

Reconsideration Processes

Background. According to Luther Cushing, author of *Elements of the Law and Practice of Legislative Assemblies of the United States of America*, the motion to reconsider is a relatively new parliamentary procedure, and it is entirely American in its origin.

Among the most rigidly enforced rules of the English Parliament is the one providing that no question may be twice presented or considered in the same session. Cushing believed that reconsideration resulted from the inconvenience—and sometimes embarrassment—arising from strict enforcement or practical application of that long-standing parliamentary rule. Noted parliamentarian Edward W. Hughes agreed, stating, "It was soon learned in our American practice that this rule strictly observed would ultimately work hardship, particularly in those cases where the assemblies would discover they were in error in a former action."

The motion to reconsider commonly was used by the Congress of the Federation—the precursor to the Congress of the United States—without any mention in its rules and by the U.S. House of Representatives before any rules on the subject were adopted.

What is the general effect of a motion to reconsider? Most commonly, after the vote determines whether a bill or motion is carried or lost, the matter is ended. Sometimes, however, legislators may change their minds and wish to change their votes. According to the *Glossary of Legislative and Computer Terms* by the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries, the motion to reconsider, "...when granted, gives rise to another vote annulling or reaffirming an action previously taken." Edward Hughes said, "This motion decided in the affirmative presents the question anew, the same as though it had never been considered." Harriette Shattuck, author of *The Woman's Manual of Parliamentary Law*, stated "... if it [the motion to reconsider] prevails ... it cancels the vote and re-opens the topic for discussion." Also, according to a U.S. Supreme Court ruling (*Field vs. Clark*, 143 U.S. Sup. Ct. Reports, p. 650), when a motion to reconsider is pending, the original proposition is suspended.

Current use of reconsideration. Today, the parliamentary practice of reconsideration is well established, but the processes by which legislatures reconsider matters vary.

All chambers that responded to the survey reported that their rules contain a provision for reconsideration. In 41 chambers, however, the reconsideration procedures used on the floor may differ from those used in committee (see table 00-5.29). In addition, not all legislative bodies permit committees to reconsider actions (see table 00-5.30). Reconsideration is not allowed in the committees of the Alabama Senate, Alaska Senate and House, Delaware House, New York Assembly and Oklahoma Senate. In the Indiana House and the Massachusetts Senate and House, each committee decides whether to allow reconsideration.

Who may pose the question? Legislative chambers commonly limit who may give notice for reconsideration. Most chambers require that the member must have voted on the prevailing side when the issue was decided (see table 00-5.31).

Table 00-5.32 shows that legislatures also have specific requirements about who may move the reconsideration of an action. The majority of legislative chambers allow reconsideration to be

moved only by the member who gave the notice of reconsideration or a member who voted on the prevailing side when the issue was decided.

As illustrated above, chambers typically require that, in order to make a motion to reconsider or to give notice of reconsideration, a member must have voted on the prevailing side of the issue. According to noted parliamentarian John Tilson, the purpose for this requirement is that, "... unless someone who so voted [that is, voted on the prevailing side] is ready to change his vote, it would be a futile thing to bring the bill back for another vote." In her parliamentary manual, Harriette Shattuck also required that this particular motion "be made only by a member who voted with the prevailing side." She stated, "The general supposition is that every question is fully discussed and fairly voted upon in the first place, and that only for some excellent reason should it be re-opened."

Timing. Not only do chambers specify who may offer a motion or notice of reconsideration, but they also set limits on the timing within which such motion or notice must occur.

Notice must be given before a reconsideration motion may be made or taken up on the floor in 32 chambers or in committee in 20 chambers (see table 00-5.33). In addition, some chambers also specify how much time must elapse between the point when the notice is given and when the reconsideration is taken up. Table 00-5.34 illustrates the notice periods that are used by legislative assemblies.

For issues being discussed on the floor, the reconsideration motion must be made within a specific time frame in 81 legislative assemblies. For issues being discussed in committee, the same is true in 47 chambers (see table 00-5.35). The time frames for reconsideration vary considerably; they range from "before any other business takes place" up to five days (see tables 00-5.36 and 00-5.37).

The secretary or clerk is required to hold a bill during the time within which reconsideration may be moved in 46 legislative assemblies. There is no such requirement in 42 chambers (see table 00-5.38), and the secretary or clerk may forward a bill to the other body. When legislative assemblies do not require the clerk to hold bills during the reconsideration period, they typically have a mechanism to request the return of the measure from the other chamber (see table 00-5.39). In most instances, however, the other body is not obliged to comply with the request to return the bill (see table 00-5.40).

Debate. Thirteen chambers do not allow members to debate the motion to reconsider.

Alabama Senate	Georgia House
Alaska Senate and House	Kentucky Senate and House
Arkansas Senate	Michigan Senate
Colorado Senate	Rhode Island House
Connecticut Senate	Wyoming Senate and House

In 78 legislative assemblies, the reconsideration motion is debatable (see table 00-5.41). Thirty-four chambers, however, place limits upon the debate (see table 00-5.42).

Frequency. Legislatures also place limits on the number of times that the reconsideration motion may be made on a question. Most frequently, reconsideration may be moved once per

question (see table 00-5.43). In some instances, the motion to reconsider is not available—that is, certain questions cannot be reconsidered. Tables 00-5.44 and 00-5.45 illustrate items that are exempt from reconsideration.

Variations in reconsideration procedures. Eleven chambers—Arizona Senate and House, Florida Senate and House, Georgia Senate and House, Massachusetts Senate and House, Oklahoma House, Washington Senate and Wisconsin Assembly—change the reconsideration process, depending upon the type of measure or question. For example, a different process is used to reconsider amendments in the Arizona Senate and House, Florida Senate and House, Georgia Senate and House, Massachusetts House, Oklahoma House and Washington Senate. The Florida Senate and Wisconsin Assembly have a different process to reconsider conference reports. The Oklahoma House varies its procedures for committee reports.

Forty legislative assemblies change their reconsideration process at a certain point in the legislative session (see table 00-5.46). For example:

- A change in reconsideration processes occurs on the last day of session in the Alaska Senate and House, Louisiana House, Michigan House, Mississippi House, Nevada Assembly and Wisconsin Assembly.
- A different process is used during the final two to seven days of session in the Arkansas House, Colorado House, Florida Senate, Georgia Senate and House, Illinois Senate, Massachusetts Senate, Minnesota Senate, New Hampshire Senate, Oklahoma House, Oregon House, Utah Senate and House, and Washington House.
- In the Florida House, Indiana House and Maine House, reconsideration procedures change during the last two weeks of session.

Vote requirement. A motion to reconsider usually is adopted by a majority of the members present and voting (see table 00-5.47). Eighteen legislative assemblies require a majority of the members elected to the chamber. Only four chambers—Colorado House, Connecticut Senate and House, and Kansas Senate—always require a two-thirds vote to adopt a reconsideration motion. In the North Dakota Senate and House, if a motion to reconsider is moved after the specified time limit, adoption takes a two-thirds vote of the members elected.

Case studies. Reconsideration is not always an easy process to understand. As shown above, there may be:

- Special requirements for its timing;
- Limits on who may make the motion or give notice;
- Limits on debate;
- Exemptions to the issues that may be reconsidered; and
- Variations in the process used for certain measures or at certain times during session.

In order to provide specific illustrations on the use of reconsideration, two case studies were posed to survey respondents.

➤ **Case Study #1**

Situation. A bill is under consideration on the floor, but the vote on final disposition for that particular reading has not occurred. Someone moves or gives notice to reconsider a previously adopted amendment to the bill.

Question. When would the vote be taken on final disposition of the bill for that reading?

➤ **Case Study #2**

Situation. The final disposition for a bill on a particular reading on the floor has occurred.

Questions. May a member move or give notice to reconsider a previously adopted amendment to the bill? If yes, what process would you use to do so?

The responses to these case studies are compiled in tables 00-5.48 and 00-5.49.

