

SENATE JUDICIARY 2024 COMMITTEE RULES

In any case where committee rules do not apply, Senate Rules shall govern. All powers, duties, and responsibilities not addressed herein are reserved to the chair.

1. All committee members are encouraged to be physically present in the committee meeting room during committee proceedings. Members may only vote and participate in the working of a bill if physically present in the committee room. Members may participate by live video conference through Webex for hearings and ask questions unless limited by the chair.
2. All conferees wishing to present testimony, including oral testimony, must submit a digital PDF copy of the testimony to the email address S.Judiciary.Senate.Ks.Gov and the committee assistant at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing. The written testimony, and oral if given, shall state whether it is “proponent,” “neutral,” or “opponent,” testimony. The name of each conferee, their address plus the group name and address they are with, if any, shall be provided. This, and all other information provided, will be made part of the public record. No late submission of testimony will be presented. No outside props will be allowed.
3. Conferees wishing to give oral testimony are encouraged to be physically present in the committee meeting room but may provide testimony by live video conference through Webex. No pre-recorded video of testimony allowed. Conferee must be present and visible in the online testimony. Conferees shall notify the committee assistant at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing whether they will be testifying in person, virtually, or providing written-only testimony. For confirmation hearings, the proposed appointee shall appear in person in the committee meeting room.
4. Cellular phones and other electronic devices with audible tones are prohibited in the committee room unless audible tones or ringers are disabled. Cameras behind a committee member while at their seat shall not be permitted. No food or drinks will be permitted in the committee room by guests, spectators or conferees.
5. The chair shall determine the committee agenda, including scheduling and the order of business. Items listed on the agenda shall be brought before the committee as announced by the chair. Any item listed on the agenda may be removed at any time by the chair. The chair may bring the discussion and possible vote on any bills previously heard at any time.
6. Committee documents will be provided to committee members at the beginning of each meeting by the committee assistant.
7. The chair reserves the right to limit testimony that is cumulative in nature and may limit testimony, when necessary, to a specific number of minutes. Conferees shall address their remarks during testimony to committee members and staff only.
8. Committee members shall not address conferees, nor have the floor, until and unless the chair grants permission.
9. The chair reserves the right to limit questioning of conferees by committee members in the interest of time and in the interest of fairness to conferees and other committee members.

10. No conferee shall be interrupted during the presentation of their testimony, except with the permission of the chair.
11. Questioning of a conferee shall be limited to the subject matter on the agenda for the day, except as may otherwise be allowed by the chair.
12. Committee members shall not be approached during a committee hearing or deliberations by anyone other than fellow legislative members or legislative staff.
13. No one other than legislative staff, or other committee members, shall stand or sit behind a committee member during a committee hearing, meeting or deliberations.
14. No bill, motion, amendment, or resolution shall be taken up for a committee vote unless announced by the chair.
15. An amendment to a bill must be presented to the chair before the working of the bill and must be germane to the bill and area of law that is being proposed or changed. Only the chair shall determine if an amendment is germane. There will be no amending of amendments allowed, except as may otherwise be allowed by the chair.
16. A motion requires a second to be in order. A substitute motion is in order, but no additional substitute motion shall be in order until the prior substitute motion is disposed of. Amendments to motions are not in order except upon consent of the member making the motion and his or her second.
17. A motion to table or take from the table shall be in order only when such an item is on the agenda or is taken up by the chair. The motion requires a simple majority vote of members present and is non-debatable, unless debate is approved by the chair.
18. A motion to reconsider a previous successful motion shall only be made by a member voting on the prevailing side of the original motion. The motion requires a simple majority vote of members present.
19. The use of cameras, photographic lights, and recording devices are subject to reasonable rules and limitations determined by the chairperson that are designed to insure the orderly conduct of the proceedings at any meeting.
20. There shall be no recorded committee votes on committee action. A request from any member that their vote be recorded shall be granted.
21. Granting excused absences is reserved to the chair.
22. The chair reserves the right to take such action as may be necessary to provide safety to all participants, including limiting guests in the committee room, or such action as may be necessary to prevent disruptive behavior in the committee room during hearings and deliberations.
23. Adjournment is reserved to the chair and no motion to adjourn shall be entertained.