

**Section 5. Preservation of Order and Decorum** — The speaker shall preserve order and decorum. In case of disturbance or disorderly conduct in the galleries or in the lobby, the speaker may order that these areas be cleared. No signs, placards, or other objects of similar nature shall be permitted in the rooms, lobby, gallery, and hall of the house. The speaker shall see that the members of the house conduct themselves in a civil manner in accordance with accepted standards of parliamentary conduct and may, when necessary, order the sergeant-at-arms to clear the aisles and seat the members of the house so that business may be conducted in an orderly manner.

**Section 6. Recognition of Gallery Visitors** — On written request of a member, the speaker may recognize persons in the gallery. The speaker shall afford that recognition at a convenient place in the order of business, considering the need for order and decorum and the need for continuity of debate. The request must be made on a form prescribed by the Committee on House Administration. The speaker may recognize, at a time he or she considers appropriate during floor proceedings, the person serving as physician of the day.

**Section 7. Stating and Voting on Questions** — The speaker shall rise to put a question but may state it sitting. The question shall be put substantially in this form: “The question occurs on \_\_\_\_” (here state the question or proposition under consideration). “All in favor say ‘Aye,’” and after the affirmative vote is expressed, “All opposed say ‘No.’” If the speaker is in doubt as to the result, or if a division is called for, the house shall divide: those voting in the affirmative on the question shall register “Aye” on the voting machine, and those voting in the negative on the question shall register “No.” The decision of the house on the question shall be printed in the journal and shall include the yeas and nays if a record of the yeas and nays is ordered in accordance with the rules.

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

1. Technically, under the above section, a call for a division is eligible only after a viva voce vote, the basic voting form prescribed by the rules. Sometimes members will start calling for a division even before the question is put. Most of the time the chair acquiesces, and the division votes are taken directly on the voting machine. However, the above section is clear, and nothing could prevent the chair from listening first to a viva voce vote and announcing the result unless a division is called for before the result is announced, in which case it must be granted.

2. See Rule 5, Sec. 40, concerning voting on the machine.

**Section 8. Voting Rights of the Presiding Officer** — The speaker shall have the same right as other members to vote. If the speaker, or a member temporarily presiding, has not voted, he or she may cast the deciding vote at the time such opportunity becomes official, whether to make or break a tie. If a verification of the vote is called for and granted, the decision of the speaker, or a member temporarily presiding, to cast the deciding vote need not be made until the verification has been completed. In case of error in a vote,