file such statement with the Secretary in
949 advance of the yea and nay vote for insertion in the Journal at
950 the proper time.

951 118. Any Senator may request a division vote. The President
952 shall call for those in the affirmative to rise first, then those
953 in the negative. The counts shall be made by the Secretary. If
954 the absence of a quorum is indicated, the Secretary shall make a
955 quorum count; and, if a quorum is present, the vote shall stand as
956 announced by the President.

957 119. Immediately following the second call of the yeas and
958 nays but before the announcement of the result of the vote by the
959 presiding officer, it will be in order for the announcement of
960 pairs of those Senators present whose votes are not recorded,
961 which pairs shall be entered in the Journal, and for the
962 announcement of change of votes by those Senators who have voted.

963 120. No Senator shall be allowed to approach the desk of the
964 Secretary to ascertain the vote cast on any question or measure
965 before such vote has been announced.

966 121. No Senator shall have the Journal amended so as to have
967 the record of his vote changed; however, a Senator may change his
968 vote before the result of a roll call is announced.

969 122. In the event of a tie vote, by call of the yeas and
970 nays or by division, on any main or subsidiary matter, the
971 President, if presiding at the time such tie vote occurs, shall
972 cast the deciding vote.

973 123. When a member of the Senate is presiding and a tie vote
974 occurs on any proposition, the decision shall be in the negative.

975 124. No Senator shall be permitted to act in committee or to
976 vote on a question in which his private interest, distinct from
977 the public interest, is immediately concerned.

978 125. Unless a certain minimum of votes of Senators is
979 specified in these rules on any vote taken, a majority of those

980 present and voting shall prevail.

981 **RECONSIDERATION**

982 126. When a question has once carried in the affirmative or
983 negative it shall be in order for any Senator to enter a motion
984 for the reconsideration thereof. The motion to reconsider a vote
985 on a proposition having been once agreed to and the vote again
986 having been taken, a second motion to reconsider may not be made
987 unless the nature of the proposition has been changed by
988 amendment.

989 127. No motion to reconsider a vote shall be entertained
990 unless it be properly entered on the same day on which such vote
991 was taken or on the next succeeding legislative day on which a
992 quorum is present. No motion to reconsider shall be withdrawn
993 without unanimous consent. This rule shall not prevent
994 reconsideration of a vote on a subsidiary, incidental or dependent
995 matter at any time when the main question to which it relates is
996 under consideration; and a motion to reconsider a vote on any
997 subsidiary, incidental or dependent question shall not remove the
998 main question under consideration from before the Senate, but such
999 incidental question shall be considered at the time the motion is
1000 made.

1001 On a motion to table a motion to reconsider or on a motion
1002 that the Senate do not reconsider or on a motion that the Senate
1003 do reconsider, or any substitute for any such motion, five (5)
1004 minutes total time shall be allowed the Senators speaking for the
1005 affirmative side and five (5) minutes total time shall be allowed
1006 the Senators speaking for the negative side of the question, such
1007 time herein allowed to be allotted between Senators speaking on
1008 each side of the question. This rule shall also apply to any
1009 motion or substitute motion of similar import to the above
1010 motions.

1011 When a motion to table a motion to reconsider fails, or when
1012 a motion "do not reconsider" fails, the item stays on the Motion
1013 to Reconsider Calendar.

1014 When a motion to reconsider fails, the question is no longer
1015 before the Senate and no further action by the Senate is in order.

1016 128. There shall be no reconsideration of the vote on the
1017 question of adjourning or recessing; laying on the table subject
1018 to call; laying on the table or taking from the table;
1019 recommitting; re-referring; limiting debate; or on the previous
1020 question. When a motion for reconsideration has been decided,
1021 that decision shall not be reconsidered.

1022 129. A motion to reconsider having been properly made and
1023 entered in the Journal shall become the property of the Senate and
1024 may be called up by any member of the Senate.

1025 **VETOES**

1026 129A. After a veto message is read, two (2) motions are in
1027 order in the following precedence:

1028 (a) To refer the reconsideration of the bill to a
1029 committee; and

1030 (b) To pass the bill, the Governor's veto
1031 notwithstanding.

1032 **PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

1033 130. Matters of privilege affecting the rights, safety,
1034 dignity and integrity of the Senate, and matters of personal

1035 privilege affecting the rights, reputation and conduct of
1036 individual members of the Senate, in their senatorial capacities
1037 only, shall have precedence over all other matters or motions,
1038 except motions to adjourn or recess. It is not in order to speak
1039 to a question of personal privilege after the previous question
1040 has been ordered.

