



## **Legislative & Rules Committee – Board of Representatives**

Benjamin Lee, Chair

Elise Coleman, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Monday, April 27, 2020

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** **Held by Webinar**

The Legislative & Rules Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Lee, Vice Chair Coleman and Committee Member Reps. Florio, Jacobson, Lion and Zelinsky. Excused were Reps. Fedeli, Miller and Nabel. Also present were Reps. Morson, Sherwood and Stella.

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Invitee(s) or Designees</b>
1. <a href="#">LR30.094</a>	APPROVAL; Amendment of the Rules of the Board to delete Section II.A.5 and replace it with proposed Section II.A.6 re: Temporary Chair in the Absence of the President. 03/26/20 – Submitted by President Quinones and Rep. Lee. 03/30/20 – Approved by Committee 6-0-1 04/06/20 – Held by Full Board	<b>APPROVED, AS AMENDED, 4-2-0</b>

Committee members discussed the proposed amendments to the Rules of the Board.

- Rep. Sherwood explained that the goal of her amendment is to change the language of the rules as little as possible.
- The current language does not address who acts as temporary chair to call the meeting to order if the President is absent
- Rep. McMullen's proposal is to have the Clerk call the meeting and then go to the person with the longest record of service
- The current language is consistent with the current elected positions on the Board. Robert's Rules has the Clerk act as Temporary Chair; no party should usurp that role; the Caucus can appoint an acting majority or minority leader if necessary
- Rep. McMullen's proposal to rely on length of service is cumbersome
- The order should begin with someone elected by the entire Board
- The Board needs a system in place so that it does not get bogged down in procedural issues

A motion to amend the proposed change in the rules to adopt Rep. Sherwood's suggested language was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4-2-0 (Reps. Lee, Coleman, Florio, and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Jacobson and Lion opposed).

A motion to approved the proposed rule change, as amended, was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 4-2-0 (Reps. Lee, Coleman, Florio, and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Jacobson and Lion opposed).

2. [LR30.096](#) APPROVAL; Amendment of the Rules of the Board to **FAILED 2-4-0**  
Prohibit Other Meetings the Night of the Regular Board  
of Representatives Meeting.  
04/08/20 – Submitted by Reps. Stella and Pratt

Committee Members discussed the proposed amendment:

- Members should not have to choosed between attending caucus or a meeting on the night of the Board meeting
- Having meetings on the night of the Board meeting does not give members time to consider items
- This takes the decision away from committee members and chairs and puts its on party leaders who weren't at the meeting
- Last month's Land Use meeting was an aberration
- This is a good idea, but there are other ways to address, such as refusing to vote for things that are taken up too late
- It is more convenient to meet on the night of the Board meeting if a committee needs to meet a second time
- It might be possible to take up items remotely in the future

A motion to approved the proposed rule change was made, seconded and failed by a vote of 2-4-0 (Reps. Lee and Zelinsky in favor; Reps. Coleman, Florio, Jacobson and Lion opposed).

Chair Lee adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Benjamin Lee, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).