

2017 General Assembly Session
Senate Finance Committee
Procedures for Acting on Bills Referred

- As a general rule, bills are not referred to subcommittees. There are three exceptions:
 - (1) Claims bills are referred to the Claims Subcommittee because lengthy testimony is required.
 - (2) Bills re-referred from the Courts Committee that have a “Woodrum” fiscal impact are sent to the Public Safety Subcommittee so the cumulative budget impact of these bills can be included in the subcommittee’s recommended changes to the introduced budget.
 - (3) Complicated health and human resources bills are reviewed by the Health and Human Resources Subcommittee to facilitate understanding of the bills.
- The co-chairmen may choose to appoint a special subcommittee to review measures that cross several secretarial areas.
- At any given meeting, the Committee will act only on those bills that are included on the published (public) agenda.
- If a member brings a substitute for his or her bill to the meeting, and the Committee attorney/staff have not seen the substitute, the member will be asked to explain his substitute, **but it will be passed by for the day**, unless the staff attorney quickly can determine that the substitute contains only technical changes.
- All bills will be acted on by the Committee.
 - Given time constraints, if a member asks that his scheduled bill go by more than twice, there is no

assurance that the Committee will have the opportunity to take any action other than carrying the bill over in an even-numbered year or striking it from the docket in an odd-numbered year at the final normal Committee meeting.

- Normal Committee meeting time is 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings; however, on call of the co-chairmen, a Thursday afternoon meeting may be scheduled to clear the docket before “crossover.”
 - The only bills that will be scheduled on the Thursday afternoon before “crossover” are those that are late re-referrals from other standing committees.
- All bills passed by the Committee that have either a revenue or spending impact will be reflected in the Committee’s recommended changes to the introduced budget. **Subcommittees are responsible for including any such measures in their subcommittee reports.**
- Members proposing a major spending initiative will be asked to identify a funding source for the initiative.