

and employees of the Senate in the performance of their duties, and persons charged with messages or papers to the Senate. A special section of the gallery shall be reserved for members of the families of Senators. Also entitled to admission are the Governor or one (1) representative designated by him, the Lieutenant Governor, Cabinet officers, former governors, present and former United States Senators, members or former members of the House of Representatives of the United States and of this State, Justices of the Supreme Court, former State Senators of Florida, and persons by invitation of the President.

10.2—None of the persons entitled to admission shall be admitted if registered pursuant to Rule 9, nor shall such person engage in any activity for or against any bill, motion, or other proceeding upon the floor of the Senate while in session.

10.3—Representatives of the press and of radio and television stations, in performance of their duties, shall be assigned to a press section specifically set aside for them and shall not be allowed on the Senate floor while the Senate is in daily session, except with the approval of the President. All male persons on the main floor of the Senate and in the gallery (with the exception of visitors in that portion of the gallery set aside for the general public) shall wear coats and ties at all times while the Senate is in session.

10.4—No person shall be introduced unless he is escorted to the rostrum with concurrence of the Senate. This rule shall not apply to the first day of each regular session.

## Rule Eleven

### CONSTRUCTION AND WAIVER OF RULES

11.1—It shall be the duty of the President, or the presiding officer for the time being, to interpret all rules. Motions for the previous question and to lay upon the table shall not be entertained.

11.2—These Rules shall not be waived or suspended except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all Senators present, which motion, when made, shall be decided without debate. A motion to waive a rule requiring unanimous consent of the Senate shall be construed to be an amendment to these Rules and shall be referred to the Committee on Rules, Calendar, Privileged Business and Ethics except by unanimous consent of those present.

Waiver and suspension of rules

11.3—All proposed actions touching the Rules and Order of Business in the Senate shall be first referred to the Committee on Rules, Calendar, Privileged Business and Ethics, which shall report as soon as practicable thereafter. Consideration of such a report shall always be in order. The Committee on Rules, Calendar, Privileged Business and Ethics may originate reports and resolutions dealing with these Rules and the Order of Business, and such power shall be exclusive, provided, however, that any report made pursuant to this Rule may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present.

Changes in rules

*(Amended December 7, 1971, Page 30, Senate Journal)*

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 (2/3) of those present”, “two-thirds (2/3) vote”, “two-thirds (2/3) of the Senate”, “two-thirds (2/3) of those voting”, etc., these shall all be construed to mean two-thirds (2/3) of those Senators present, except that two-thirds (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 in-

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cludes the plural. (b) The masculine always includes the feminine.

## 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 be referred to a select committee but shall be held in suspense by such committee and shall not be considered by the Senate until the pending charges have been dismissed or until final determination of the charges at the trial court level.