Table 00-5.29 Different Reconsideration Process Used in Committee**In the following chambers, a different reconsideration process is used in committee.**

Arizona Senate	Minnesota House
Arkansas House	Mississippi House
California Senate and Assembly	Missouri Senate
Colorado Senate	Montana Senate and House
Florida Senate and House	Nebraska Senate
Georgia Senate and House	Nevada Senate
Hawaii Senate and House	New Hampshire Senate and House
Idaho Senate	Ohio Senate
Indiana Senate	Oklahoma Senate and House
Iowa Senate	South Carolina Senate
Kansas Senate	South Dakota Senate and House
Louisiana House	Tennessee Senate and House
Maine House	Utah Senate and House
Massachusetts House	Vermont Senate
Michigan Senate	Washington Senate and House

In the following chambers, the same reconsideration process is used on the floor and in committee.

Arizona House	New Mexico Senate and House
Arkansas Senate	North Carolina Senate and House
Colorado House	North Dakota Senate and House
Connecticut Senate and House	Ohio House
Idaho House	Oregon Senate and House
Illinois Senate and House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Iowa House	Rhode Island House
Kansas House	South Carolina House
Kentucky Senate and House	Texas Senate and House
Louisiana Senate	Virginia Senate and House
Maine Senate	West Virginia Senate
Maryland Senate and House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Michigan House	Wyoming Senate and House
Missouri House	District of Columbia Council
Nevada Assembly	

Table 00-5.30 Reconsideration Allowed in Committee**Reconsideration is allowed in committee in the following chambers:**

Arizona Senate and House	Nevada Senate and Assembly
Arkansas Senate and House	New Hampshire Senate and House
California Senate and Assembly	New Mexico Senate and House
Colorado Senate and House	North Carolina Senate and House
Connecticut Senate and House	North Dakota Senate and House
Florida Senate and House	Ohio Senate and House
Georgia Senate and House	Oklahoma House
Hawaii Senate and House	Oregon Senate and House
Idaho Senate and House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Illinois Senate and House	Rhode Island House
Indiana Senate	South Carolina Senate and House
Iowa Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Kansas Senate and House	Tennessee Senate and House
Kentucky Senate and House	Texas Senate and House
Louisiana Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Maine Senate and House	Vermont Senate
Maryland Senate and House	Virginia Senate and House
Michigan Senate and House	Washington Senate and House
Minnesota House	West Virginia Senate and House
Mississippi House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Missouri Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House
Montana Senate and House	District of Columbia Council
Nebraska Senate	

Reconsideration is not allowed in committee in the following chambers:

Alabama Senate	New York Assembly
Alaska Senate and House	Oklahoma Senate
Delaware House	

Other:

Indiana House (at the discretion of the committee chair)
 Massachusetts Senate and House (up to each committee)

Table 00-5.31 Who May Give Notice of Reconsideration

State (1)	On Floor			In Committee		
	A member who voted on the prevailing side	Any member	Other	A member who voted on the prevailing side	Any member	Other
Alabama						
Alaska		B				
Arizona						
Arkansas	B			S	H	
California			2		H	
Colorado	B			B		
Connecticut	S					
Delaware	H					
Florida	H			H		
Georgia		B				
Hawaii	B			S		3
Idaho	B			H		
Illinois	H			H		
Indiana			4			
Iowa	B			B		
Kansas	B			H		
Kentucky						
Louisiana	S		5	S		
Maine	S					
Maryland						
Massachusetts		B			H	
Michigan		B			H	
Minnesota		B			H	
Mississippi						
Missouri	S			S		
Montana						

Table 00-5.31 Who May Give Notice of Reconsideration, cont'd.

State (1)	On Floor			In Committee		
	A member who voted on the prevailing side	Any member	Other	A member who voted on the prevailing side	Any member	Other
Nebraska						
Nevada	B			H		
New Hampshire	B			S	H	
New Jersey						
New Mexico	H			H		
New York		H				
North Carolina	S		6	S		
North Dakota			7			
Ohio	H		8	H		8
Oklahoma		B			H	
Oregon	B			B		
Pennsylvania		S			S	
Rhode Island	H			H		
South Carolina	H					
South Dakota		B			B	
Tennessee	H			H		
Texas	S			S		
Utah	B			H	S	
Vermont						
Virginia						
Washington	B			H	S	
West Virginia			9			9
Wisconsin						
Wyoming	B			H		
District of Columbia	S			S		

Table 00-5.31 Who May Give Notice of Reconsideration, cont'd.

Key:

- S=Senate
- H=House or Assembly
- B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Alabama House, Delaware Senate, Mississippi Senate, New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, New York Senate, Rhode Island Senate, American Samoa Senate and House, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and House, and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. California: In the Assembly, any member who voted on the question to be reconsidered may give notice for reconsideration on the floor.
3. Hawaii: In the House, the committee chair may give notice for reconsideration in committee.
4. Indiana: In the Senate, the author of the bill or motion may give notice for reconsideration on the floor.
5. Louisiana: In the House, a proponent of the motion may give notice for reconsideration on the floor.
6. North Carolina: In the Senate, the chair or vice chair of the Rules Committee may give notice for reconsideration on the floor in order to correct grammatical errors.
7. North Dakota: In the Senate and House, the majority leader or minority leader may give notice for reconsideration on the floor.
8. Ohio: In the House, a member who did not vote on the issue may give notice for reconsideration on the floor or in committee.
9. West Virginia: In the House, if the issue was decided by a recorded vote, only a member who voted on the prevailing side may give notice for reconsideration on the floor or in committee. If the issue was decided by a voice vote, any member may give notice for reconsideration on the floor or in committee.

Table 00-5.32 Who May Move Reconsideration

State (1)	On Floor					In Committee				
	The member who gave the notice to reconsider	A member who voted on the prevailing side	A member who was excused when issue was decided	Any member	Other	The member who gave the notice to reconsider	A member who voted on the prevailing side	A member who was excused when issue was decided	Any member	Other
Alabama		S								
Alaska				B						
Arizona		B					B			
Arkansas	B	H			2	S			H	
California				B					S	
Colorado	B	S				S	B			
Connecticut		B					B			
Delaware		H								
Florida		S			3		S			3
Georgia				B					B	
Hawaii		B					S			
Idaho	H	B				H	H			
Illinois		B					B			
Indiana	S	H			4					
Iowa	B					B				
Kansas		B					H			
Kentucky		B					B			
Louisiana	S	H		H		S	H			
Maine		B					B			
Maryland					5					
Massachusetts				B					H	
Michigan				B					B	
Minnesota		B							H	
Mississippi				H					H	
Missouri	B					B				
Montana				B					B	

Table 00-5.32 Who May Move Reconsideration, cont'd.

State (1)	On Floor					In Committee				
	The member who gave the notice to reconsider	A member who voted on the prevailing side	A member who was excused when issue was decided	Any member	Other	The member who gave the notice to reconsider	A member who voted on the prevailing side	A member who was excused when issue was decided	Any member	Other
Nebraska		S	S						S	
Nevada				B		S			H	
New Hampshire	S	H		S					H	
New Jersey										
New Mexico		H	S			H	S			
New York				H						
North Carolina		B			6	B				
North Dakota		B			7	B				7
Ohio	H	B			8	H	H		S	
Oklahoma	B					H				
Oregon	B					B				
Pennsylvania				B					B	
Rhode Island		H				H				
South Carolina		B				S				
South Dakota				B					B	
Tennessee		B				H	B			
Texas		B				B				
Utah	S	B				H			S	
Vermont		S			9				S	
Virginia		B				B				
Washington				B					B	
West Virginia		S			10	S				10
Wisconsin		B			11	B				11
Wyoming	H	S				H				
District of Columbia		S				S				

Table 00-5.32 Who May Move Reconsideration, cont'd.