1041 **PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITIES**

1042 131. On all questions of order or parliamentary practice not
1043 covered by and not in conflict with these rules, the rules of
1044 Cannon's Practice in the National House of Representatives and
1045 Hind's Precedents shall be the authority.

1046 **READING OF DOCUMENTS**

1047 132. When the reading of a document other than a bill or
1048 resolution is proposed or called for and the same is objected to
1049 by any Senator, it shall be determined by a majority vote of the
1050 Senators present and voting, without debate.

1051 **EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

1052 133. The Senate shall conduct all business in open session,
1053 except that the Senate may resolve itself into executive session
1054 by majority vote of the Senators elected. Upon entering executive
1055 session, the Senate shall be cleared of all persons except
1056 Senators and officials thereof. Executive sessions should,
1057 whenever practicable, be held immediately prior to recess or
1058 adjournment of open sessions.

1059 **NOMINATIONS**

1060 134. When nominations from the Governor shall be received by
1061 the Senate, the Secretary of the Senate shall read the message
1062 from the Governor to the Senate, and nominations shall be referred
1063 to the appropriate committee by the President unless the Senate by
1064 a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senators present and voting orders
1065 otherwise. The committee considering such nomination may, upon a
1066 vote of a majority of the committee, consider the nomination in
1067 open committee meeting or hearing. Upon receiving the report of
1068 the committee to which the nomination was referred, the Senate
1069 shall proceed to consider the nomination in open session, unless
1070 executive session is invoked as provided in Rule 133.

1071 135. When a nomination or any other matter is confirmed,
1072 consented to or rejected, any Senator may move for a
1073 reconsideration. Such motion to reconsider confirmation or
1074 rejection of any name submitted to the Senate for any position or
1075 office, or any other matter, may be made on the legislative day in
1076 which the vote is taken or on the next legislative day thereafter,
1077 and not later.

1078 136. The Governor shall not be officially notified by the
1079 Secretary of the confirmation, consent to or rejection by the
1080 Senate of any nomination or other matter until the expiration of
1081 the time limit for entering a motion to reconsider, unless
1082 otherwise ordered by the Senate, subject to Section 65 of the
1083 Constitution.

1084 137. All executive matters submitted by the Governor which
1085 were not considered, as well as those on which actions were taken
1086 and were under pending motions to reconsider, shall fail at the
1087 time of sine die adjournment and the Secretary shall so notify the
1088 Governor thereof.

1089 **SELECTION OF DESKS**

1090 138. The seating arrangement in the Senate Chamber shall be
1091 accomplished by personal selections of seats by the Senators, and
1092 such selections may begin upon their nominations. Seats numbered
1093 3 and 4, which are equipped with hearing aids, may be held in
1094 reserve by the Secretary of the Senate for members who may need
1095 hearing aids. Senators elected to consecutive terms shall have
1096 first choice of seats. Upon selection of seats, they shall be
1097 properly marked to indicate that the seats have been so selected.
1098 Nothing in this rule shall prevent the swapping of seats by mutual
1099 agreement of Senators. The Secretary shall prepare and have
1100 printed the permanent seating arrangement for public distribution.

1101 **INSURANCE**

1102 139. The Mississippi State Senate shall become a
1103 self-insurer under the Mississippi Workers' Compensation Act
1104 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 455, Laws of 1970, being
1105 Section 71-3-5, Mississippi Code of 1972. The Secretary of the
1106 Mississippi State Senate shall notify the Mississippi Workers'
1107 Compensation Commission, as provided by law, of the intention of
1108 the Mississippi State Senate to become a self-insurer, which
1109 notice shall advise the commission that the following are covered
1110 under the provisions of said act: the Lieutenant Governor as
1111 presiding officer of the Mississippi State Senate, all duly
1112 elected Senators, all elected officials and officers of the
1113 Senate, and all employees, staff members, Pages and clerical help
1114 of the Mississippi State Senate.

1115 140. (Omitted)

1116 **CONFIDENTIALITY**

1117 141. (1) No employee of the Senate shall reveal to any
1118 person outside his department the contents or nature of any
1119 request for services made by any member of the Senate except with
1120 the written consent of the person making such request.

1121 (2) All confidential communications between members of the
1122 Senate and staff attorneys are protected by an attorney-client
1123 privilege.