
RULES FOR REGULATION OF THE SENATE
WING OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL
AND SENATE OFFICE BUILDINGS¹

[Adopted by the Committee on Rules and Administration pursuant to
rule XXXIII of the Standing Rules of the Senate]

RULE I

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SERGEANT AT ARMS

The Sergeant at Arms of the Senate, under the direction of the Presiding Officer, shall be the Executive Officer of the body for the enforcement of all rules made by the Committee on Rules and Administration for the regulation of the Senate wing of the Capitol and the Senate Office Buildings. The Senate floor shall be at all times under his immediate supervision, and he shall see that the various subordinate officers of his department perform the duties to which they are especially assigned.

The Sergeant at Arms shall see that the messengers assigned to the doors upon the Senate floor are at their posts and that the floor, cloakrooms, and lobby are cleared at least five minutes before the opening of daily sessions of all persons not entitled to remain there. In the absence of the Sergeant at Arms the duties of his office, so far as they pertain to the enforcement of the rules, shall devolve upon the Deputy Sergeant at Arms.

RULE II

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MAJORITY AND MINORITY SECRETARIES

The secretary for the majority and the secretary for the minority shall be assigned, during the daily sessions of the Senate, to duty upon the Senate floor.

¹Title changed effective June 22, 1998.

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RULE III

USE OF THE SENATE CHAMBER

In order to secure and protect the Senate Chamber and its furniture and furnishings, the language contained in paragraph numbered one of rule XXXIII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, which reads "The Senate Chamber shall not be granted for any other purpose than for the use of the Senate," shall be interpreted to mean that when the Senate is not sitting in session or otherwise using the Chamber for some function of the Senate, no Senator shall seat any person or persons in chairs of Senators others than the chair assigned to him (other persons shall not seat anyone in a chair of a Senator); and lectures, talks, or speeches shall not be given at such times to groups on the floor by Senators or others except for the purpose of explaining the Chamber.

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RULE IV

TAKING OF PICTURES PROHIBITED;¹ USE OF MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT IN CHAMBER

- 123.1 1. The taking of pictures of any kind is prohibited in the Senate Chamber, the Senate Reading Rooms (Marble Room and Lobby), the Senate Cloakrooms, and the Private Dining Room of the Senate.
- 123.2 2. The Sergeant at Arms shall be authorized to admit into the Senate Chamber such mechanical equipment and/or devices which, in the judgment of the Sergeant at Arms, are necessary and proper in the conduct of official Senate business and which by their presence shall not in any way distract, interrupt, or inconvenience the business or Members of the Senate.

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RULE V

MESSENGERS ACTING AS ASSISTANT DOORKEEPERS

The messengers acting as Assistant Doorkeepers shall be assigned to their duties by the Sergeant at Arms.

¹ Paragraph 1 of rule IV has been temporarily suspended on numerous occasions for the taking of official photographs of the Senate in session, and on Dec. 19, 1974, for telecasting the inauguration of Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller. Senate authorization for the telecasting of the New Hampshire contested senatorial election debate was not utilized.