Key:

S=Senate

H=House or Assembly

B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Alabama House, Delaware Senate, Mississippi Senate, New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, New York Senate, Rhode Island Senate, American Samoa Senate and House, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and House, and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. Arkansas: In the House, after two days or if the notice is withdrawn by consent of the House, any member may call for reconsideration on the floor.
3. Florida: In the Senate, if the main question was decided by a voice vote, any member may move reconsideration.
4. Indiana: In the House, if the question was decided by a tie vote, any member may move reconsideration on the floor.
5. Maryland: In the Senate and House, if the issue was decided by a recorded vote, a member requesting reconsideration must be on the prevailing side. However, if the issue failed merely for want of a constitutional majority (i.e., more yes votes than no, but less than the constitutional majority), the motion may be made by a member voting on either side.
6. North Carolina: In the Senate, the chair or vice chair of the Rules Committee may move reconsideration on the floor.
7. North Dakota: In the Senate and House, any member who did not vote may move reconsideration on the floor or in committee. If the issue was decided by a vote that was not recorded, any member may move reconsideration on the floor or in committee.
8. Ohio: In the House, under certain circumstances and with the approval of the House, the bill sponsor may move reconsideration.
9. Vermont: In the Senate, if a tie vote was decided by the president of the Senate, a member who did not vote may move for reconsideration on the floor.
10. West Virginia: In the House, if the issue was decided by a recorded vote, only a member who voted on the prevailing side may move reconsideration on the floor or in committee. If the issue was decided by a voice vote, any member may move reconsideration on the floor or in committee.
11. Wisconsin: In the Senate and Assembly, if the issue was decided by a tie vote, any member may move reconsideration on the floor or in committee. In the Assembly, if the issue was decided by a voice vote, any member may move reconsideration on the floor.

Table 00-5.33 Notice Requirement for Reconsideration

State (1)	On Floor		In Committee	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Alabama		S		
Alaska	B			
Arizona		B		B
Arkansas	B		B	
California	H	S		B
Colorado				
Connecticut	S	H		H
Delaware		H		
Florida		B		B
Georgia	B			B
Hawaii		B	B	
Idaho	B		H	S
Illinois	H	S		B
Indiana	S	H	S	
Iowa	S	H	H	S
Kansas		B		B
Kentucky		B		B
Louisiana	B		S	H
Maine		B		B
Maryland		B		B
Massachusetts	B		H	
Michigan		B		B
Minnesota		B		H
Mississippi		H		H
Missouri		B		B
Montana		B		B

Table 00-5.33 Notice Requirement for Reconsideration, cont'd.

State (1)	On Floor		In Committee	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Nebraska		S		S
Nevada	B		H	S
New Hampshire	S	H	B	
New Jersey				
New Mexico		B		B
New York		H		
North Carolina		B		B
North Dakota (2)				B
Ohio	H	S	H	S
Oklahoma	B		H	S
Oregon	B		B	
Pennsylvania		B		B
Rhode Island		H		H
South Carolina	H	S		S
South Dakota	B			B
Tennessee		B	H	S
Texas		B		B
Utah		B		H
Vermont		S		S
Virginia		B		B
Washington	B		H	S
West Virginia		B		B
Wisconsin		B		B
Wyoming	B		B	
District of Columbia		S		S

Table 00-5.33 Notice Requirement for Reconsideration, cont'd.

Key:

S=Senate

H=House or Assembly

B=Both chambers

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Alabama House, Delaware Senate, Mississippi Senate, New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, New York Senate, Rhode Island Senate, American Samoa Senate and House, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and House, and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 00-5.34 Notice Period

State (1)	On Floor				In Committee			
	One day prior to reconsideration	Two days prior to reconsideration	Three days prior to reconsideration	Other	One day prior to reconsideration	Two days prior to reconsideration	Three days prior to reconsideration	Other
Alabama								
Alaska	B							
Arizona								
Arkansas			S	2			S	
California	H							3
Colorado	H	S			S			
Connecticut								
Delaware								
Florida								
Georgia	B							
Hawaii						B		
Idaho	B				H			
Illinois	H							
Indiana	S							
Iowa								
Kansas								
Kentucky								
Louisiana	B				S			
Maine								
Maryland								
Massachusetts	B				H			
Michigan								
Minnesota								
Mississippi								
Missouri								
Montana								

Table 00-5.34 Notice Period, cont'd.

State (1)	On Floor				In Committee			
	One day prior to reconsideration	Two days prior to reconsideration	Three days prior to reconsideration	Other	One day prior to reconsideration	Two days prior to reconsideration	Three days prior to reconsideration	Other
Nebraska								
Nevada	B				H			
New Hampshire		H	S					
New Jersey								
New Mexico								
New York								
North Carolina								
North Dakota	B							
Ohio								
Oklahoma	S		H					
Oregon	H			4	H			4
Pennsylvania								
Rhode Island								
South Carolina	H							
South Dakota	B							
Tennessee								
Texas								
Utah	H				H			
Vermont								
Virginia								
Washington	B				S			
West Virginia								
Wisconsin								
Wyoming	B			5	H			
District of Columbia								

Table 00-5.34 Notice Period, cont'd.

Key:

S=Senate

H=House or Assembly

B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Alabama House, Delaware Senate, Mississippi Senate, New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, New York Senate, Rhode Island Senate, American Samoa Senate and House, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and House, and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. Arkansas: In the House, the notice for reconsideration must be disposed of within three days.
3. California: In the Assembly, if the motion is not made the day on which the vote was taken in committee, then a four-day public notice for reconsideration must be given.
4. Oregon: In the Senate, action on reconsideration may be taken immediately following notice or on the next session day.
5. Wyoming: In the Senate, the person giving notice indicates whether he or she will move reconsideration the same day or on the following day.

Table 00-5.35 Reconsideration Must Be Moved within Set Time

State (1)	On Floor		In Committee	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Alabama	S			
Alaska	B			
Arizona	B		B	
Arkansas	B		S	
California	B		B	
Colorado	B		S	
Connecticut	B		B	
Delaware				
Florida	B		B	
Georgia	B		S	H
Hawaii	B			B
Idaho	B		H	
Illinois	S	H		H
Indiana	H	S		
Iowa	B		B	
Kansas	B		H	S
Kentucky	B		H	S
Louisiana	B		B	
Maine	B			H
Maryland	B			
Massachusetts	B		H	
Michigan	S	H	S	H
Minnesota	B			H
Mississippi	H		H	
Missouri	B		S	H
Montana	B			B

Table 00-5.35 Reconsideration Must Be Moved within Set Time, cont'd.

State (1)	On Floor		In Committee	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Nebraska	S			S
Nevada	B		B	
New Hampshire	B		H	
New Jersey				
New Mexico	B		H	
New York	H			
North Carolina	B		B	
North Dakota		B		B
Ohio	B		B	
Oklahoma	B		H	
Oregon	B		B	
Pennsylvania	B		S	
Rhode Island		H		
South Carolina	B		H	S
South Dakota		B		B
Tennessee		B	H	S
Texas	B		B	
Utah	B		B	
Vermont	S			S
Virginia	B		H	S
Washington	B			B
West Virginia	B		B	
Wisconsin	B		B	
Wyoming	B		H	
District of Columbia	S		S	

Table 00-5.35 Reconsideration Must Be Moved within Set Time, cont'd.

Key:

S=Senate

H=House or Assembly

B=Both chambers

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Alabama House, Delaware Senate, Mississippi Senate, New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, New York Senate, Rhode Island Senate, American Samoa Senate and House, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and House, and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 00-5.36 Time Frame for Reconsideration on the Floor

State (1)	Before any other business takes place	Same day on which the question was decided	One day	Two days	Three days	Before communication to the other chamber	Other
Alabama						S	
Alaska		B					
Arizona		H	B				
Arkansas					B		
California		B					
Colorado		B	H	S			
Connecticut			H			S	
Delaware							
Florida		S	B				
Georgia	S					H	
Hawaii	H	H	B				
Idaho		B	H				
Illinois		S	S			S	
Indiana		B	H				
Iowa			B			H	
Kansas		H	B			S	
Kentucky				B			
Louisiana	S	H					
Maine		B	B				
Maryland					B		
Massachusetts		B	B				
Michigan				S		S	
Minnesota				B			
Mississippi			H				
Missouri					B		
Montana		B	B				

Table 00-5.36 Time Frame for Reconsideration on the Floor, cont'd.

