

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 729

Amending rule XV of the Standing Rules of the Senate to provide for
consideration of a minimum number of amendments.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 13, 2018

Mr. MERKLEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Rules and Administration

RESOLUTION

Amending rule XV of the Standing Rules of the Senate
to provide for consideration of a minimum number of
amendments.

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. GUARANTEED AMENDMENTS.**

3 Rule XV of the Standing Rules of the Senate is
4 amended by adding at the end the following:

5 “6.(a) During the consideration of any bill, resolu-
6 tion, or other amendable matter, it shall be in order for
7 the Senate to consider not less than 5 amendments offered
8 by members of the majority and not less than 5 amend-
9 ments offered by members of the minority. If a motion
10 to invoke cloture under the provisions of rule XXII is pre-

1 sented to the Senate, and fewer than the 5 amendments
2 guaranteed to each of the minority and the majority under
3 this paragraph have been considered, then, notwith-
4 standing the status of any pending amendments, it shall
5 be in order for as many members of the majority as appro-
6 priate, and as many members of the minority as appro-
7 priate, to offer 1 amendment each, in alternating order,
8 until in total 5 amendments offered by members of the
9 majority and 5 amendments offered by members of the
10 minority have been considered.

11 “(b) Amendments offered under this paragraph may
12 only pertain to matter encompassed by the title of the bill,
13 resolution, or other matter, except that 1 amendment of-
14 fered by a member of the majority and 1 amendment of-
15 fered by a member of the minority may be exempted from
16 this requirement. An amendment exempted from this re-
17 quirement shall only be agreed to upon an affirmative vote
18 of three-fifths of Senators duly chosen and sworn.

19 “(c) The majority leader and minority leader may,
20 by mutual agreement, call up additional amendments
21 under the provisions of this paragraph. Such additional
22 amendments shall be offered in equal number by members
23 of the majority and members of the minority, and may
24 only pertain to subject matter encompassed by the title
25 of the bill, resolution, or other matter.

1 “(d) Consideration by the Senate of an amendment
2 offered under the provisions of this paragraph shall be lim-
3 ited to not more than 2 hours, divided equally between
4 the majority and the minority.”.

