

11.3—All proposed actions touching the Rules and Order of Business in the Senate shall be first referred to the Committee on Rules and Calendar, which shall report as soon as practicable thereafter. Consideration of such a report shall always be in order. The Committee on Rules and Calendar may originate reports and resolutions dealing with these Rules and the Order of Business, and such power shall be exclusive.

Changes in
rules

11.4—Unless otherwise indicated by these Rules, all action by the Senate shall be by majority vote of those Senators present.

Majority action

11.5—Whenever in these Rules reference is made to “two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of those present”, “two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote”, “two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the Senate”, “two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of those voting”, etc., these shall all be construed to mean two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of those Senators present, except that two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the Senate shall be required to consider additional proposed legislation in any extended session in accordance with Article III, section 3, of the Constitution.

Uniform
construction

11.6—When used in these Rules, the following words shall, unless the text otherwise indicates, have the following respective meaning:
(a) The singular always includes the plural. (b) The masculine always includes the feminine.

General

Rule Twelve

EXECUTIVE SESSION

12.1—The business of the Senate shall be transacted openly and not in executive session except under conditions pursuant to Article III, section 4(b) of the Constitution of Florida.

12.2—Pursuant to Article III, section 4(b), of the Constitution of Florida, the Senate may resolve itself into Executive Session for the sole purpose of considering appointment, removal, or suspension during which no one shall be in attendance except Senators and the Secretary

of the Senate, who shall be sworn not to disclose any executive business without consent of the Senate.

12.3—(a) Except as otherwise herein provided, upon receipt by the Senate of appointments, removals, or suspensions upon which the consent of the Senate is required, the President shall refer each to an appropriate select committee whose charge it shall be to make inquiry or investigation and advise the President and the Senate as to its recommendation concerning the subject referred and as to the necessity for deliberating such subject in executive session. Reports and findings of select committees appointed pursuant hereto are advisory only and shall be made in executive session.

(b) An executive suspension of a public official who is under indictment or who has pending against him criminal charges filed by the appropriate prosecuting officer in a court of record shall not be referred to a select committee nor considered by the Senate until the pending charges have been dismissed or until final determination of the charges at the trial court level.

12.4—When the Senate agrees, by a majority of Senators present in executive session, that specified appointments, removals, or suspensions shall be considered in open session, such shall be accordingly calendared for formal consideration by the Senate.

12.5—All information and remarks including committee work product concerning the character and qualification together with the vote on each appointment, removal, or suspension considered in executive session shall be kept a secret except so much thereof upon which the bans of secrecy shall have been specifically lifted by the Senate while in executive session.

12.6—A separate Journal shall be kept of executive proceedings of the Senate, and no information regarding same shall be made public except by order of the Senate or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

12.7—Violation of the above Rule as to the secrecy of the proceedings of executive sessions shall be considered by the Senate as sufficient grounds for the unseating of the offending Senator.