

Conference Committees

Conference committees, one of the most significant parts of the bicameral system, are placed at the juncture of two separate legislative bodies. In fact, they often are called “the third house.” Conference committees represent the necessary and formal continuation of discussions that seek to resolve conflicts between the two chambers on the same bill. These special committees are particularly important because they often deal with the most significant and controversial bills considered by the legislature each session. Their importance also is enhanced because they most often are required during the busiest time of the year—near the end of the session—when time constraints work against lengthy deliberation of the conference committee’s report.

Not all states use conference committees, however. Nebraska is one; since it is unicameral, there is no need to work out differences with another chamber. Interestingly, the Delaware House indicated this was not how it reaches compromise with the Senate.

Conference committee size and membership. Legislative rules generally specify how many conferees come from each legislative body, but the number can vary. Typically, three to five members are appointed by each house. Conference committees that deal with fiscal bills quite often are larger than those that work on regular bills. Table 96-4.16 shows the chamber representation in conference committees.

Membership on a conference committee may augment the power and prestige of those concerned with the particular bill, but no member serves on a conference committee by right. Each conferee comes to his or her position by appointment (see table 96-4.17). In two-thirds of the legislative bodies, the presiding officer appoints conferees. Sometimes, others—such as the chamber pro tem, majority leader or minority leader—are involved in conference committee assignments. Six chambers use a committee on committees or rules committee to make appointments. In the Virginia Senate, the chairman of the standing committee that handled the bill chooses the conferees.

The criteria for appointing members to conference committees vary considerably among legislative bodies. As table 96-4.18 illustrates, those frequently named to conference committees are the authors of bills, the chairs of standing committees, those with expertise or interest in the issue and those able to represent the body or caucus most capably. Seventeen chambers even make sure that opposing views are represented by requiring at least one appointee to have originally voted against the bill.

The following legislative assemblies indicated that no specific criteria are used to appoint conferees.

Alabama Senate and House	Minnesota House
Idaho House	Montana Senate and House
Iowa Senate	New Jersey Senate and General Assembly
Kentucky Senate and House	New York Assembly
Louisiana Senate	

Another aspect of conference membership is who acts as the committee chair. Most frequently, co-chairs are appointed by leadership in each chamber; this is true in 36 legislative bodies. In 17 states, the presiding officer or another leader from the bill's house of origin assigns the chairmanship. Table 96-4.19 highlights other ways by which conference committee chairs are selected.

Conference committee scope. As stated above, a conference committee's work is to prepare a version of the bill that is acceptable to both houses. However, the avenues to reach compromise may be bound by the scope of a conference committee. Scope refers to the portions of a bill open to review by conferees. There are three main strategies for setting the scope of a conference committee (see table 96-4.20).

- First, it can be limited—that is, a conference committee may consider only those sections of a bill where differences between the two houses occur. Thirty legislative chambers *always* use limited scope conference committees.
- Second, a conference committee can be free or open, where the entire bill is subject to change. This strategy is *always* used by 31 legislative assemblies.
- Third, a combination of the first two methods may be employed. For example, the scope is designated separately for each conference committee appointed by the Arizona Senate and the New York Assembly. In the Kentucky Senate and both chambers in Wyoming, the first committee of conference on a bill is limited in its consideration; however, if a second committee is appointed on the same bill, those conferees can consider the entire bill. The Texas House sometimes suspends its scope limitation for specific provisions in a bill.

Conference committee procedures. State constitutional provisions clearly allow each legislative chamber to set its own procedure, and the importance of conference committees is reflected in the considerable attention paid to them by legislative assemblies in their individual chamber rules.

When the two chambers must work together, they sometimes find it easier to share the same procedure. Therefore, legislatures often establish joint rules to govern the process to be followed in all areas of joint activity, including conference committees. In the following chambers, conference committee procedure is set by joint rule.

