

2023-E223

Assembly Resolution No. 223

BY: M. of A. Barclay

AMENDING section 3 of Rule I of the Assembly rules, in relation to news media access to the Assembly Chamber

RESOLVED, That section 3 of Rule I of the Assembly rules is amended to read as follows:

§ 3. Assembly Chamber, lobbies, rooms and property. a. The use of the Assembly Chamber, lobbies, rooms and property shall be controlled by the Speaker. He or she shall direct the Sergeant-at-Arms to perform such acts as may be necessary to preserve order.

b. The following persons shall be entitled to admission to the floor of the House during the session thereof:

(1) the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor;

(2) the members and former members of the Assembly and the Senate;

(3) the elected State officers and their deputies;

(4) persons in the exercise of an official duty directly connected to the business of the House; and

(5) the representatives of the news media [designated by the Speaker].

c. No other person shall be admitted to the floor during the session, except upon the permission of the Speaker or by vote of the House; and persons so admitted shall be allowed to occupy places only in the seats in the rear of the Assembly Chamber. Such permission may be revoked by the Speaker, at pleasure, or upon order of the House.

d. No person shall be admitted to the floor of the Assembly Chamber who is interested in pending or contemplated legislation, or who is employed by or receives compensation from any public or private source for influencing legislation.

e. No person other than a member shall occupy the chair of a member during the session of the House.

f. No person shall have access to or be permitted within or by the Clerk's desk during the session of the House, except officers of the House in the discharge of their official duties.

g. The Speaker may, at pleasure, recognize a member for the purpose of introducing guests in the chamber. The Speaker further may limit recognition to one member to introduce an individual guest or group and such member shall speak for no more than two minutes for the purpose of such introduction.