State (1)	Before any other business takes place	Same day on which the question was decided	One day	Two days	Three days	Before communication to the other chamber	Other
Nebraska		S	S		S		
Nevada		B	S				
New Hampshire			H		S		
New Jersey							
New Mexico		H	B				
New York		H					
North Carolina		B	B			S	
North Dakota			B				
Ohio				B			
Oklahoma	H				B	H	
Oregon		S	H				
Pennsylvania						S	2
Rhode Island							
South Carolina		H	H	S			
South Dakota							
Tennessee							
Texas		S	B				
Utah			S				
Vermont			S				
Virginia				B		H	
Washington		S	H			S	
West Virginia		S	B				
Wisconsin			H			B	
Wyoming		S	B				
District of Columbia							3

Table 00-5.36 Time Frame for Reconsideration on the Floor, cont'd.

Key:

S=Senate

H=House or Assembly

B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Alabama House, Delaware Senate, Mississippi Senate, New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, New York Senate, Rhode Island Senate, American Samoa Senate and House, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and House, and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. Pennsylvania: In the Senate and House, reconsideration must be moved within five days.
3. District of Columbia: In the Council, reconsideration must be moved before conclusion of the mayoral review.

Table 00-5.37 Time Frame for Reconsideration in Committee

State (1)	Before any other business takes place	Same day on which the question was decided	One day	Two days	Three days	Before communication to the parent body	Other
Alabama							
Alaska							
Arizona		B	H				
Arkansas					S		
California							2
Colorado		H	B				
Connecticut			H			S	
Delaware							
Florida		B					
Georgia		S				H	
Hawaii						S	
Idaho		H	H				
Illinois		S				S	
Indiana							
Iowa		S				H	
Kansas							
Kentucky		B					
Louisiana	S	H					
Maine							
Maryland							
Massachusetts		H					
Michigan						S	
Minnesota							
Mississippi			H				
Missouri					H		
Montana						B	

Table 00-5.37 Time Frame for Reconsideration in Committee, cont'd.

State (1)	Before any other business takes place	Same day on which the question was decided	One day	Two days	Three days	Before communication to the parent body	Other
Nebraska							
Nevada		H				S	
New Hampshire						H	
New Jersey							
New Mexico						H	
New York							
North Carolina		B	H				
North Dakota			B				
Ohio			S	H			
Oklahoma	H				H	H	
Oregon		S	H				
Pennsylvania		S					
Rhode Island							
South Carolina							
South Dakota							
Tennessee							
Texas		S	S			H	
Utah						B	
Vermont							
Virginia				H		H	
Washington							
West Virginia		S	S				
Wisconsin						B	
Wyoming			H				
District of Columbia						S	

Table 00-5.37 Time Frame for Reconsideration in Committee, cont'd.

Key:

S=Senate

H=House or Assembly

B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Alabama House, Delaware Senate, Mississippi Senate, New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, New York Senate, Rhode Island Senate, American Samoa Senate and House, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and House, and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. California: In the Senate and Assembly, reconsideration must occur within 15 legislative days.

Table 00-5.38 Clerk Retains Bills during Reconsideration Period

In the following chambers, the clerk holds bills during the time within which reconsideration may be moved.

Alaska Senate and House	Missouri Senate
Arkansas Senate and House	Montana Senate and House
Colorado House	Nebraska Senate
Connecticut Senate and House	Nevada Senate and Assembly
Florida Senate and House	New Hampshire Senate
Georgia Senate and House	North Dakota Senate and House
Idaho Senate	Oklahoma Senate and House
Illinois Senate and House	Oregon Senate and House
Iowa Senate	Rhode Island House
Kansas Senate	South Carolina House
Kentucky Senate	South Dakota Senate and House
Louisiana House	Utah Senate and House
Maine Senate and House	Virginia Senate
Massachusetts House	Washington Senate and House
Michigan House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly

In the following chambers, the clerk is not required to retain bills during the reconsideration period.

Alabama Senate	Minnesota Senate and House
Arizona Senate and House	Mississippi House
California Senate and Assembly	Missouri House
Colorado Senate	New Hampshire House
Delaware House	New Mexico Senate and House
Hawaii Senate and House	New York Assembly
Idaho House	North Carolina Senate and House
Indiana Senate and House	Ohio Senate and House
Iowa House	Pennsylvania Senate
Kansas House	South Carolina Senate
Kentucky House	Tennessee Senate
Louisiana Senate	Texas Senate and House
Maryland Senate and House	Virginia House
Massachusetts Senate	West Virginia Senate and House
Michigan Senate	Wyoming Senate and House

Table 00-5.39 Mechanism to Request the Return of a Bill

In the following chambers, there is a mechanism to request the return of a bill from the other body.

Alabama Senate	Mississippi House
Arizona Senate and House	Missouri House
California Senate	New Hampshire Senate
Colorado Senate	New Mexico Senate and House
Connecticut Senate and House	New York Assembly
Delaware House	North Carolina Senate and House
Florida Senate	Ohio Senate and House
Hawaii Senate and House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Indiana Senate and House	South Carolina Senate
Kansas Senate and House	Tennessee Senate
Kentucky House	Texas Senate and House
Maryland Senate and House	Vermont Senate
Massachusetts Senate	Virginia House
Michigan Senate	West Virginia Senate
Minnesota Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House

In the following chambers, there is no mechanism to request the return of a bill from the other body.

Iowa House	New Hampshire House
Louisiana Senate	

Table 00-5.40 Return of Bill Is Required

In the following chambers, a bill must be returned to the other body when the bill's return is requested.

Alabama Senate	Indiana Senate and House
Colorado Senate and House	Mississippi House
Connecticut Senate and House	Ohio House
Hawaii Senate	Texas Senate

The following chambers do not have to comply with a request from the other body for the return of a bill.

Arizona Senate and House	Missouri House
Arkansas Senate	New Hampshire Senate and House
California Senate and Assembly	New Mexico House
Delaware House	New York Assembly
Florida Senate	North Carolina Senate and House
Hawaii House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Iowa House	South Carolina Senate
Kansas Senate and House	Tennessee Senate
Kentucky Senate and House	Texas House
Louisiana Senate	Vermont Senate
Maryland Senate and House	Virginia House
Massachusetts Senate	West Virginia Senate and House
Michigan Senate	Wyoming Senate and House
Minnesota Senate and House	

Table 00-5.41 Reconsideration Motion Is Debatable**In the following chambers, the motion to reconsider is debatable.**

Arizona Senate and House	Nebraska Senate
Arkansas House	Nevada Senate and Assembly
California Senate and Assembly	New Hampshire Senate and House
Connecticut House	New Mexico House
Delaware House	New York Assembly
Florida Senate and House	North Carolina Senate and House
Georgia Senate	North Dakota Senate and House
Hawaii Senate and House	Ohio Senate and House
Idaho Senate and House	Oklahoma Senate and House
Illinois Senate and House	Oregon Senate and House
Indiana Senate and House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Iowa Senate and House	South Carolina Senate and House
Kansas Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Louisiana Senate and House	Tennessee Senate and House
Maine Senate and House	Texas Senate and House
Maryland Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Massachusetts Senate and House	Vermont Senate
Michigan House	Virginia Senate and House
Minnesota Senate and House	Washington Senate and House
Mississippi House	West Virginia Senate and House
Missouri Senate and House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Montana Senate and House	District of Columbia Council

In the following chambers, the motion to reconsider is not debatable.

Alabama Senate	Georgia House
Alaska Senate and House	Kentucky Senate and House
Arkansas Senate	Michigan Senate
Colorado Senate	Rhode Island House
Connecticut Senate	Wyoming Senate and House

Table 00-5.42 Limits on Reconsideration Debate**The following chambers limit the debate on a motion to reconsider.**

Arkansas House	North Dakota Senate and House
Colorado House	Ohio House
Idaho Senate	Oklahoma House
Illinois Senate	Oregon Senate and House
Kansas House	Pennsylvania House
Louisiana Senate and House	South Carolina House
Maryland Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Massachusetts Senate and House	Texas Senate and House
Michigan House	Utah House
Montana Senate	Virginia House
Nevada Senate and Assembly	West Virginia House
New Mexico House	Wisconsin Assembly
North Carolina House	District of Columbia Council

The following chambers do not limit the debate on a motion to reconsider.

