

Legislative and Political Action Committee Report

- A meeting was held on **Thursday January 7th at 5:00 p.m.**
- We will be updating any LGBTQ+ legislative actions in the future as they occur.
- Marvin Baker will continue to maintain the meeting schedule and disperse Zoom link and invitations to Legislation & Political Action Committee meetings.
- The web page development:
 - A new tab is currently online. Thank you, Terry Stasio, for making this happen
 - It is a work in progress, and we are working on the content & management of the page.
- **The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 4th at 5:00 p.m.**

Legislative Terminology:

Floor leaders - The majority leader and minority leader are elected by their respective party conferences to serve as the chief Senate spokesmen for their parties and to manage and schedule the legislative and executive business of the Senate. By custom, the presiding officer gives the floor leaders priority in obtaining recognition to speak on the floor of the Senate.

President pro tempore - A constitutionally recognized officer of the Senate who presides over the chamber in the absence of the vice president. The president pro tempore (or "president for a time") is elected by the Senate and is, by custom, the senator of the majority party with the longest record of continuous service.

Quorum - The number of senators that must be present for the Senate to do business. The Constitution requires a majority of senators (51) for a quorum. Often, fewer senators are actually present on the floor, but the Senate presumes that a quorum is present unless the contrary is shown by a roll call vote or quorum call.

Quorum call - A call of the roll to establish whether a quorum is present. If any senator "suggests the absence of a quorum," the presiding officer must direct the roll to be called. Often, a quorum call is terminated by unanimous consent before completion, which permits the Senate to use the quorum call to obtain a brief delay to work out some difficulty or await a senator's arrival.

Ranking minority member - The highest ranking (and usually longest serving) minority member of a committee or subcommittee. Senators may not serve as ranking minority member on more than one standing committee.

Roll call vote - A vote in which each senator votes "yea" or "nay" as his or her name is called by the clerk, so that the names of senators voting on each side are recorded. Under the Constitution, a roll call vote must be held if demanded by one-fifth of a quorum of senators present, a minimum of 11.

Sergeant at arms - The chief security officer of the Senate, the Sergeant at arms and staff in the office help to preserve order in the Senate chamber, the Senate galleries, and the Senate side of

1/11/21

the Capitol. The sergeant at arms is elected by the Senate upon the nomination of the majority party conference.

Secretary of the Senate - The chief legislative officer nominated by the majority party conference and elected by the Senate. The Secretary affirms the accuracy of bill text by signing all measures that pass the Senate. The secretary supervises the preparation and printing of bills and reports, the publication of the Congressional Record and Senate journals, and other matters.

Vice president - Under the Constitution, the Vice president serves as president of the Senate. He may vote in the Senate in the case of a tie but is not required to. The president pro tempore (and others designated by him) usually perform these duties during the vice president's frequent absences from the Senate.

Voice vote - A vote in which the presiding officer states the question, then asks those in favor and against to say "Yea" or "Nay," respectively, and announces the result according to his or her judgment. The names or numbers of senators voting on each side are not recorded.

Whips - Assistants to the floor leaders who are also elected by their party conferences. The majority and minority whips (and their assistants) are responsible for mobilizing votes within their parties on major issues. In the absence of a party floor leader, the whip often serves as acting floor leader.

LGBTQ+ Legislative Update:

- The 117th Congress, First Session, began on Sunday, January 3, 2021.
- January 6, 2021 the Congress convened in the morning
- At 2:00 p.m. EST they had a recess for 7 hours during **a violent Insurrection at the U.S. Capitol**
- Then reconvened to Certify the Electoral College votes **declaring Joseph Biden President and Kamala Harris Vice President**

Interesting House Resolutions:

H Res 14: Censuring and condemning President Donald J. Trump for attempting to overturn the results of the November 2020 presidential election in the State of Georgia.

Sponsor: [Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. \[D-GA-4\]](#) (Introduced 01/04/2021)

Many Resolutions by many sponsors and co-sponors for the following:

Impeaching Donald John Trump, President of the United States, for high crimes and misdemeanors.

Stay tuned...

Respectfully submitted, Beverly Senkowski, Chair