



# Bipartisan Operating Agreement

Issue	Bipartisan Reform Coalition	Senate Democrats
<b>Temporary President / Majority Leader – Bifurcation</b>	The TPS presides. In his absence the majority leader or his designee presides	The Temporary President of the Senate will rotate between Senator Espada and Senator Smith. The Presiding Officer will also rotate by party affiliation.
<b>Term Limits</b>	TPS and Majority Leader limited to 6 years. Committee Chairs limited to 8 years	None
<b>Bills to be considered</b>	TPS and conference leaders shall jointly publish an active list. The list shall be capped at 45 bills unless within the last 10 days of session or with mutual consent. Motion for Consideration, or Petition empower rank-and-file.	A Committee of 6 (three Republicans and three Democrats) will set the active list for each session.
<b>Committee Chairs</b>	Co-Chairs & Equal Membership	Not addressed.
<b>Resources of the Senate</b>	All members receive equal access to the resources of the Senate for printing, mailing, personal staffs, and legislative initiatives.	Not addressed.
<b>Central Staff</b>	Equal Allocations for each Conference, the positions necessary for the functions of the Senate will not be charged against either Conference.	Not addressed.
<b>Term of Agreement</b>	In effect through the remainder of the 2009-10 legislative term and be extended with the consent of the parties.	Expires after one session day.
<b>SOS / Administration</b>	Fair, Equitable and Non-partisan manner without regard to party membership- Co-Department Heads will administer the Senate departments.	Not addressed.
<b>Non-Sponsor Amendment of Bills</b>	A vote to amend a bill on the floor shall only require a majority of the members present and voting	Not addressed.
<b>Bill Sponsorship</b>	Bills shall always be sponsored by a member. No Rules bills. No messages of necessity unless it is an actual emergency situation.	Not addressed.
<b>Expenditures/ Employees</b>	Each conference shall have the authority to approve its own expenses. Each Conference shall be its own appointing authority for employees.	Not addressed.