

Joint Rules & Orders of the Two Houses

JOINT RULES AND ORDERS OF THE TWO HOUSES

Module 5 — Joint Rules of the Two Houses

- Message transmission
- Enrollment & presentation of bills
- Conference committees
- Joint addresses & finalization

Joint Rule 1. In every case of an amendment of a bill agreed to in one House and dissented to in the other, if either House requests a conference and appoints a committee, and the other House also appoints a committee, such committees shall meet at a convenient time and confer freely, exchanging the reasons of their respective Houses for and against the amendment.

Joint Rule 2. When a message is sent from the Senate to the House of Representatives, it shall be announced at the door by the Doorkeeper and respectfully communicated to the Chair.

Joint Rule 3. The same ceremony shall be observed when a message is sent from the House to the Senate.

Joint Rule 4. Messages shall be sent by such persons as each House shall deem proper.

Joint Rule 5. While bills are passing between the two Houses, they shall be on paper and under the signature of the Secretary or Clerk of each House.

Joint Rule 6. After a bill has passed both Houses, it shall be enrolled on parchment by the Clerk of the House or the Secretary of the Senate, depending on where it originated, before presentation to the President.

Joint Rule 7. When bills are enrolled, they shall be examined by a Joint Committee of two Senators and two Representatives, who shall compare the enrollment with the engrossed bills as passed, correct errors, and report to their respective Houses.

Joint Rule 8. After examination and report, each bill shall be signed—first in the House by the Speaker, then in the Senate by the President of the Senate.

Joint Rule 9. After a bill has been signed in both Houses, it shall be presented by the Joint Committee to the President of the United States for his approbation. The endorsement on the back shall state the House in which it originated, signed by the proper officer, and entered in the journals of both Houses. The date of presentation shall be reported and recorded.

Joint Rule 10. All orders, resolutions, and votes requiring approval of the President shall be enrolled, examined, signed, and presented in the same manner as bills.

Joint Rule 11. When a joint address to the President is required, it shall be presented in his audience chamber by the President of the Senate, in the presence of the Speaker and both Houses.

Joint Rule 12. When a bill or resolution that has passed one House is rejected in the other, notice shall be given to the originating House.

Joint Rule 13. When a bill or resolution passed in one House is rejected in the other, it shall not be revived in the same session without ten days' notice and a two-thirds vote of the House renewing it.

Joint Rule 14. Each House shall transmit to the other all papers on which any bill or resolution is founded.

Joint Rule 15. After each House has adhered to its disagreement, the bill or resolution shall be lost.

Joint Rule 16. No bill that has passed one House shall be sent to the other for concurrence on either of the last three days of the session.

Joint Rule 17. No bill or resolution that has passed both Houses shall be presented to the President on the last day of the session.

Joint Rule 18. When bills passed in one House are ordered to be printed in the other, no more copies shall be printed than necessary for the use of the House ordering it.

Joint Rule 19. No spirituous liquors shall be offered for sale or exhibited within the Capitol or on the public grounds adjacent thereto.