Alabama Senate and House	Nevada Senate and Assembly
Alaska Senate and House	New Hampshire Senate and House
California Senate and Assembly	New Jersey General Assembly
Colorado Senate and House	New Mexico Senate and House
Connecticut Senate and House	New York Senate and House
Idaho Senate	North Dakota Senate and House
Indiana Senate and House	Oklahoma Senate and House
Kansas Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Maine Senate	Vermont Senate and House
Maryland Senate	Washington Senate and House
Michigan Senate and House	West Virginia Senate and House
Minnesota Senate and House	Wisconsin Senate
Mississippi House	Wyoming Senate and House
Missouri House	
Montana Senate and House	

A more specific question regarding conference procedures concerns the vote required in the committee to reach agreement and approve the report (see table 96-4.21). The most common method is for the conferees of each house to vote separately. More than 60 percent of the survey respondents indicated that, to adopt the conference committee report, a majority vote of the conferees from each chamber is required. A majority vote of all conference committee members is necessary in another 17 chambers. In Iowa and New Hampshire, however, adoption of the conference committee report requires a unanimous vote by both the Senate and House conferees.

Another important aspect of conference committee procedure is obtaining the correct signatures on the committee report (see table 96-4.21). Most legislatures indicated that a majority of the conferees from each body must sign the final report. A few states reported having other signature requirements. For example, in 12 legislative bodies, all conferees must sign the report. In the Arkansas House, Idaho Senate, New Mexico House, New York Assembly and Utah Senate, only the conference committee chair(s) must sign it.

Adoption of a conference report by the legislature. Once a conference committee report has been adopted by the conferees and all necessary signatures have been obtained, the report must be taken up by each chamber of a legislature. But which house considers the conference committee report first? Table 96-5.22 illustrates this process. For example, survey respondents from 35 legislative bodies indicated that the originating chamber—that is, the chamber in which the bill originally was introduced—hears it first. In another 16 assemblies, the nonoriginating chamber is first to consider the report. Twenty-eight legislative bodies replied that it varies, depending upon which chamber requests the conference, has the bill papers, fulfills notice or

printing requirements first, etc. Both chambers in Connecticut and the Hawaii Senate responded that conference reports are taken up simultaneously by both bodies.

Typically, the floor vote required for the body to adopt a conference committee report is either a majority of the members present and voting or a majority of the elected members (see table 96-4.23). In some chambers, however, a conference report must be adopted by whatever vote was required by the chamber to pass the original bill. Therefore, if the bill originally needed a two-thirds vote to pass, the conference committee report would require the same extraordinary vote for adoption.

The floor vote on a conference committee report is taken by roll call in 55 legislative bodies, while 28 chambers do not require a roll-call vote to adopt the conference report.

Chambers that Require a Roll-Call Vote

Alabama Senate and House	Montana Senate and House
Alaska Senate and House	New Jersey General Assembly
California Senate and Assembly	North Carolina House
Colorado Senate and House	North Dakota Senate and House
Connecticut Senate and House	Ohio Senate and House
Florida Senate	Oklahoma House
Hawaii Senate	Oregon Senate and House
Illinois Senate and House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Indiana Senate and House	South Dakota Senate and House
Kansas Senate and House	Tennessee Senate and House
Kentucky Senate	Utah House
Louisiana Senate and House	Virginia Senate and House
Maryland Senate	Washington Senate and House
Michigan Senate and House	West Virginia House
Minnesota Senate and House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Mississippi House	Wyoming Senate and House
Missouri Senate and House	

Chambers that Do Not Require a Roll-Call Vote

Arizona Senate and House	Nevada Senate and Assembly
Arkansas House	New Hampshire Senate and House
Florida House	New Mexico Senate and House
Georgia House	Oklahoma Senate
Hawaii House	South Carolina House
Idaho Senate and House	Texas Senate and House
Iowa Senate and House	Utah Senate
Kentucky House	Vermont Senate and House
Maine Senate and House	West Virginia Senate
Maryland House	

Table 96-4.16 Number of Members Appointed to Conference Committees

State (1)	Non-Fiscal Conference Committee		Fiscal Conference Committee	
	Senate	House	Senate	House
Alabama	3	3	3	3
Alaska	3	3	3	3
Arizona	3-5	3-5	3-5	3-5
Arkansas	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
California	3	3	3	3
Colorado	3	3	3	3
Connecticut	3	3	3	3
Delaware	NA	NA	NA	NA
Florida	3-5	3-5	10-14	10-14
Georgia	3	3	3	3
Hawaii	3-5	3-7	Ways & Means members	Finance members
Idaho	usually 3	usually 3	usually 3	usually 3
Illinois	5	5	5	5
Indiana	2	2	2	2
Iowa	5	5	5	5
Kansas	3	3	3	3
Kentucky	3	3	3 or more	3 or more
Louisiana	3	3	3	3
Maine	3	3	3	3
Maryland	3	3	3	3
Massachusetts				
Michigan	3	3	3	3
Minnesota	3 or 5	3 or 5	3 or 5	3 or 5
Mississippi	3	3	3	3
Missouri	5	5	5	5
Montana	3	3	3	3

