

HOUSE CHILD WELFARE AND FOSTER CARE COMMITTEE RULES

1. In any case where committee rules do not apply, House Rules shall govern. In any case where House Rules do not apply, Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedures (2020 edition) shall govern. All powers, duties and responsibilities not addressed herein are reserved to the Chair.
2. Cellular phones and other electronic devices with audible tones are prohibited in the committee room unless audible tones or ringers are disabled.
3. The Chair shall determine the committee agenda, including scheduling and the order of business.
4. 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.
5. Committee members shall not address conferees unless and until permission is granted by the Chair.
6. 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.
7. No conferee shall be interrupted during the presentation of their testimony, except with the permission of this chair.
8. 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.
9. Committee members shall not be approached during a committee hearing or deliberations by anyone other than fellow legislative members or legislative staff.
10. No bill or resolution shall be taken up for a committee vote unless announced by the Chair.
11. A motion requires a second to be in order.

12. A substitute motion is in order, but no additional substitute motions shall be in order until the prior substitute motion is disposed of.
13. Amendments to motions are not in order except upon consent of the member making the motion and his or her second.
14. A motion to table or take from the table shall be in order only when such item is on the agenda or is taken up by the Chair. The motion requires a simple majority of those present and is, unless otherwise determined by the Chair, undebatable.
15. The use of cameras, photographic lights, and recording devices are subject to reasonable rules and limitations determined by the Chairperson that are designed to ensure the orderly conduct of the proceedings at any meeting.
16. A request from any member that their vote be recorded shall be granted.
17. Granting excused absences is reserved to the Chair.
18. The Chair reserves the right to take such action as may be necessary to prevent disruptive behavior in the committee room or via Webex during hearings and deliberations.
19. The Chair may allow for testimony to be taken by live video conference through Webex. If the Chair allows for live video testimony, the privilege shall be extended to any conferee appearing before the committee.
20. The Chair may allow committee members to appear via live video or hold a committee meeting by live video conference.
21. Members participating in a meeting via Webex must do so without any other member, registered lobbyist, or executive branch employee in their presence or in contemporaneous communication with that member.
22. No member shall vote on any question before the committee unless such member is in the Statehouse when casting his or vote and must comply with Rule 21.
23. Adjournment is reserved to the Chair.