

*Parliamentary Motions Guide*  
Based on Sturgis *Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure (4th Ed.)*

The motions below are listed in order of precedence.

Any motion can be introduced if it is higher on the chart than the pending motion.

YOU WANT TO:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2ND?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
(77) Close meeting	I move that we <b>adjourn</b>	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
(75) Take break	I move to <b>recess</b> for	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
(72) Register complaint	I rise to a <b>question of privilege</b>	Yes	No	No	No	None
(68) Lay aside temporarily	I move that the main motion be <b>postponed temporarily</b>	No	Yes	No	No	Varies
(65) Close debate and vote immediately	I move to <b>close debate</b>	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
(62) <b>Limit or extend debate</b>	I move to limit debate to ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3
(58) <b>Postpone to certain time</b>	I move to postpone the motion until ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
(55) <b>Refer</b> to committee	I move to refer the motion to ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
(47) Modify wording of motion	I move to <b>amend</b> the motion by ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
(p 32) Bring business before assembly (a <b>main motion</b> )	I move that ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

## *Parliamentary Motions Guide*

Based on *Sturgis Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure (4th Ed.)*

**Incidental Motions** - no order of precedence. Arise incidentally and decided immediately.

YOU WANT TO:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2ND?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
(82) Submit matter to assembly	I <b>appeal</b> from the decision of the chair	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
(84) Suspend rules	I move to <b>suspend the rule</b> requiring	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
(87) Enforce rules	<b>Point of order</b>	Yes	No	No	No	None
(90) Parliamentary question	<b>Parliamentary inquiry</b>	Yes	No	No	No	None
(94) Request to <b>withdraw motion</b>	I wish to withdraw my motion	Yes	No	No	No	None
(96) <b>Divide motion</b>	I request that the motion be divided ...	No	No	No	No	None
(99) Demand rising vote	I call for a <b>division of the assembly</b>	Yes	No	No	No	None

**Restorative Main Motions** - no order of precedence. Introduce only when nothing else pending.

(36) <b>Amend a previous action</b>	I move to amend the motion that was ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Varies
(38) Reconsider main motion	I move to <b>reconsider</b> ...	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
(42) Cancel previous action	I move to <b>rescind</b> ...	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
(44) Take from table	I move to <b>resume consideration</b> of ...	No	Yes	No	No	Majority

# *Parliamentary Motions Guide*

Based on *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (11<sup>th</sup> Edition)*

The motions below are listed in order of precedence. Any motion can be introduced if it is higher on the chart than the pending motion.

YOU WANT TO:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2 <sup>ND</sup> ?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§21 Close meeting	I move to <b>adjourn</b>	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§20 Take break	I move to <b>recess</b> for	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
§19 Register complaint	I rise to a <b>question of privilege</b>	Yes	No	No	No	None
§18 Make follow agenda	I call for the <b>orders of the day</b>	Yes	No	No	No	None
§17 Lay aside temporarily	I move to <b>lay</b> the question <b>on the table</b>	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§16 Close debate	I move the <b>previous question</b>	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§15 <b>Limit or extend debate</b>	I move that debate be limited to ...	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3
§14 <b>Postpone to a certain time</b>	I move to postpone the motion to ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§13 <b>Refer</b> to committee	I move to refer the motion to ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§12 Modify wording of motion	I move to <b>amend</b> the motion by ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§11 Kill main motion	I move that the motion be <b>postponed indefinitely</b>	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
§10 Bring business before assembly (a <b>main motion</b> )	I move that [or "to"] ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

# *Parliamentary Motions Guide*

Based on *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (11<sup>th</sup> Edition)*

**Incidental Motions** - No order of precedence. Arise incidentally and decided immediately.

YOU WANT TO:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2 <sup>ND</sup> ?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§23 Enforce rules	<b>Point of order</b>	Yes	No	No	No	None
§24 Submit matter to assembly	<b>I appeal</b> from the decision of the chair	Yes	Yes	Varies	No	Majority
§25 Suspend rules	<b>I move to suspend the rules</b> which ...	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§26 Avoid main motion altogether	<b>I object to the consideration</b> of the question	Yes	No	No	No	2/3
§27 Divide motion	<b>I move to divide the question</b>	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
§29 Demand rising vote	<b>I call for a division</b>	Yes	No	No	No	None
§33 Parliamentary law question	<b>Parliamentary inquiry</b>	Yes (if urgent)	No	No	No	None
§33 Request information	<b>Request for information</b>	Yes (if urgent)	No	No	No	None

**Motions That Bring a Question Again Before the Assembly** - no order of precedence. Introduce only when nothing else pending.

§34 Take matter from table	<b>I move to take from the table ...</b>	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§35 Cancel or change previous action	<b>I move to rescind/ amend something previously adopted...</b>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3 or maj. w/ notice
§37 Reconsider motion	<b>I move to reconsider the vote ...</b>	No	Yes	Varies	No	Majority



April 10, 2017

HOME
SERVICES
ARTICLES
BIOGRAPHY
RESOURCES
CONTACT
DISCLAIMERS

## Resources

« [Back to main](#)

**Ray E. Keeseey, *Modern Parliamentary Procedure* (1994)**

Chart of Ranking Motions, from highest to lowest in order of precedence

Motion	Can it Interrupt?	Second Required?	Is Debate Allowed?	Can it be Amended?	Required Vote?	Can it be Reconsidered?
Adjourn	No	No	No	No	Majority	No
Recess	No	No	No	Yes	Majority	No
Close Debate	No	No	No	No	2/3	No
Limit or Extend Debate	No	No	No	Yes	2/3	No
Postpone	No	No	Yes	Yes	Majority	No
Refer	No	No	Yes	Yes	Majority	No
Amend	No	No	Yes	Yes	Majority	No
Main Motion	No	No	Yes	Yes	Majority	Yes