

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE AND HOUSE RULES 321

1 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Senate Rule 321 is amended as follows:

2 **321. VOTE BY MEMBERS.** Every member who is present, before the vote is
3 announced from the chair, shall vote for or against the question before the Senate, unless the
4 Senate excuses the member. If the member has not voted before the key is closed, the
5 member may vote before the vote is announced. A member cannot cast a vote on behalf of
6 another member unless the vote is cast according to verbal instructions announced by that
7 other member while in the chamber. However, any member who has a personal or private
8 interest in any measure or bill shall disclose the fact to the Senate and may not vote thereon
9 without the consent of the Senate. A "personal or private interest" is an interest that affects the
10 member directly, individually, uniquely, and substantially.

11 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** House Rule 321 is amended as follows:

12 **321. VOTE BY MEMBERS.** Every member who is present, before the vote is
13 announced from the chair, shall vote for or against the question before the House, unless the
14 House excuses the member. A member cannot cast a vote on behalf of another member
15 unless the vote is cast according to verbal instructions announced by that other member while
16 in the chamber. However, any member who has a personal or private interest in any measure
17 or bill shall disclose the fact to the House and may not vote thereon without the consent of the
18 House. A "personal or private interest" is an interest that affects the member directly,
19 individually, uniquely, and substantially.

NOTE: These rules require every member who is present to vote, but a question has arisen as to whether someone else can vote for that member if the member is not at the member's desk and is not in front of the rail. Presumably, the member is physically behind the rail, in a leader's office, or in another room behind the chamber. Under Senate and House Rules 102, a member must be physically present in the chamber.