Arizona Senate and House	Montana House
California Senate and Assembly	Nebraska Senate
Connecticut House	New Hampshire Senate
Delaware House	New York Assembly
Florida Senate and House	North Carolina Senate
Georgia Senate	Ohio Senate
Hawaii Senate and House	Oklahoma Senate
Idaho House	Pennsylvania Senate
Illinois House	South Carolina Senate
Indiana Senate and House	Tennessee Senate and House
Iowa Senate and House	Utah Senate
Kansas Senate	Vermont Senate
Maine Senate and House	Virginia Senate
Minnesota Senate and House	Washington Senate and House
Mississippi House	West Virginia Senate
Missouri Senate and House	Wisconsin Senate

Table 00-5.43 Limits on the Reconsideration Motion

State (1)	On Floor			In Committee		
	May be moved once per question	May be moved twice per question	No limit	May be moved once per question	May be moved twice per question	No limit
Alabama	S					
Alaska	B					
Arizona	B			B		
Arkansas	B			B		
California	B			B		
Colorado	B			S		
Connecticut	B			B		
Delaware						
Florida	H			H		
Georgia	B			B		
Hawaii	B			B		
Idaho	B			H		
Illinois			H			H
Indiana	S		H	S		
Iowa	B			S		
Kansas	B			H		
Kentucky			B			H
Louisiana	B			B		
Maine	B			B		
Maryland	B			B		
Massachusetts	B			H		
Michigan	S	H		S	H	
Minnesota	S		H			H
Mississippi						
Missouri	B			H		S
Montana	B					B

Table 00-5.43 Limits on the Reconsideration Motion, cont'd.

State (1)	On Floor			In Committee		
	May be moved once per question	May be moved twice per question	No limit	May be moved once per question	May be moved twice per question	No limit
Nebraska	S					
Nevada	B			B		
New Hampshire	H		S	H		
New Jersey						
New Mexico	H		S	H		
New York			H			
North Carolina	S		H	S		H
North Dakota			B			
Ohio	B			H		
Oklahoma	H					
Oregon	B			B		
Pennsylvania		S			S	
Rhode Island	H					
South Carolina	H		S			S
South Dakota	B			B		
Tennessee			S			S
Texas						
Utah	H			H		
Vermont	S					
Virginia	H		S	H		S
Washington	B					S
West Virginia	H			H		
Wisconsin	S			S		
Wyoming	B			B		
District of Columbia			S			S

Table 00-5.43 Limits on the Reconsideration Motion, cont'd.

Key:

S=Senate

H=House or Assembly

B=Both chambers

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Alabama House, Delaware Senate, Mississippi Senate, New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, New York Senate, Rhode Island Senate, American Samoa Senate and House, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and House, and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 00-5.44 Items Exempt from Reconsideration

State (1)	Motion to reconsider	Motion to adjourn	Motion to recess	Previous question	Motion to lay on the table	Motion to take from the table	Motion to postpone indefinitely	Motion to divide a question	Adoption, amendment or suspension of the rules	Question of order	Appeal of a chair's ruling
Alabama	S	S	S	S	S					S	S
Alaska	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Arizona											
Arkansas		S									
California	B	B	B	B	B	B		S	S	B	H
Colorado											
Connecticut	B	B									
Delaware											
Florida	S	B	B	H		S					
Georgia											
Hawaii	B	B	H	H	H	H				H	
Idaho		S	S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Illinois											
Indiana	H	S		S	H		H				
Iowa	S	S	S								
Kansas											
Kentucky											
Louisiana	H	H	H		S				H		
Maine	B	B	H		H						
Maryland	B	B	B		B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Massachusetts	B	B	H	H	S	S	H		H	H	H
Michigan	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		S	S
Minnesota	S	S	S								
Mississippi	H	H			H						
Missouri											
Montana					H		H				

Table 00-5.44 Items Exempt from Reconsideration, cont'd.

State (1)	Motion to reconsider	Motion to adjourn	Motion to recess	Previous question	Motion to lay on the table	Motion to take from the table	Motion to postpone indefinitely	Motion to divide a question	Adoption, amendment or suspension of the rules	Question of order	Appeal of a chair's ruling
Nebraska		S	S	S				S			
Nevada	H	H	H	H	H	H	S	H		H	
New Hampshire											
New Jersey											
New Mexico		B	H		S						
New York											
North Carolina		S		S	S						
North Dakota											
Ohio		S									
Oklahoma	H	H	H	H	H	H					
Oregon	B	B	B	B	B	B	B		S	B	B
Pennsylvania	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H		H	
Rhode Island											
South Carolina		S			S						
South Dakota											
Tennessee		B	H	B	H						
Texas		H	H		B	S				S	
Utah		S									
Vermont	S	S	S		S	S					
Virginia		S									
Washington	S	B			S				S		
West Virginia		B		B	B	B					
Wisconsin	B	B	B	B	B	B		B	S		
Wyoming	B	B	H	B	B	B	S		B		
District of Columbia											

Table 00-5.44 Items Exempt from Reconsideration, cont'd.

Key:

S=Senate

H=House or Assembly

B=Both chambers

Note:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Alabama House, Delaware Senate, Mississippi Senate, New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, New York Senate, Rhode Island Senate, American Samoa Senate and House, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and House, and Virgin Islands Senate.

Table 00-5.45 More Items Exempt from Reconsideration

State (1)	A voice vote	A vote by division	Contracts entered into by the chamber	Claims against the state	Censure or discipline of a member	Expulsion of a member	Other
Alabama	S	S					
Alaska	B	B					2
Arizona	H	H	H				
Arkansas							3
California	H	H	H				4
Colorado							
Connecticut							
Delaware							
Florida	H	H					
Georgia							
Hawaii							
Idaho	S	S					5
Illinois							6
Indiana							7
Iowa							8
Kansas							
Kentucky							
Louisiana							9
Maine							
Maryland	B	B	B	B	B	B	
Massachusetts							10
Michigan							
Minnesota							
Mississippi							11
Missouri							
Montana							

Table 00-5.45 More Items Exempt from Reconsideration, cont'd.

State (1)	A voice vote	A vote by division	Contracts entered into by the chamber	Claims against the state	Censure or discipline of a member	Expulsion of a member	Other
Nebraska							12
Nevada		H			H	H	
New Hampshire							
New Jersey							
New Mexico							
New York							
North Carolina							13
North Dakota							
Ohio							
Oklahoma					H	H	
Oregon					H	H	14
Pennsylvania	H		H	H			
Rhode Island							
South Carolina							
South Dakota							
Tennessee							
Texas							
Utah							
Vermont							
Virginia							15
Washington							16
West Virginia							
Wisconsin							17
Wyoming							
District of Columbia							

Table 00-5.45 More Items Exempt from Reconsideration, cont'd.

Key:

- S=Senate
- H=House or Assembly
- B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Alabama House, Delaware Senate, Mississippi Senate, New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, New York Senate, Rhode Island Senate, American Samoa Senate and House, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and House, and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. Alaska: In both chambers, amendments are not subject to reconsideration.
3. Arkansas: In the House, questions affecting measures that are not in the possession of the House may not be reconsidered.
4. California: In the Senate, a vote refusing to confirm an appointment by the governor cannot be reconsidered after notice of the action has been delivered to the governor.
5. Idaho: In the Senate, the adoption of committee reports, a call for orders of the day and the affirmative determination on an objection to consideration may not be reconsidered.
6. Illinois: In the Senate, a main motion on which a motion to reconsider has been tabled is not subject to reconsideration.
7. Indiana: In the House, a question that has been decisively defeated (i.e., 51 or more votes against) may not be reconsidered.
8. Iowa: In the Senate, a double-barreled motion may not be reconsidered.
9. Louisiana: In the House, a call from the calendar and a return to the calendar are not subject to reconsideration.
10. Massachusetts: In the Senate, a call for the yeas and nays may not be reconsidered. In the House, the motions to close debate at a specified time, to discharge or direct a committee to report, to commit or recommit, and to suspend the rules are not subject to reconsideration.
11. Mississippi: In the House, a motion to refer or recommit to committee, the vote on an adopted or rejected amendment while under the previous question, and the vote to override a gubernatorial veto may not be reconsidered.
12. Nebraska: In the Senate, a motion to place a bill on general file may not be reconsidered.
13. North Carolina: In the House, the election of the speaker and the speaker pro tem may not be reconsidered.
14. Oregon: In the House, a rules suspension may not be reconsidered.
15. Virginia: In the House, the affirmative approval of the journal may not be reconsidered.
16. Washington: In the Senate, a motion to commit cannot be reconsidered after the bill is sent to the committee. In the House, a veto override is not subject to reconsideration.
17. Wisconsin: In the Assembly, a veto override and the approval of a conference committee report are not subject to reconsideration.

