

**Bill No. 2122-49**

**An Act to Amend the WSBA Meeting Procedural Rules of Order  
and to Adopt Robert's Rules of Order**

*Author(s): Nicholas Smith, WSBA Vice President; Gabby Altendor, At-Large Representative*

*Sponsor(s): Nicholas Smith, WSBA Vice President; Gabby Altendor, At-Large Representative*

*Background:*

The Washburn Student Bar Association (WSBA) convenes and operates meetings in accordance with its Meeting Procedural Rules of Order. In March of 2021, the WSBA adopted a Meeting Procedural Rules of Order based upon *The Modern Rules of Order* 5th ed. By Donald A. Tortorice. Prior to this change in 2021, WSBA utilized Robert's Rules of Order, like over 80 percent of organizations in the United States. However, *The Modern Rules of Order* by Tortorice are extremely inaccessible to WSBA officials and normal student members. Such currently adopted rules are not in the public domain and may only be obtained by purchasing the rules or locating the rules in a public library. To provide greater access and transparency to the procedural rules of WSBA, amending the WSBA Meeting Procedural Rules of Order to adopt Robert's Rules of Order is necessary and appropriate.

*Legislative Notes:*

This bill seeks to amend the WSBA Meeting Procedural Rules of Order and to adopt Robert's Rules of Order.

Presented to the Governing Body of the Washburn Student Bar Association on March 4, 2022, with a vote of:

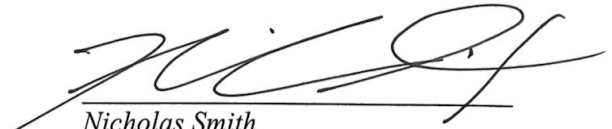
Ayes: 12

Nays: 2

Abstentions: 1



*Audriana Berry Dunn*  
WSBA President



*Nicholas Smith*  
WSBA Vice President

# **An Act to Amend the WSBA Meeting Procedural Rules of Order and to Adopt Robert's Rules of Order**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE  
WASHBURN STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION

*Author(s): Nicholas Smith, WSBA Vice President; Gabby Altendor, At-Large Representative*

*Sponsor(s): Nicholas Smith, WSBA Vice President; Gabby Altendor, At-Large Representative*

## AN ACT

**Section 1.** The Washburn Student Bar Association shall hereby amend its WSBA Meeting Procedural Rules of Order in accordance and conformity with the amendments made in the Appendix, where language in red or in strikethrough is deleted and language in green or underlined is added.

**Section 2.** As written in the Appendix, the WSBA shall hereby adopt Robert's Rules of Order as its official Meeting Procedural Rules of Order where its existing WSBA Meeting Procedural Rules of Order, as amended, is silent or ambiguous.

**Section 3.** Any WSBA policy, procedure, rule, or regulation, in whole or in part, in conflict with this Act shall be hereby repealed.

**Section 4.** This Act shall become effective immediately upon passage.

# APPENDIX

## WSBA Meeting Procedural Rules of Order

### Foundational Rules

1. Where these procedural rules of order are silent, the WSBA shall use the procedural rules of order as outlined in the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order.
2. The President, or the party acting on the President's behalf, shall preside over all Governing Body meetings as Chair has the duty and authority to conduct meetings including procedural decision-making.
3. The President, or the party acting on the President's behalf, shall have decision-making authority over meeting procedure.
4. All appeals of the President's Pprocedural challenges decisions must be appealed to go through the Parliamentarian.
5. Any discretionary decisions by the President shall only be overruled by a two-thirds majority vote of the Governing Body.
6. These rules of order shall also apply to WSBA Committees. Committee Chairs shall have the same authority given to the President when presiding over committee meetings.

### Meeting Specifics

#### Call to Order

The President shall call the meeting to order.

#### Roll Call

The President, or a designated officer, shall take attendance of all Council members present at the start of the meeting. The Secretary shall conduct the roll call of any roll call motion.

#### Acceptance of the Preceding Meeting Minutes

1. ~~The President shall ask for a motion, second, and vote on acceptance of the preceding meeting minutes as presented to the Council.~~
2. ~~If a Council member believes the meeting minutes to be incorrect, they should address the needed correction prior to the meeting so the President can bring the proposed correction up to the Council for discussion prior to the vote on acceptance of the meeting minutes.~~

#### Reports

The President has the discretion to allow for, or require, verbal, or written reports, from the elected members of the Council and Chairs of WSBA Committees based on time considerations, relevance of reportable activities, length of agenda, and any other relevant factors.

#### Old Business and New Business

1. ~~The President shall open the floor for discussion following any necessary explanation of agenda items.~~
2. The President retains discretion over the allotted time and number of speakers on the agenda item. Reasonable time at the discretion of the President will be allowed for Council members to speak on the agenda item being considered.

3. ~~Following a reasonable discussion period, the President may call for a motion requiring a second to be followed by a vote of the voting members of the Council.~~
  - 3.1. ~~No discussion will occur once the motion on the floor has been seconded.~~
  - 3.2. ~~A second is required and a motion will die for lack of a second requiring a new motion.~~

### **Public Comment Forum & Student Concerns**

1. ~~The President shall address any specifically identified matters on the agenda before opening the floor to discussion of student concerns that may be brought by any member of the Council in any orderly fashion and discussed by any member of the Council.~~
2. ~~The President has discretion to determine the general consensus of the Council in order to move forward with a matter being addressed during Public Forum & Student Concerns.~~
  - 2.1. ~~If the President is unable to determine the general consensus of the Council, a formal vote may be called by the President.~~
3. ~~The President retains discretion over the allotted time and number of speakers on any issue brought to the floor.~~

### **Review of New Action Items**

~~The President or designated officer may provide a summary of the meeting prior to adjournment to review next steps and action items initiated during the meeting.~~

### **Announcements**

~~The President shall open the floor to announcements and retains discretion over the allotted time and number of speakers.~~

### **Adjournment**

1. ~~The Presidents may call adjournment of the meeting without a motion or vote if all agenda items have been addressed.~~
2. ~~The President may call for a motion and a second with no vote required to adjourn the meeting if any agenda items have not been addressed but for any reason the meeting cannot continue at that time.~~
3. If all agenda items have not been addressed, a meeting shall only adjourn by motion, with a second, and requires a majority vote.

~~\*Matters of procedure not addressed herein shall be decided based upon The Modern Rules of Order 5<sup>th</sup> ed.\*~~

~~Adopted by Council 03/17/2021~~

~~Revised 03/04/2022~~