

Legislative Process for Public Bills Specified for Voting

Specified bills are government bills introduced during the fall period of sittings, government bills introduced before December 21 during the first session of a new legislature, or government bills necessary for the passage of the budgetary estimates. The rules provide special procedures to complete consideration of any specified bill that meets a threshold on the day prior to completion day. Bills specified for voting under the rules require 20 hours of consideration and budget bills require five hours of consideration. *This process is seldom utilized because most bills are voted on prior to the day before Completion Day.*

Procedure to Complete Consideration of Specified Bills

Consideration of bills that meet the thresholds established by the rules shall be concluded by the following procedures.

Second Reading

If the bill remains in second reading, the Speaker is required to put the question to dispose of the main motion.

The bill is automatically committed to Committee of the Whole on Bills for consideration later on that day.



If the motion for second reading is defeated, the bill does not proceed.



Committee of the Whole on Bills

- Chair required to put question on outstanding questions, followed by combined question on remaining clauses
- No further debate permitted
- No additional amendments, new clauses, or new schedules may be moved
- Bill reported with or without amendment to Assembly for third reading

OR

Committee Stage

Policy Field Committee

- Committee must convene to conclude examination of specified bill
- Chair required to put question on outstanding questions, followed by combined question on remaining clauses
- Quorum is not required
- No additional amendments, new clauses, or new schedules may be moved
- Bill reported with or without amendment to Assembly later that day



The committee may recommend that the bill not proceed. If the Assembly accepts the recommendation, the bill does not proceed.



Third Reading

The Speaker is required to put all the questions to dispose of the main motion. Amendments must be read a first and second time prior to third reading of the bill.

Leave is not required for a specified bill to be read a third time.



If the motion for third reading is defeated, the bill does not proceed.



Royal Assent

The Lieutenant Governor or their representative gives Royal Assent to the bill.