Table 00-5.46 Reconsideration Process Changes

In the following chambers, the reconsideration process changes at a certain point in the legislative session.

Alaska Senate and House	Michigan House
Arkansas Senate and House	Minnesota Senate and House
California Senate and Assembly	Mississippi House
Colorado House	Montana Senate
Florida Senate and House	Nevada Assembly
Georgia Senate and House	New Hampshire Senate
Idaho Senate and House	Oklahoma House
Illinois Senate and House	Oregon Senate and House
Indiana House	South Dakota Senate and House
Iowa Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Louisiana House	Washington Senate and House
Maine House	Wisconsin Assembly
Massachusetts Senate and House	Wyoming House

In the following chambers, the reconsideration process does not change.

Alabama Senate	New Hampshire House
Arizona Senate and House	New Mexico Senate and House
Colorado Senate	New York Assembly
Connecticut Senate and House	North Carolina Senate and House
Delaware House	North Dakota Senate and House
Hawaii Senate and House	Ohio Senate and House
Indiana Senate	Oklahoma Senate
Kansas Senate and House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Kentucky Senate and House	South Carolina Senate and House
Louisiana Senate	Tennessee Senate and House
Maine Senate	Texas Senate and House
Maryland Senate and House	Vermont Senate
Michigan Senate	Virginia Senate and House
Missouri Senate and House	West Virginia Senate and House
Montana House	Wisconsin Senate
Nebraska Senate	Wyoming Senate
Nevada Senate	District of Columbia Council

Table 00-5.47 Vote Requirement

State (1)	On Floor					In Committee				
	Majority of members present and voting	Majority of members elected	Two-thirds of members present and voting	Two-thirds of members elected	Other	Majority of members present and voting	Majority of members appointed	Two-thirds of members present and voting	Two-thirds of members elected	Other
Alabama	S									
Alaska										
Arizona	B					B				
Arkansas	H	S				H				
California		S			2		S			2
Colorado		S		H			S		H	
Connecticut			B					B		
Delaware		H								
Florida	B				3	B				
Georgia	B					B				
Hawaii	B					B				
Idaho	B					H				
Illinois		B					B			
Indiana	B					S				
Iowa		B			4	S				
Kansas				S	5	H				
Kentucky	B					H				
Louisiana	B					B				
Maine	B					H				
Maryland	B					B				
Massachusetts	B					H				
Michigan	B	S				B	S			
Minnesota	B					H				
Mississippi	H					H				
Missouri		B					B			
Montana	B					B				

Table 00-5.47 Vote Requirement, cont'd.

State (1)	On Floor					In Committee				
	Majority of members present and voting	Majority of members elected	Two-thirds of members present and voting	Two-thirds of members elected	Other	Majority of members present and voting	Majority of members appointed	Two-thirds of members present and voting	Two-thirds of members elected	Other
Nebraska		S					S			
Nevada	B					B				
New Hampshire	B					H				
New Jersey										
New Mexico	B					H				
New York		H								
North Carolina	B				6	B				
North Dakota					7	B				
Ohio	B					H				
Oklahoma		B			8		H			
Oregon	S	H				S	H			
Pennsylvania	B					B				
Rhode Island										
South Carolina	S	H				S				
South Dakota	B					B				
Tennessee	H	S					B			
Texas	B					B				
Utah		B				B				
Vermont	S									
Virginia	H				9	H				9
Washington	B					B				
West Virginia	B					B				
Wisconsin	B					B				
Wyoming	B					B				
District of Columbia	S					S				

Table 00-5.47 Vote Requirement, cont'd.

Key:

- S=Senate
- H=House or Assembly
- B=Both chambers

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not return a survey: Alabama House, Delaware Senate, Mississippi Senate, New Jersey Senate and General Assembly, New York Senate, Rhode Island Senate, American Samoa Senate and House, Guam Senate, Northern Mariana Islands Senate and House, Puerto Rico Senate and House, and Virgin Islands Senate.
2. California: In the Senate, a motion to reconsider an amendment may be adopted by a majority of the members voting.
3. Florida: In the House, a two-thirds vote is required to reconsider an amendment on third reading.
4. Iowa: In the House, a motion to reconsider an amendment may be adopted by a majority of the members voting.
5. Kansas: In the House, it takes the same number to reconsider as it did to pass the measure.
6. North Carolina: In the House, second and subsequent motions to reconsider and other selected items, however, require a two-thirds vote.
7. North Dakota: In the Senate and House, a motion to reconsider an amendment may be adopted by a majority of the members present and voting. Also, after the specified time frame for reconsideration, a two-thirds vote is required for adoption.
8. Oklahoma: In the House, a motion to reconsider an amendment may be adopted by a majority of the members voting.
9. Virginia: In the Senate, the initial reconsideration may be passed by a majority of the members present and voting. Second and subsequent reconsiderations, however, require a unanimous vote.

Table 00-5.48 Summary of Responses to Case Study #1

Case Study #1	
<i>Situation</i> A bill is under consideration on the floor, but the vote on final disposition for that particular reading has not occurred. Someone moves or gives notice to reconsider a previously adopted amendment to the bill.	
<i>Question</i> When would the vote be taken on final disposition of the bill for that reading?	

State/Chamber	Response
Alabama Senate	We would vote on reconsideration of the amendment immediately and then on final passage of the bill.
Alaska Senate and House	Amendments can be reached with a rescinding motion after final passage and reconsideration notice is given.
Arizona Senate and House	Not applicable to our rules or procedures.
Arkansas Senate	After the reconsideration of the amendment is completed.
Arkansas House	No sooner than the notice of reconsideration or the motion to reconsider is disposed of.
California Senate	After the vote on reconsideration.
California Assembly	The next legislative day.
Colorado Senate	Cannot give notice to reconsider while still considering the bill. The motion to give notice would have to come following disposition of the bill. During consideration (except in general orders), immediate reconsideration could occur.
Colorado House	Not applicable to House rules or procedures. However, if someone did not like a previously adopted amendment, he or she might move to refer the bill to a committee.
Connecticut Senate and House	After reconsideration of the previously adopted amendment.
Delaware House	After the amendment has been reconsidered. Reconsideration of the amendment would occur immediately after the motion is made and adopted.
Florida Senate	Before the final vote on the bill if on the same day.
Florida House	Motion to reconsider a corollary question must be disposed of when made; then vote on passage would follow.
Georgia Senate	Amendments are reconsidered immediately. Final disposition would be after all amendments are considered. There is no notice given to reconsider anything but final disposition.
Georgia House	After all amendments are either adopted, lost, withdrawn or ruled out of order.

Table 00-5.48 Summary of Responses to Case Study #1, cont'd.

