

RULES OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA HOUSE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

November 16, 2022

1. All decisions of the House Republican Caucus (hereafter “Caucus”) shall be determined by a majority of the Caucus, unless otherwise stated herein.
2. The Caucus shall hold an Organizational Meeting to be held no later than December of each even-numbered year. The meeting shall be held in Columbia, South Carolina, at a time and place to be determined by the then-serving Caucus Leader. The Organizational Meeting shall coincide with the SC House of Representatives’ regularly scheduled Organizational Session.
3. At the Organizational Meeting the Caucus shall elect the following officers: Caucus Leader and Assistant Caucus Leader. All elections of the Caucus officers shall be determined by a secret ballot. Caucus officers are limited no more than two consecutive terms in the same elected officer; however, a Caucus member may be elected to an office in which the member previously served if there has been an intervening break in their service in the position. Caucus officers’ term of office shall begin the day of their election to the office and continues until the election of their successor to the office. If a vacancy occurs in a Caucus office due to resignation, death, or incapacity to perform office duties, the Caucus Leader shall call a Caucus meeting to be held in Columbia, South Carolina, to elect a new Caucus member to fill the vacated office. The caucus Leader shall give at least two weeks notice to all Caucus members prior to the date scheduled for such a meeting. In the event of vacancy in the office of Caucus Leader, the Assistant Caucus Leader shall call a meeting of the Caucus to fill the vacated office within 30 days. In the absence of both, the Senior Member of the Caucus shall call a meeting of the Caucus to fill both offices.
4. The Caucus Leader shall preside at all regularly scheduled Caucus meetings and is responsible for maintaining decorum in the meetings. In the absence of the Caucus Leader, the Assistant Caucus Leader shall preside. In the absence of both, a member of the Caucus chosen by the Leader shall preside.
5. The Assistant Caucus Leader shall be responsible for reviewing the financial records and providing periodic reports of the financial condition of the Caucus to the membership at least on an annual basis, and assisting the Caucus Leader with any duties as assigned by the Leader.

6. The Executive Committee of the Caucus shall constitute the Caucus' managing authority and is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Caucus. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Caucus Leader, the Assistant Caucus Leader, the Republican Speaker of the House, the Republican Speaker *Pro Tempore*, the, the Chief Whip, and any other Caucus members as may be appointed by the Caucus leader.
7. The Caucus Leader will be responsible for authorization of expenditures of Caucus funds.
8. The Caucus Leader shall appoint Caucus members to serve as Caucus Whips (hereafter "Whips") and shall appoint a member(s) to serve as Chief Whip(s).
9. The Caucus Leader shall appoint other committees of the Caucus as the Leader deems appropriate.
10. Attendance and participation at meetings of Caucus Committees shall be restricted to committee members in good standing only unless a Caucus member or guest is invited by the chairman of the committee or Caucus Leader.
11. In order to remain in good standing, each member shall provide a signed copy of these rules to the Caucus Leader before the first Caucus meeting of each Session, and shall pay annual Caucus Dues of \$500, unless such member is a "Lifetime Member", no later than March 1. Lifetime Member is achieved by a \$5000 contribution. Members who are not in good standing may be restricted from participating in Caucus activities and events as determined by the Caucus Leader.
12. Funds raised and expended by the Caucus shall only be used for operations in support of current Caucus members' duties to the House of Representatives and to elect and re-elect Republicans to the South Carolina House of Representatives.
13. The House Republican Caucus Rules (hereafter "Rules") as provided herein shall be the Rules from the date of their adoption until the adjournment of the next Organizational Meeting of the Caucus to be held during the month of December in even-numbered years. The Caucus shall adopt Rules governing its operation, organization, and governance at the next Organizational Meeting of the Caucus. The Rules shall be approved by a majority of the Caucus present at the Organizational Meeting. In the event Rules are not approved at the Organizational Meeting, the authority of the existing Rules shall continue.

14. Except as specified in Rule 13, the Caucus shall not adopt any amendment, revision, or change to the Rules at a regularly scheduled meeting unless such amendment, revision, or change is approved by a two-thirds vote of the Caucus membership present and voting. Provided, no amendment, revision, or change may be proposed at a regularly scheduled meeting unless the meeting is held in Columbia, South Carolina and called by the Caucus Leader with at least two weeks notice to Caucus members prior to the date of the meeting.

15. In order to encourage and foster candid, open and frank communications, and discourse between and among members, all discussions and communications between and among members during any Caucus meeting or event shall be strictly confidential and shall not be disclosed or divulged to third parties in any way or method whatsoever. In furtherance of this strict confidentiality rule, each member shall be required to acknowledge and certify his/her receipt, review and agreement to adhere, abide by and comply with the Caucus rules specifically, including strict confidentiality.

16. Members shall treat all Caucus members in a respectful manner with proper decorum at caucus meetings and events. No member of the Caucus shall engage in campaign activities of any kind against any other Caucus member in good standing.

17. In the event of a breach of the Confidentiality or Decorum rules, the member violating the rule may be subject to disciplinary action by the Caucus including but not limited to expulsion from the Caucus as determined by a vote of 2/3rds of the remaining members of the Caucus following 5 days' notice from the Caucus Leader or Executive Committee. In the event of expulsion, Caucus dues shall not be refunded to the expelled member. An expelled member may, by a vote of 2/3rds of the Caucus, seek to be readmitted to the Caucus at a subsequent General Assembly.

I hereby acknowledge my receipt, review and understanding of the Rules of the South Carolina House Republican Caucus dated November 16, 2022 specifically including but not limited to the rules on Confidentiality and Decorum and agree to adhere, abide by and comply with the same.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____