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SCRIPT: MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Member: I move to suspend the rules [Indicate which rule you want to suspend or what you want to do that the rules interfere with]

Chair: Is there a second to the motion? [This statement is eliminated if a member calls out "second" or if the motion is made on behalf of a committee.]

2nd Member: I second the motion.

Chair: It is moved and seconded to suspend the rules for the purpose of . . .

Chair: This is not a debatable motion. The question is on the adoption of the motion to suspend the rules for the purpose of . . .

[Needs a two-thirds vote or majority vote, according to the rule suspended]

Chair: All those in favor of the motion, please rise. [Pause] You may be seated. Those opposed to the motion, please rise. [Pause] You may be seated.

There are two-thirds in the affirmative and the motion is adopted. We will suspend the rules for the purpose of ...

or

There are less than two-thirds in the affirmative and the motion is lost. We will not suspend the rules for the purpose of ...

RULES FOR THE MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES:

- Needs a second
- Is not debatable
- Is not amendable
- May be made while another motion is pending, as long as it applies to that motion
- Vote needed: If the rule is in the nature of a parliamentary rule of order, a two-thirds vote is required. If the rule is in the nature of guidelines relating to the way the organization carries out its business, a majority vote is required.