

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

2026

The following procedures have been established to allow for efficiency and due diligence in regard to how the Rules Committee will be conducted and how bills and confirmations will be heard. These procedures may be updated so individuals coming before SRC are encouraged to check them throughout the legislative session.

1. Start time and Subcommittee: SRC begins at 9:00AM unless otherwise announced by the Chair. If a quorum is not present at the start time, SRC will hear the matters on the agenda as a Subcommittee, and official action will be taken once a quorum is present.
2. Lengthy Amendments and Committee Substitutes: To give SRC members and analysts sufficient time to review legislation, bill sponsors shall submit lengthy amendments and proposed committee substitute bills to SRC at least 24 hours in advance of a hearing. Lengthy amendments and proposed committee substitute bills should be emailed to SRC.comml@nmlegis.gov.

Public Comment and Rules for Debate

To best manage the presentation and debate of legislation and conferees, including by remote and video conferencing, the following procedures are adopted for SRC except as otherwise modified.

1. Emailed Public Comments: To ensure everyone has a full opportunity to express an opinion on legislation and conferees under consideration, we have an established SRC mailbox, where written comments of up to 300 words may be emailed in advance of an SRC meeting. Comments should be emailed to SRC.zoom@nmlegis.gov. Committee members will be provided with these comments prior to committee hearings.
2. Sponsor and Proponent Advocacy: Bill sponsors, and their experts or proponents, shall have a total of 15 minutes to present the bill. Sponsors have the option to use their total of 15 minutes as they choose. Sponsors shall organize their presentation with as many experts or speakers as they wish. Sponsors shall identify their speakers and the order of speaking in writing to the SRC Committee Secretary at least 1 hour in advance of the scheduled hearing by sending an email to SRC.zoom@nmlegis.gov.

Persons wishing to speak in support of legislation shall coordinate with the sponsors. The sponsors shall designate those who will speak and shall limit or interrupt their own speakers as necessary to meet time constraints. Sponsors may also reserve any part of their time for a rebuttal after any opposition.

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3. Organized Opposition: SRC recommends opponents of legislation organize and designate a spokesperson to coordinate one or more speakers in opposition. A coordinated opposition shall have up to 10 minutes for opposition with or without experts. The names and order of persons to be recognized for an organized opposition, and any exhibits or proposed amendments, shall be submitted to the SRC Committee Secretary at least 1 hour in advance of the scheduled hearing by sending an email to SRC.zoom@nmlegis.gov.

If no opposition presentation is organized or coordinated behind a designated spokesperson, then up to 10 minutes of opposition may be heard with each speaker limited to 1 minute each. Persons wishing to speak in opposition shall sign-in to do so with the SRC Committee Secretary at least 1 hour before the scheduled committee meeting by emailing SRC.zoom@nmlegis.gov.

4. Additional Comment: Individuals intending to comment on a bill that are not part of organized support by sponsors or organized opposition will be permitted to speak *if time allows*. Those wishing to give additional comment must sign up at least 1 hour in advance of the scheduled hearing with the SRC Committee Secretary or by sending an email to SRC.zoom@nmlegis.gov that includes the individual's name, the matter they wish to speak on, whether they will appear in person or remotely, and whether they wish to speak in support or opposition.

5. Recognition of supporting/opposing organizations: Any organization or lobbyist may ask to have the name of their organization or client associated with either support or opposition to a bill. The sign-in for this input shall be received up to 1 hour before SRC scheduled start time at SRC.zoom@nmlegis.gov. The names of organizations, lobbyists, and their support or opposition will be read during the committee hearing.