Assembly Resolution No. 87

BY: M. of A. Peoples-Stokes

AMENDING subdivision a of section 6 of Rule III of the Assembly rules, in relation to the amendment of bills; amending subdivision b of section 5 of Rule IV of the Assembly rules, in relation to requests of a standing committee to formally vote upon a bill; amending subdivision b of section 1 of Rule V of the Assembly rules, in relation to extending the bar of the house during a state of emergency; amending subdivision c of section 2 of Rule V of the Assembly rules, in relation to voting on the final passage of a bill or any other question before the house

RESOLVED, That subdivision a of Section 6 of Rule III of the Assembly Rules is amended to read as follows:

a. [No amendment] **Amendments** to a bill [may] **shall** be [offered unless] **made by** the member proposing the amendment [delivers three copies of the bill with the proposed amendment correctly marked thereon and six copies of the detailed description of such amendment to] **in the form prescribed by** the Clerk of the Assembly **and delivered to the Index Clerk**.

RESOLVED, That subdivision b of Section 5 of Rule IV of the Assembly Rules is amended to read as follows:

b. The sponsor of a bill referred to a standing committee may require the committee to formally vote upon such bill by filing a request therefor on an appropriate written or electronic form to be furnished by the Office of Journal Operations. With respect to such request for consideration:

(1) The clerk of each standing committee, upon receiving such a request must immediately issue a receipt therefor acknowledging the date and time of filing;

(2) Requests for consideration may be submitted on bills that are printed, as follows:

(a) no later than the [last] **second** Tuesday in [March] **April** of [the second] **each session** year [of the term of the Assembly, except that after the last Tuesday in March of such second year through the third Tuesday in April each member may submit a total of five additional requests for consideration with a committee of original jurisdiction, and a copy of such additional request shall be filed by the Committee Clerk with the Committee on Standing Committees] **each member may file up to four requests**. Committees having original jurisdiction over bills upon which a request for consideration has been filed shall schedule all such bills for committee consideration by the first Tuesday in May of [the second] **each session** year [of the term of the Assembly]; and

(b) in the case of a bill that is referred to a [subsequent] standing

committee **having secondary reference**, such request shall be [submitted] **considered** within thirty days after such referral;

(3) Except with respect to bills referred to a standing committee pursuant to the provisions of item (iii) of subparagraph two of paragraph f of section two of Rule III, requests for consideration of any bill introduced by or at the request of a member may be made only once in any two-year term of the Assembly;

(4) Once a committee has acted pursuant to such request, such committee shall not be required, during such two-year term, to again consider such bill or to consider any substantially duplicative bill introduced by, or at the request of such member subsequent to the consideration of such bill by the committee; and

(5) With respect to a bill sponsored by the Committee on Rules at the request of a member, either the Committee or the member at whose request the bill has been introduced may file a request for consideration.

[(6) In addition to the foregoing provisions of this section, sponsors may file requests for committee consideration for up to five individual bills in the first year of the two year term as follows:
(a) no later than the second Tuesday in April of the first year of the term of the Assembly, each member may submit a total of five bill requests for consideration with a committee of original jurisdiction, provided, however, that no member shall submit more than one of these five bill requests with the same standing committee, and a copy of such request shall be filed by the Committee Clerk with the Committee on Standing Committees. Committees having original jurisdiction over bills upon which a request for consideration has been filed shall schedule all such bills for committee consideration by the first Tuesday in May of the first year of the term of the Assembly; and
(b) in the case of a bill that is referred to a subsequent standing committee, such request shall be submitted within thirty days after such referral.]

RESOLVED, That subdivision b of Section 1 of Rule V of the Assembly Rules is amended to read as follows:

b. The bar of the House shall be deemed to include the entire Assembly Chamber and lobbies contiguous thereto as designated by the Speaker. **During a state of emergency, if authorized by law, the bar of the House may be extended, at the discretion of the Speaker, to allow for members to be in attendance in any proceeding of the House by remote means including teleconference and videoconference and such members shall be continuously recorded in attendance by the Clerk of the Assembly. Any member deemed to be present remotely during a state of emergency, if authorized by law, may submit requests for recognition to the presiding officer by electronic means for participation in proceedings and no technical failure on the part of an individual member or a group of members that breaks their remote connection to the proceedings shall invalidate any action taken by the majority of the Assembly.**

RESOLVED, That subdivision c of Section 2 of Rule V of the Assembly Rules is amended to read as follows:

c. In the event a slow roll call is not [required] **requested** pursuant to subdivision b, the yeas and nays **on the final passage of a bill or any other question before the House** shall be taken by a fast roll call and a member desiring to vote in the negative on such a roll call shall

do so by entering a negative vote through the electronic voting system or in such other manner as may be prescribed by the Speaker. All other members shall be recorded in the affirmative. [On such a roll call the Clerk of the Assembly shall call the names of the members who are recorded in the negative.]