Table 96-4.16 Number of Members Appointed to Conference Committees, cont'd.

State (1)	Non-Fiscal Conference Committee		Fiscal Conference Committee	
	Senate	House	Senate	House
Nebraska	NA	NA	NA	NA
Nevada	3	3	3	3
New Hampshire	3	4	3	4 or 5
New Jersey	3	3	3	3
New Mexico	3	3	3	3
New York	5 or more	5 or more	5 or more	5 or more
North Carolina		3-5		21
North Dakota	3	3	3	3
Ohio	3	3	3	3
Oklahoma	3	3	Varies	Varies
Oregon	3	2-3	3	3
Pennsylvania	3	3	3	3
Rhode Island				
South Carolina	3	3	3	3
South Dakota	3	3	3	3
Tennessee	3-5	Varies	Ways & Means members	Varies
Texas	5	5	5	5
Utah	3	3	3	3
Vermont	3	3	3	3
Virginia	3	3	4	4
Washington	3	3	3	3
West Virginia	3	3	5	5
Wisconsin	3	3	3	3
Wyoming	3	3	5	5

**Table 96-4.16 Number of Members Appointed to Conference Committees,
cont'd.**

Key:

NA=Not applicable

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not respond to the survey: Delaware Senate, Georgia Senate, Massachusetts Senate and House, Mississippi Senate, North Carolina Senate, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate; nor did any legislatures from the U.S. territories respond.

Table 96-4.17 Conference Committees Appointments**Conferees are appointed by the lieutenant governor, as the presiding officer:**

Alabama Senate	Washington Senate
Idaho Senate	West Virginia Senate
Texas Senate	

Conferees are appointed by the president of the Senate (who is a legislator) or the speaker of the House:

Alabama House	New Hampshire Senate and House
Alaska Senate and House	New Jersey Senate and Assembly
Arizona Senate and House	New Mexico House
Arkansas Senate and House	New York Assembly
Colorado Senate and House	North Carolina House
Florida Senate and House	Ohio Senate and House
Georgia House	Oklahoma House
Hawaii Senate and House	Oregon Senate and House
Illinois Senate and House	Pennsylvania House
Indiana House	South Carolina House
Iowa House	South Dakota House
Kansas Senate and House	Tennessee Senate and House
Louisiana Senate and House	Texas House
Maine Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Maryland Senate and House	Vermont House
Michigan House	Virginia House
Minnesota House	Washington House
Mississippi House	West Virginia House
Missouri House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
Montana Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House
Nevada Assembly	

Conferees are appointed by the president pro tem or the speaker pro tem:

Connecticut House	New York Senate
Idaho House	Ohio House
Indiana Senate	Oklahoma Senate
Missouri Senate	Pennsylvania Senate
New Mexico Senate	South Dakota Senate

Conferees are appointed by the majority leader:

Connecticut Senate	Nevada Senate
Iowa Senate	North Dakota Senate and House
Michigan Senate and House	Washington Senate

Table 96-4.17 Conference Committees Appointments, cont'd.

