

2021 General Assembly Session
Senate Finance and Appropriations 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 Chair 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 **once**, 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 Chair, 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.