

### **PROCEDURE FOR VETO OVERRIDES**

When bills are passed in chambers they go through the Governor's Cabinet. In this process, the Governor has the option to sign or veto a bill. In the event that a bill is vetoed, any delegate may move to make a motion in chambers to override it. The chair will then ask if the bill sponsors second the motion.

#### **What does this mean exactly?**

- Overrides can occur at anytime in any chamber, but there **must be a motion made by a delegate in order to occur.**

When making a motion to override a veto, the sponsors have the opportunity to re-present their bill in chambers and have it automatically passed into law, but according to special procedures.

- Before the bill sponsors present again, the Presiding Officer will ask if there are any cabinet members present thus leading **to a cabinet member** being allotted one minute to deliver an explanation as to why the bill was vetoed.
- In lieu of having four minutes for opening statement and closing summation, the sponsors will only have one minute for an opening with no closing summation.
- Debate is also altered in this matter as well.
  - In this scenario, debate only lasts for the duration of three con statements and two pro statements
  - **No** technical questions can be asked.

#### **How do the chairs tell if the veto stands or is overridden?**

When a veto override occurs, the bill will **need two-thirds (2/3) of the chambers vote to have the veto overridden.**

- In order to determine if the override stands or not, the Presiding Officer will count the total number of the delegates in the chamber and multiply it by two-thirds.
- The number that the Presiding Officer gets after doing that equals the number of votes that are needed for the bill to pass.
- If the votes don't add up or surpass to that number than the override stands and the bill remains vetoed.

#### **What happens in chambers during a veto override?**

**All individuals that are not delegated to that chamber (i.e. Lobbyists, Advisors, Press etc.) will be asked to remove themselves from the floor when time for voting occurs.**

- 1) A designated Cabinet Member will deliver a brief one minute explanation as to why the bill was vetoed. (ex: if the bill topic was under education, the Commissioner of Education would deliver the explanation.)
- 2) After the cabinet member speaks, it is now time for the bill sponsors to give a final opening statement to prove why their bill should pass and will only have one minute to do so.
- 3) Now that opening statements has elapsed, the chamber will then move into a period of con/pro debate, lasting only three cons and two pros.
- 4) When the period for debate has ended, the chamber will move into a period of voting.

At the time of voting, the Presiding Officer will ask all delegates in favor of the bill to stand and will count and record the number of delegates in favor, and will do the same for those who oppose.

- If the veto is overridden the Presiding Officer will announce, "Due to the consensus of the chamber this veto has been overridden." And the bill will be signed.
- If it is not, the Presiding Officer will say, "Due to the consensus of the chamber, this veto stands." And the bill will remain in its vetoed state.

**\*\*All rules that are applied during usual chamber sessions are also applicable during veto overrides.**