



YOUTH LEADERSHIP ASSOCIATION

YOUTH GOVERNMENT FLOOR PROCEDURES

BEFORE EACH SESSION

Clerk picks up Calendar from Bill Coordinator

1st Floor Session:

1. Review Floor Procedures (15-19 in Bill Book)
2. Practice with a provided Practice Bill
3. Then, proceed with the first Bill in the Calendar

PRESIDING OFFICER CALLS TO ORDER

1. Gavel and state "By the authority invested in me, I declare this House (Senate) in session"
2. Call upon the Chaplain to deliver his/her message
3. Call upon the Clerk to read the order of the day

READING OF THE BILL

1. Presiding Officer: "We are now ready for the third reading of the Bill."
2. Clerk reads the number, author, title, full text of the bill, and approved amendments
3. "The question is shall this Bill pass?"
4. Call upon the authors to give their opening statements and minority/majority reports

QUESTIONS AND DEBATE

The Presiding Officer begins, "The question is shall this bill pass? Is there a speech in favor or opposition?" Delegates may ask if the authors yield to a question. Delegates should address the Presiding Officer when speaking.

AMENDMENTS

Amendments on the Floor are allowed. Members wanting to amend the Bill currently on the floor must obtain and amendment form to write their amendment on and send it to the Clerk. It is then the members' responsibility to seek recognition from the Presiding Officer once the amendment has reached the Clerk's desk. Only then can any action be taken on the amendment. Once the member is recognized by the Presiding Officer and the Clerk reads the amendment from this time on until a vote is taken on the amendment, all remarks and questions are directed to the amendment and the amendment authors, not the Bill as a whole. Following the vote, the debate returns to the Bill.

AFTER QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

Presiding Officer is responsible to manage the time for the consideration of each Bill. Try to limit question to 3 per Bill. After you feel the Bill has been debated sufficiently then move on to the Authors closing statements.

HOLD A VOTE

1. Presiding officer will then say, "The question is, shall the Bill pass?" All those in favor of the Bill, please stand." A count is made recorded by the Clerk.
2. The Presiding Officer then says, "Those opposed to passage of the Bill, please stand." Again, a count is recorded.
3. If the majority favors the Bill, the Presiding Officer says, "I declare this Bill passes." If the majority is opposed, the Presiding Officer says, "I declare this Bill failed of passage."

AFTER VOTE IS TAKEN

1. After a Bill is declared passed, the Clerk will read the Bill by number and title in the event any changed should be made to the title. The Presiding Officer will then say, "Without Objection, the title is agreed to." The Presiding Officer then moves on to the next order of business.
2. Once a Bill is declared passed the Clerk is to fill out the Bill Disposition Record, sign it, and have the Presiding Officer also sign. At the end of the Floor Session the Clerk takes the "Calendar" folder back to the Bill.