
STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

[The 1979 general revision of the rules was accomplished by the adoption of S. Res. 274 on Nov. 14, 1979, a resolution submitted by Mr. Robert C. Byrd for himself and Mr. Baker; the preparation of the proposed revision was pursuant to the adoption of S. Res. 156 on May 10, 1976, a resolution by Mr. Robert C. Byrd; the general revision of the rules set forth in S. Res. 274 was somewhat altered in form by the adoption of S. Res. 389 on Mar. 25, 1980, to consolidate and renumber certain standing rules of the Senate.

[Changes to Senate rules since the last general revision in 1979 are indicated by footnotes in each succeeding edition of the Senate Manual.

[For the origin of various changes in Senate procedure between 1884 and 1979, as set forth in rules changes, adopted resolutions, and Legislative Reorganization Acts, see the table on p. XVI of *Riddick's Senate Procedure*, 1992.]

RULE I

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APPOINTMENT OF A SENATOR TO THE CHAIR

1. In the absence of the Vice President, the Senate shall 1.1
choose a President pro tempore, who shall hold the office
and execute the duties thereof during the pleasure of the
Senate and until another is elected or his term of office
as a Senator expires.

2. In the absence of the Vice President, and pending the 1.2
election of a President pro tempore, the Acting President
pro tempore or the Secretary of the Senate, or in his ab-
sence the Assistant Secretary, shall perform the duties of
the Chair.

3. The President pro tempore shall have the right to 1.3
name in open Senate or, if absent, in writing, a Senator
to perform the duties of the Chair, including the signing
of duly enrolled bills and joint resolutions but such substi-
tution shall not extend beyond an adjournment, except by
unanimous consent; and the Senator so named shall have
the right to name in open session, or, if absent, in writing,
a Senator to perform the duties of the Chair, but not to