

BY: Senators Jennings and Hershey

AMENDMENT TO SENATE RULE 17

ORDERED by the Senate of Maryland, that Senate Rule 17, as adopted by the Senate for the 2019 Session be, and it is hereby, repealed and readopted, with amendments, to read as follows:

“17.

(a) Except as provided in Rule 18, all committees shall be established by the President, unless otherwise specially directed by the Senate.

(b) The President shall designate a chairman and a vice-chairman for each committee appointed pursuant to this Rule.

(c) After consultation with the President, the minority leader shall recommend minority party Members for appointment to each standing committee. After due consideration of the minority leader’s recommendations, the President shall appoint Members to each standing committee in a manner that reflects the diversity of the Senate, including but not limited to political party affiliation.

(D) THE MEMBERSHIP OF ALL STANDING COMMITTEES SHALL BE APPOINTED AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH REGULAR SESSION AND SHALL CONTINUE UNTIL THE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING REGULAR SESSION, EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF A VACANCY IN THE SENATE.

[[d)] **(E)** The President may appoint a ranking Member of the majority party and the Minority Leader may appoint a ranking Member of the minority party to each standing committee.

(Over)

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[(e)] (F) The vice-chairman shall act in the place of the chairman during the latter's absence.”.