State/Chamber	Response
Hawaii Senate	After the vote on the motion to reconsider, if motion does not prevail. If the motion prevails and the bill is amended, then 48-hour notice is required before final disposition.
Hawaii House	The vote would take place once the motion for reconsideration was disposed of.
Idaho Senate	Not applicable.
Illinois Senate	If this is second reading, the motion to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was adopted by a record roll call would be in order. If this is third reading, the motion to reconsider an amendment previously adopted by a record roll call would be ruled out of order. (A motion to reconsider the adoption of an amendment is in order only when the bill is on the order of second reading.) Although the sponsor of the bill may request that the bill be returned to the order of second reading, the rules do not provide any mechanism to force the sponsor to take this action. Therefore, the sponsor has total discretion as to whether he or she will return the bill to second reading to accommodate a motion to reconsider an amendment previously adopted.
Illinois House	The same day if the amendment in question is tabled and no other amendment is adopted. If another amendment is adopted, unless the rules are suspended, the bill cannot be worked on until the following day.
Indiana Senate	Only the author of the bill may make the motion. The reconsideration would take place the next day, so an amendment could be drafted to take out the language previously adopted. The bill would be placed back on second reading.
Indiana House	If the bill was on third reading, it would be removed from the calendar and sent back to second reading for another look at the amendment.
Iowa Senate	After disposing of any motions to reconsider amendments, whether the amendments had been adopted or had failed to be adopted.
Iowa House	After we dispose of the motion to reconsider.
Kansas Senate	When the Senate has finished the reconsideration and all possible amendments on the bill.
Kansas House	At the time of the motion.
Kentucky Senate	At that time, unless the presiding officer requests that the bill and amendments in question be passed over and retain their place in the orders of the day.
Kentucky House	After the motion to reconsider the amendment had been done.
Louisiana Senate	Not applicable because we do not reconsider votes on amendments. There would simply be another amendment offered to make the desired change.
Louisiana House	After any pending motions are disposed of.

Table 00-5.48 Summary of Responses to Case Study #1, cont'd.

State/Chamber	Response
Maine Senate	After the motion to reconsider has been dealt with and, if the motion to reconsider prevails, after the amendment in question is either adopted or indefinitely postponed.
Maine House	After reconsideration is dispensed with.
Maryland Senate	Immediately after the motion to reconsider a previously adopted amendment to the bill has been disposed of.
Massachusetts Senate	When the vote on final disposition of a matter is pending, someone may move reconsideration of a previously adopted or rejected amendment. At that point, the Senate would consider reconsideration of the amendment forthwith (debate would be limited to 10 minutes). After reconsidering the amendment, the Senate would consider the question of final disposition of the bill.
Massachusetts House	Only after all motions are disposed of.
Michigan Senate	After final disposition of the amendment.
Michigan House	After the reconsideration vote.
Mississippi House	After the question of reconsideration is taken up, any further amendments are taken up and all debate on final passage is finished.
Missouri House	After completion of all procedures leading up to that particular reading.
Montana Senate	Before the 54 th day, final disposition can happen on that day, the next day or on a day specified in the motion. After the 54 th day, a motion to reconsider must be disposed of when made. After disposal of a motion to reconsider, the body reverts to the original motion (the body of the bill).
Montana House	A motion to reconsider must be disposed of when made. After disposal of a motion to reconsider, the body reverts to the original motion (the body of the bill).
Nebraska Senate	After we took up the motion to reconsider, but conditioned on the premise that we take up the motion to reconsider immediately.
Nevada Senate	Depending upon the outcome of the reconsideration, the bill, if amended, would need to be reprinted and then considered for final disposition. If the reprinted bill was back before session adjourned (and it had already been read a third time), it would be considered the same day the motion to reconsider was entertained.
Nevada Assembly	Not until the question about the amendment was resolved.
New Hampshire Senate	After the amendment is dealt with during the same session, or it could be held for three days and then acted on.
New Hampshire House	Following reconsideration of the amendment. This could be the same day, or it could be later as allowed by rule.
New Mexico House	This would fall under debate preceding final passage, and the vote would follow debate and/or amendment.

Table 00-5.48 Summary of Responses to Case Study #1, cont'd.

State/Chamber	Response
New York Assembly	A vote must be taken before a bill can be reconsidered.
North Carolina Senate	If there is no objection to the motion to reconsider, the final vote would occur after reconsideration.
North Carolina House	After the motion to reconsider passed or failed, if no other amendments were taken up, the final vote on that reading could then be held.
North Dakota Senate and House	After vote on motion to reconsider and, depending on passage of that motion, after completion of that action.
Ohio Senate	After all other motions have been decided.
Ohio House	Once reconsideration of amendment is disposed of, the vote on bill can be taken.
Oklahoma Senate	The author may move that the bill be advanced or agree to lay the bill over to work out disagreements.
Oklahoma House	Upon the disposition of the motion to reconsider that section or amendment.
Oregon Senate and House	Not applicable. Neither chamber allows amendments on the floor.
Pennsylvania Senate	After the vote to reconsider and disposal of the recurring amendment.
Pennsylvania House	After reconsidering the amendment.
Rhode Island House	After the bill has been reconsidered.
South Carolina Senate	After disposition of the question to reconsider.
South Carolina House	It will be considered immediately after disposal of the pending matter.
South Dakota Senate and House	Only after all amendments and procedural motions are dealt with.
Tennessee Senate	The motion to reconsider would be in order. It would be considered immediately. Once the motion is disposed of, a vote on the bill would be in order. We require no notice.
Tennessee House	At the will of the body.
Texas Senate	Following final disposition of the motion to reconsider and amendment have been achieved.
Texas House	When consideration of the bill on that particular reading is concluded. There could be more debate on the bill or other amendments considered after reconsideration of the previously adopted amendment.
Utah House	After the reconsideration of the previously adopted amendment.
Vermont Senate	After the motion to reconsider has been decided.
Virginia Senate	After the vote on reconsideration, which generally occurs on the same day. Another motion used after reconsideration is to pass by the bill for the day.
Virginia House	At the appropriate time following the consideration of the reconsideration of the subsidiary motion.

Table 00-5.48 Summary of Responses to Case Study #1, cont'd.

State/Chamber	Response
Washington Senate	Generally, motions to reconsider amendments are to be made and decided at once. The exception is if the House refuses to concur with a Senate amendment to a House bill and returns the bill to the Senate, the Senate, in lieu of receding, may choose to reconsider the bill and adopt a different amendment.
Washington House	If still on second reading, the motion to reconsider an amendment is in order. If on third reading/final passage, the motion would be out of order.
West Virginia Senate	After the reconsideration motion and subsequent action is taken.
Wisconsin Assembly	First, then you would have to reconsider that action before going back to reconsider the amendment.
Wyoming Senate and House	Not applicable.
District of Columbia Council	After reconsideration of the amendment.

Table 00-5.49 Summary of Responses to Case Study #2

Case Study #2	
<i>Situation</i> The final disposition for a bill on a particular reading on the floor has occurred.	
<i>Questions</i> May a member move or give notice to reconsider a previously adopted amendment to the bill? If yes, what process would you use to do so?	

State/Chamber	Response
Alabama Senate	No.
Alaska Senate and House	Amendments can be reached with a rescinding motion after final passage and reconsideration notice is given.
Arizona Senate and House	No.
Arkansas Senate	Reconsideration of the bill would have to be given first. Next, the passage or failure of the bill would be expunged. And finally, the amendment on the bill would be reconsidered.
Arkansas House	No.
California Senate	First, a motion to reconsider the vote whereby a bill passed would have to be granted, and then the matter of the amendment could be considered.
California Assembly	No.
Colorado Senate	Yes, the member would either give notice to reconsider or move to reconsider the bill and then would move to reconsider the amendment or offer another amendment.
Colorado House	No.
Connecticut Senate and House	If the bill is still in the chamber's possession, suspension of the rules would be immediately considered. Once the rules are suspended, the bill would be read by the clerk, and a new motion for reconsideration of the amendment would be undertaken. The amendment is again called and disposed of. A vote on final disposition of the bill then is taken.
Delaware House	The bill would have to be restored before a motion to reconsider could be made. An amendment to strike the previously adopted amendment would have to be introduced and passed.
Florida Senate	The motion is simply made. If amendments were adopted on second reading and the bill has been read the third time, a two-thirds vote is required to return to second reading to reconsider an amendment.
Florida House	No.

Table 00-5.49 Summary of Responses to Case Study #2, cont'd.

