

immediately to establish a quorum, although the Speaker has the authority under clause 7 of rule XX to recognize for a call of the House at any time. The question of a quorum is not considered unless properly raised (IV, 2733; VI, 624), and it is not in order for the Speaker to recognize for a point of no quorum unless he has put the pending question or proposition to a vote. While it was formerly the rule that a quorum was necessary for debate as well as business (IV, 2935–2949), under the procedure put in effect in the 95th Congress such is not the case. In the 94th Congress the House by rule restricted the Chair's ability to recognize the absence of a quorum (clause 7 of rule XX).

SEC. VII—CALL OF THE HOUSE

On the call of the House, each person rises up as he is called, and answereth; the absentees are then only noted, but no excuse to be made till the House be fully called over. Then the absentees are called a second time, and if still absent, excuses are to be heard. *Ord. House of Commons, 92.*

They rise that their persons may be recognized; the voice, in such a crowd, being an insufficient verification of their presence. But in so small a body as the Senate of the United States, the trouble of rising cannot be necessary.

Orders for calls on different days may subsist at the same time. *2 Hats., 72.*

Rule XX of the House provides for a procedure on call of the House. Members of the House do not rise on answering, and quorum calls are normally conducted by electronic device (clause 2(a) of rule XX).

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SEC. IX—SPEAKER

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When but one person is proposed, and no objection made, it has not been usual in Parliament to put any question

§ 312. Election of Speaker.