

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 19

To require that a descriptive summary of each provision of any legislative matter be available 72 hours before consideration by any subcommittee or committee of the Senate or on the floor of the Senate.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 25 (legislative day, JANUARY 5), 2011

Mr. ENSIGN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

RESOLUTION

To require that a descriptive summary of each provision of any legislative matter be available 72 hours before consideration by any subcommittee or committee of the Senate or on the floor of the Senate.

1 *Resolved,*

2 **SECTION 1. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF A DESCRIPTIVE SUM-**
3 **MARY OF EACH PROVISION OF LEGISLATION.**

4 (a) COMMITTEES.—Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules
5 of the Senate is amended by inserting at the end thereof
6 the following:

7 “14. (a) It shall not be in order in a subcommittee
8 or committee to proceed to any legislative matter unless

1 the legislative matter and a descriptive summary of each
2 provision of the legislative matter has been publically
3 available on the Internet as provided in subparagraph (b)
4 in searchable form 72 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sun-
5 days and holidays except when the Senate is in session
6 on such a day) prior to proceeding.

7 “(b) With respect to the requirements of subpara-
8 graph (a), the legislative matter and descriptive summary
9 of each provision shall be available on the official website
10 of the committee.

11 “(c) This paragraph may be waived or suspended in
12 the subcommittee or committee only by an affirmative vote
13 of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Members of the subcommittee or committee.
14 An affirmative vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Members of the sub-
15 committee or committee shall be required to sustain an
16 appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised
17 under this paragraph.

18 “(d)(1) It shall not be in order in the Senate to pro-
19 ceed to a legislative matter if the legislative matter was
20 proceeded to in a subcommittee or committee in violation
21 of this paragraph.

22 “(2) This subparagraph may be waived or suspended
23 in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the
24 Members, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of
25 $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn,

1 shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of
2 the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under
3 this subparagraph.

4 “(e) In this paragraph, the term ‘legislative matter’
5 means any bill, joint resolution, concurrent resolution,
6 conference report, or substitute amendment.”.

7 (b) SENATE.—Rule XVII of the Standing Rules of
8 the Senate is amended by inserting at the end thereof the
9 following:

10 “6. (a) It shall not be in order in the Senate to pro-
11 ceed to any legislative matter unless the legislative matter
12 and a descriptive summary of each provision of the legisla-
13 tive matter has been publically available on the Internet
14 as provided in subparagraph (b) in searchable form 72
15 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays except
16 when the Senate is in session on such a day) prior to pro-
17 ceeding.

18 “(b) With respect to the requirements of subpara-
19 graph (a), the legislative matter and descriptive summary
20 of each provision shall be available on the official website
21 of the committee with jurisdiction over the subject matter
22 of the legislative matter.

23 “(c) This paragraph may be waived or suspended in
24 the Senate only by an affirmative vote of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Mem-
25 bers, duly chosen and sworn. An affirmative vote of $\frac{2}{3}$

1 of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn,
2 shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of
3 the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under
4 this paragraph.

5 “(d) In this paragraph, the term ‘legislative matter’
6 means any bill, joint resolution, concurrent resolution,
7 conference report, or substitute amendment.”.

8 **SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.**

9 Nothing in this resolution or any amendment made
10 by this resolution shall be interpreted to require or permit
11 the declassification or posting on the Internet of classified
12 information in the custody of the Senate. Such classified
13 information shall be made available to Members in a time-
14 ly manner as appropriate under existing laws and rules.

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