

1 SR7
2 165074-1
3 By Senator Orr
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 05-MAR-15

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8 AMENDING SENATE RULES 4, 21, 37, AND 39.

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10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF
11 ALABAMA, That Rules 4, 21, 37, and 39 are amended to read as
12 follows:

13 "RULE 4. No person shall be admitted to the floor of
14 the Senate Chamber while the Senate is in session except
15 current members of the Legislature; former members of the
16 Legislature; former Governors or Lieutenant Governors, except
17 registered lobbyists; the officers and employees of the two
18 houses; up to three employees of the President of the Senate;
19 up to three employees of the President Pro Tempore; the
20 Governor and up to two of his or her employees;
21 representatives of the press; and the Directors and employees
22 of the Legislative Reference Service and the Legislative
23 Fiscal Office. The Director of the Office of Examiners of
24 Public Accounts, the Director of the Alabama Law Institute,
25 the legal counsel for the Rules Committee Chairman, and one
26 employee ~~each~~ of the majority and minority caucuses caucus and
27 two employees of the minority caucus shall also be admitted to

1 the floor in aid of the Senate in its work. Anyone admitted to
2 the floor of the Senate Chamber shall be placed by the
3 Secretary of the Senate. The Secretary shall ensure that the
4 presence of non-members shall not impede the business of the
5 Senate. On the first legislative day of any Regular, Special,
6 or Organizational Session, the families of the members of the
7 Senate shall have the privileges of the floor, but only for
8 that specific legislative day. This rule shall be enforced by
9 the Secretary of the Senate without such enforcement being
10 suggested or requested by a member of the Senate.

11 "RULE 21. House messages, executive messages, and
12 conference reports may be called, and immediately handled or
13 referred, at any stage of business by the President Pro
14 Tempore, or in his/her absence, the Majority Leader or any
15 member authorized in writing by the President Pro Tempore,
16 except while the yeas and nays are being called, or during
17 consideration of sunset bills. A motion to accede to a House
18 request for conference is not debatable. House amendments to
19 Senate bills, and conference reports, may be read at the
20 request of any Senator, unless a copy of the amendment or
21 conference report is made available to all Senators.

22 "RULE 37. (a) No Senator shall absent himself or
23 herself from the service of the Senate for as long as one day,
24 without leave of the Senate. In case a lesser number than a
25 quorum of the Senate shall answer the roll or a quorum call
26 shall determine that a quorum is not present, the members
27 present are hereby authorized to send the Secretary, the

1 Doorkeeper or some other person for any or all absent
2 Senators, as the majority of the Senators present shall agree.
3 The expense of sending for an absent Senator shall be paid by
4 the absentee, unless an excuse for non-attendance shall be
5 made, as a quorum of the Senate shall judge sufficient. In
6 which event, the expense of securing the attendance of such
7 absent Senator shall be paid out of funds appropriated for the
8 Legislature.

9 "(b) No member of the Senate or any person who has
10 privileges of the floor, except television cameramen, shall be
11 admitted upon the floor of the Senate while the Senate is in
12 session, unless properly attired.

13 "Minimum standards of dress in the Senate Chamber
14 and in committee meetings while in session shall consist of
15 the wearing of a coat and tie by males and the wearing of a
16 suitable dress or an appropriate blouse and skirt or pants
17 suit by females.

18 "Minimum attire for pages shall be the same as for
19 members.

20 "Whenever a special circumstance, such as injury,
21 prevents a Member from meeting the dress requirements
22 hereinabove cited, such Member shall, upon motion adopted by a
23 majority of the Senators present and voting, be excused from
24 the requirements of this Rule.

25 "Whenever special circumstances arise relating to
26 staff, the press and any others entitled to the floor, the

1 Secretary shall decide whether such person shall be excused
2 from the requirements of this Rule.

3 "RULE 39. (a) Except as provided herein, no member
4 shall speak more than twice on any question under debate and
5 none shall, without unanimous consent of the Senate, speak for
6 more than one hour at each time on motions for the adoption of
7 an amendment to a bill or substitute, a substitute to a bill,
8 an amendment to an amendment, the bill itself, motions to
9 concur or nonconcur, including a motion to nonconcur and
10 request a committee on conference, or motions to confirm an
11 appointment. Debate on resolutions and debatable motions
12 (other than those above), shall be subject to a reasonable
13 time limit not to exceed fifteen (15) minutes. The bill
14 sponsor or bill manager may be permitted to speak to the
15 question as many times as is necessary, ~~in the judgment of the~~
16 ~~Presiding Officer,~~ to facilitate the debate or the offering of
17 amendments, and shall have the right to conclude the debate. A
18 member offering an amendment or substitute shall have the
19 right to conclude the debate on such amendment or substitute.

20 "(b) Points of personal privilege by members shall
21 be limited to five minutes. The Presiding Officer may
22 recognize a Senator for a point of personal privilege only
23 when the Senate is not engaged in business. When recognized
24 for a point of personal privilege, a Senator may speak upon
25 any subject not in violation of Rule 40, and the Presiding
26 Officer may not otherwise define the subject matter as a
27 condition for recognition.