State/Chamber	Response
Georgia Senate	Notice must be given to reconsider the bill. If the motion to reconsider passed the following day, then at the proper time, the amendment could be reconsidered.
Georgia House	No.
Hawaii Senate	Yes, but must first reconsider final disposition of the bill.
Hawaii House	Yes, by rule 49.1.
Idaho Senate	No. They would have to send the bill to the amending order to get it re-amended.
Idaho House	No.
Illinois House	No.
Indiana Senate	Only the author of the bill may make the motion. The reconsideration would take place the next day, so an amendment could be drafted to take out the language previously adopted. The bill would be placed back on second reading.
Indiana House	No. The same result may be obtained through other actions, such as amendment in the other chamber or in conference committee.
Iowa Senate	Yes, if the following: the bill has not been immediately messaged following passage, it is within one legislative day of final action, and the motion to reconsider the main motion is adopted first.
Iowa House	We would have to first reconsider the bill, then reconsider the amendment, and then pass the bill again.
Kansas Senate	We would first move to reconsider the action, then move to return to general orders, and finally move to reconsider action.
Kansas House	First, we must reconsider the final action vote. Next, we must reconsider vote of adopting report of committee of the whole, and then the amendment is reconsidered. These motions may be combined.
Kentucky Senate	The bill must be in possession of the chamber first. The member must vote on prevailing side. During motions, the member may ask for suspension of the rules to request that the bill be reconsidered, seconded, and simple majority vote.
Kentucky House	No.
Louisiana Senate and House	No.
Maine Senate	Yes. If the last action was taken more than 24 hours previously, then a motion to suspend the rules must be moved and prevail. Then a motion to reconsider the last action must prevail. The rules must be suspended again and the previous motion must be reconsidered. This process would continue until the actions have been backed up to the point where the amendment was adopted. The process is the same if it occurs in less than the 24-hour time period, except the rules would not have to be suspended.
Maine House	Reconsider the final action, then reconsider the amendment.

Table 00-5.49 Summary of Responses to Case Study #2, cont'd.

State/Chamber	Response
Maryland Senate	Yes, but first a reconsideration of the final disposition of a bill must be considered. Then the amendment may be reconsidered. If the bill is a Senate bill and an amendment has been altered or removed, the bill must again be reprinted before a third reading vote is taken.
Massachusetts Senate	The only way to reconsider an amendment at this stage would be first to reconsider the disposition of the bill. After reconsideration of the main question prevails, the Senate then could consider a previously adopted or rejected amendment.
Massachusetts House	A member would first have to move reconsideration of the main question, and then could move reconsideration of the amendment.
Michigan Senate	Yes, but only by reconsideration of final disposition of the bill.
Michigan House	No. However, a motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill was advanced would be in order, and if reconsidered, then a motion to reconsider a previously adopted amendment would be in order.
Minnesota Senate	They first would have to give notice to reconsider the vote on the bill. Then, if the vote to reconsider the bill prevails, a motion to reconsider the amendment would be in order.
Minnesota House	Yes, if the bill is still in possession of the House and the member making the motion voted on the prevailing side. The order: reconsider the bill, followed by the amendment if the motion to reconsider the bill, as amended, prevails.
Mississippi House	Yes. To get back to an amendment after a bill has passed, a member would first need to reconsider the vote on final passage. If that motion prevails, then the member would move to reconsider the vote on the amendment.
Missouri Senate	No.
Missouri House	Yes; however, the vote on the particular reading must be reconsidered before reconsideration on amendments may be done.
Montana Senate	A member first must move to reconsider action on the bill and have that pass. Then, reconsideration of the amendment can take place. Debate on the first motion to reconsider is limited to the motion only; the substance cannot be discussed at that time.
Montana House	A member first must move to reconsider action on the bill and have that pass. Then, reconsideration of the amendment can be moved.
Nebraska Senate	No.
Nevada Senate	No.
Nevada Assembly	If the disposition was the final vote, a reconsideration must carry to rescind the action of passage to bring the measure back to the file where the amendment could be reconsidered. If the disposition was a reading where the amendment was adopted, a motion to rescind or reconsider the action to adopt the amendment could be made.
New Hampshire Senate	The member would come to the clerk after session and let his or her intent be known for the next session day.

Table 00-5.49 Summary of Responses to Case Study #2, cont'd.

State/Chamber	Response
New Mexico House	Having voted in the majority, a motion to reconsider would be in order. However, the entire bill would be reconsidered, not just the amendment.
North Carolina Senate	Yes. The member must have voted in the majority and must offer a motion to reconsider each vote prior to adoption of the amendment and then the amendment.
North Carolina House	No. The final disposition vote would have to be reconsidered first.
North Dakota Senate and House	First, there must be a motion to reconsider passage, and then a motion to either refer to committee or to reconsider adoption of the amendment.
Ohio Senate	They would first move to reconsider the vote on the bill. If successful, the question would be "shall the bill pass?" It is at this point that a member may move to reconsider a specific amendment.
Ohio House	Once a vote on a bill is taken, the member would have to move to reconsider the bill, then move to reconsider the amendment.
Oklahoma Senate and House	No.
Oregon Senate and House	Not applicable.
Pennsylvania Senate	Yes, before final passage.
Pennsylvania House	If the bill is still in possession of the House, a member files a motion to reconsider with the parliamentarian.
Rhode Island House	The bill must be in the possession of the clerk of the House. A motion must be made and seconded before the bill is sent from the House to the Senate.
South Carolina Senate	If a bill has received the reading, then no motion to reconsider an amendment would be in order until a favorable vote has occurred on the question of reconsideration of the reading of the bill.
South Carolina House	The House rules state, "When a question shall have been once decided in the affirmative or negative, any member who voted on the prevailing side may, on the same day or the next day of the sitting of the House, move for reconsideration, and the House (if in statewide session) shall immediately have the question of reconsideration before it." A member first must move to reconsider the final disposition. If passed, then he or she can reconsider the amendment.
South Dakota Senate and House	Reconsideration would occur on the whole bill. The previously adopted amendment would not be reconsidered, per se. A motion would be made to amend the bill by striking the previous amendment.
Tennessee Senate	1) Lift the tabling motion on the bill (two-thirds vote). 2) Move to reconsider passage of the bill. 3) Move to reconsider passage of the amendment.
Tennessee House	Yes. If the bill is in possession of the House, the member moves to lift the motion to reconsider from the table. The member then moves to reconsider our action in passing the bill and then our action on the amendment. Further action then may be taken on the amendment.

Table 00-5.49 Summary of Responses to Case Study #2, cont'd.

State/Chamber	Response
Texas Senate	The motion would be to reconsider the vote by which the bill finally passed. That motion would be disposed of, then there would be a motion to reconsider the vote by which the three day rule was suspended. That motion would be disposed of, then a motion to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed to engrossment, disposal of that motion, and then reconsider the vote by which the amendment was adopted, dispose of that, then go through the process of amending (if desired). We then would again go through the process of passing the bill.
Texas House	Yes. The vote on final disposition of the bill would have to be successfully reconsidered first before a motion to reconsider the amendment would be in order.
Vermont Senate	Yes. However, it may be necessary first to suspend the rules if more than one day has elapsed. Also, there would have to be a motion to reconsider the action by which final disposition occurred.
Virginia Senate	The motion to reconsider the vote on final disposition must be successful. A motion to reconsider the vote on the adoption of the amendment then must prevail. Then the body would again vote on the amendment.
Virginia House	A previously adopted amendment may be reconsidered. However, the main question that has been decided first must be reconsidered favorably to get the body in the proper posture to reconsider the subsidiary motion.
Washington Senate	No. Once the bill is advanced to third reading and consideration for final passage, reconsideration motions on amendments no longer are in order.
Washington House	If still on second reading, the motion to reconsider an amendment is in order. If on third reading/final passage, the motion would be out of order.
West Virginia Senate	Yes. 1) Recall bill from House. 2) Reconsider special effective date or amended title, if any. 3) Reconsider passage. 4) Reconsider amendment.
Wisconsin Senate	Must reconsider each step, i.e., 1) passage, 2) order to third reading, 3) amendment.
Wisconsin Assembly	Yes, but first someone would have to move reconsideration of the final disposition question. Unless the rules were then suspended, we would wait two days to vote on reconsidering the final disposition. Only if that prevailed would we go back to vote on reconsidering the amendment.
Wyoming Senate and House	No.
District of Columbia Council	The member must move to reconsider the bill. If the motion to reconsider is adopted, the member can move an amendment to the bill.