

Procedures and Protocols for the Assembly of State Legislative Leaders

Columbus, Ohio

December 14-15, 2025

The following rules of procedure shall govern the proceedings of the Assembly of State Legislative Leaders (“Assembly”) during its inaugural meeting on December 14-15, 2025, and any adjournments thereof.

Rule 1 – Steering Committee for the Assembly.

The formation of the Assembly, including all initial preparation for the initial meeting of the Assembly, development of the preliminary agenda for the Assembly’s initial meeting, appointment of committees and temporary officers, and all other matters connected to the Assembly and its initial meeting shall be under the control of a Steering Committee consisting of the following persons:

Speaker Matt Huffman, Ohio (R)

Senate President Ron Kouchi, Hawaii (D)

Speaker Roger Hanshaw, West Virginia (R)

Senate President Don Harmon, Illinois (D)

Speaker Mike Schultz, Utah (R)

Speaker Emanuel “Chris” Welch, Illinois (D)

Senate President Stuart Adams, Utah (R)

Speaker Laurie Jenkins, Washington (D)

Speaker Kyle Hilbert, Oklahoma (R)

Senate President Bill Ferguson, Maryland (D)

Rule 2 – Membership and officers of the Assembly.

Rule 2(a). The membership of the Assembly shall consist of the principal leader of each of the ninety-nine state legislative chambers in the United States, or a designee of the principal leader of each chamber. For all Members attending by virtue of a

designation made by a principal leader, the designee shall present to the Steering Committee a signed designation by the principal leader naming the Member as the designee of the principal leader with unrestricted authority to speak and act on behalf of the principal leader.

Rule 2(b). At its initial meeting, the Assembly shall elect from among its Members a presiding officer and a recording secretary. These officers may not be affiliated with the same political party. The hosting presiding officer shall preside over the initial election of a presiding officer for the Assembly. Once the Assembly has elected a presiding officer, the presiding officer may designate other Members of the Assembly to preside over any portion of the Assembly proceedings.

Rule 3 – Admission to Assembly meetings and access to Assembly proceedings.

Rule 3(a). Each member of the Assembly may be accompanied by one guest of the member's choosing. All guests of Members shall have access to all meetings and other proceedings of the Assembly but may not offer motions, participate in debate on any question, or cast any vote in any meeting of the Assembly.

Rule 3(b). Access to all meetings of the Assembly by persons other than Members of the Assembly or guests of Members may be restricted or limited upon the agreement of the presiding officer and the recording secretary of the Assembly, unless otherwise directed by the Assembly.

Rule 4 – Proposals for consideration by the Assembly.

Rule 4(a). All proposals for consideration by the Assembly must be submitted to the person or office designated by the Steering Committee by no later than thirty days in advance of the meeting of the Assembly. The Steering Committee shall publish to all prospective members of the Assembly the procedure for submission of proposals for consideration by the Assembly.

Rule 4(b). Any proposal for consideration by the Assembly not submitted to the Steering Committee as provided in Rule 4(a) shall require (1) a co-sponsor for the proposal from the political party other than that of the sponsor of the proposal, and (2) a vote of ninety percent of all Members of the Rules Committee present and voting for consideration.

Rule 4(c). To be considered adopted by the Assembly, a proposal must receive (1) a two-thirds vote of all Members present and voting, or (2) a majority of each party present and voting.

Rule 4(d). Motions to amend a proposal will be referred to the Rules Committee.

Rule 5 – Rules Committee.

Rule 5(a). There shall be a Rules Committee consisting of ten Members of the Assembly appointed by the Steering Committee. The Rules Committee shall consist of an equal number of Members affiliated with the Republican Party and the Democratic Party.

Rule 5(b). The Rules Committee shall consider all proposals submitted by Members for consideration by the Assembly pursuant to Rule 4(a) and recommend to the Assembly for consideration those proposals determined by the Rules Committee to be appropriate for consideration by the Assembly.

Rule 5(c). To be recommended for consideration by the Assembly, a proposal must receive a 3/5 vote of all Members of each political party of the Rules Committee present and voting.

Rule 5(d). A proposal submitted pursuant to Rule 4(a) not otherwise recommended by the Rules Committee for consideration by the Assembly may be taken up by the Assembly by a vote of eighty percent of all Members present and voting.

Rule 5(e). The Rules Committee shall have the power to report proposals to the Assembly for consideration after amendment or stylistic reformatting by the Rules Committee.

Rule 5(f). After consideration of all proposals offered by Members, the Rules Committee may present a consent agenda to the Assembly for adoption.

Rule 6 – Floor procedures.

Rule 6(a). Rules and procedures shall be adopted by the full Assembly.

Rule 6(b). A quorum shall be established of at least 25 states represented.

Rule 6(c). All questions of procedure not otherwise addressed by these rules shall be decided according to the current edition of Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure

Rule 6(d). The Rules Committee may modify these rules at any time to address circumstances and situations arising in connection with the business or conduct of the Assembly.