

2015 HOUSE COMMERCE COMMITTEE RULES

1. The Chair shall determine the committee agenda, including scheduling and the order of business. No bill or resolution shall be taken up for a committee vote unless announced by the Chair.
2. Cellular phones and other electronic devices must be silenced while in committee.
3. 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.
4. Committee members shall not address conferees until and unless the Chair grants permission.
5. 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.
6. No conferee shall be interrupted during the presentation of their testimony, except with the permission of the Chair.
7. 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.
8. Committee members shall not be approached during a committee hearing or deliberations by anyone other than fellow legislative members or legislative staff.
9. Amendments to motions are not in order except upon consent of the member making the motion and his or her second. An amendment to a bill must be “germane” to the area of law that is being proposed or changed. Original motions shall be in order when a bill is pending for consideration. 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.
10. 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 of those present and is, unless otherwise determined by the Chair, non-debatable. A motion to reconsider a previous successful motion shall only be made by a member voting on the prevailing side of the original motion. A simple majority vote of members present shall be required to reconsider a previous successful motion.
11. A request from any member that their vote be recorded shall be granted.
12. The Chair reserves the right to take such action as may be necessary to prevent disruptive behavior in the committee room during hearings and deliberation.
13. Adjournment is reserved to the Chair.
14. There shall be no recording, audibly, photographically or otherwise, of committee voting except by the committee secretary. A request from any member that their own vote be recorded shall be granted.
15. All bill amendments shall be prepared by the revisor in advance of being offered for consideration unless allowed by the Chair.
16. All powers, duties and responsibilities not addressed herein are reserved to the Chair.

2015 GUIDELINES FOR CONFEREES APPEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMERCE COMMITTEE

1. Cell phones and pagers with audible tones must be turned off or disabled while in the committee room.
2. Individuals wishing to appear and provide verbal testimony before the committee should notify the committee assistant at 785-296-7488 or at linda.herrick@house.ks.gov at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing.
3. Testimony must be provided electronically in pdf format to the committee assistant at linda.herrick@house.ks.gov along with 30 hard copies of the testimony by 1:30 p.m. the day prior to the meeting.
4. Conferees should not read their testimony. Rather, testimony should be presented in summary fashion. Conferees should introduce themselves, identify on whose behalf they appear, identify whether they appear as a proponent, opponent, or neutral party and should, as briefly as possible, state the reason(s) for their position.
5. If suggestions for the amendment(s) are to be offered, a proposed draft of the amendment(s) must be provided to the staff.
6. When the conferee is, or represents, the sponsor of the measure under consideration, the conferee should be prepared to brief the committee on the specific provisions of the legislation, section by section when necessary.
7. Testimony shall relate to the subject matter of the measure under consideration. Conferees testifying on unrelated subjects will be admonished and if unrelated testimony persists, the Chair may terminate the conferee's testimony.
8. The Chair reserves the right to take such action as may be necessary to prevent disruptive behavior in the committee room during hearings and deliberations.
9. There shall be no recording, audibly, or photographically of the meeting without permission of the Chair.
10. Conferees attending from out-of-town, upon request of the Chair, may provide testimony first.
11. Every attempt shall be made to schedule working bills within 24 hours of being heard, with exceptions to the policy on determination of the Chair.