The minority leader appoints or has input into appointment of minority party conferees:	
Illinois Senate and House	New Mexico Senate
Iowa Senate and House	Washington Senate
Kansas House	
Another method is used to appoint conferees:	
California Senate and Assembly (rules committee)	
Colorado Senate and House (bill sponsor)	
Kentucky Senate and House (committee on committees)	
Maryland Senate and House (committee chair)	
Minnesota Senate (committee on committees)	
Nevada Senate (committee chairs with approval of majority leader)	
Vermont Senate (committee on committees)	
Virginia Senate (committee chair)	

Table 96-4.18 Criteria Considered When Appointing Conference Committees

State (1)	Standing subcommittees that remain in place for the entire biennium	Subcommittees, created around an issue, that remain for the entire session	Subcommittees, created around an issue, that exist only temporarily	Subcommittees created to deal with a specific bill	Other
Alabama	B				
Alaska	B		B	B	
Arizona	H	H	H	B	
Arkansas	B				
California	S	B			
Colorado			S		
Connecticut	B				
Delaware	H				
Florida	B		S		
Georgia	H				
Hawaii			B		
Idaho			B	H	
Illinois	H		B	B	2
Indiana	S			H	
Iowa	H	H	H	B	
Kansas			B	B	
Kentucky	H		H	H	
Louisiana			B		
Maine			B	S	3
Maryland	B	B			
Massachusetts					
Michigan	H	H	B		
Minnesota	H	S			
Mississippi	H				
Missouri			B	S	
Montana	B		B		

Table 96-4.18 Criteria Considered When Appointing Conference Committees, cont'd.

State (1)	Standing subcommittees that remain in place for the entire biennium	Subcommittees, created around an issue, that remain for the entire session	Subcommittees, created around an issue, that exist only temporarily	Subcommittees created to deal with a specific bill	Other
Nebraska			S		
Nevada			H	B	
New Hampshire	H	H	H	H	
New Jersey	H	S			
New Mexico	H	S			
New York	H	S			
North Carolina	H			H	
North Dakota				B	
Ohio	H			B	
Oklahoma	B				
Oregon	H	S		S	
Pennsylvania	H		S	S	
Rhode Island	S	S	S		
South Carolina	H				
South Dakota				B	
Tennessee	H		S		
Texas	S		H	B	
Utah					
Vermont			S		
Virginia	B	B	B	B	
Washington			B		
West Virginia	H		S		
Wisconsin		B			
Wyoming			B		

Table 96-4.18 Criteria Considered When Appointing Conference Committees, cont'd.

Key:

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

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not respond to the survey: Delaware Senate, Georgia Senate, Massachusetts Senate and House, Mississippi Senate, North Carolina Senate, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate; nor did any legislatures from the U.S. territories respond.
2. Hawaii House: Preferences of the members on the committee to which the bill was referred are considered.
3. Illinois House: The chair of the Rules Committee is on all conference committees.
4. Louisiana House: In addition, consideration is given to a member who offered an amendment that was rejected by the other chamber or to a member who requests appointment.
5. Maine Senate and House: The conferees from each chamber must have supported the position of their body on the bill in question.
6. New Hampshire House: All House conferees voted in favor of the bill.
7. Oregon House: The major factor taken into account is the recommendation from the chair of the standing committee with jurisdiction.
8. Tennessee Senate: The speaker tries to appoint a member with a neutral position, if possible.
9. Texas House: In addition, consideration is given to the author of the amendment(s) in dispute.

Table 96-4.19 Selection of Conference Committees Chairs

Presiding officers or other leaders from each chamber appoint co-chairs:	
Alaska Senate and House	New Jersey House
Arizona Senate and House	New Mexico Senate
Arkansas Senate and House	New York Senate and Assembly
Colorado Senate	North Carolina House
Florida House	Ohio Senate
Hawaii House	Oklahoma Senate
Illinois House	Tennessee Senate and House
Iowa Senate and House	Texas Senate and House
Kentucky Senate	Utah Senate and House
Maine Senate	West Virginia Senate and House
Missouri House	Wisconsin Senate and House
Montana Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House
Presiding officer or other leader from the bill's house of origin appoints chair:	
Colorado House	North Dakota Senate and House
Hawaii Senate	Ohio House
Idaho House	Oregon Senate and House
Kansas Senate	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Maryland Senate	South Dakota Senate and House
Michigan Senate and House	
Nevada Assembly	
Chair of the standing committee with jurisdiction in the house of origin appoints the chair:	
Nevada Senate	
Chairs of the Senate and House standing committees with jurisdiction always co-chair the conference committee:	
New Mexico House	
Chief author from the house of origin always chairs the conference committee:	
Indiana House	Missouri Senate
Louisiana House	
Senate and House chief authors always co-chair the conference committee:	
California Senate	Colorado Senate

Table 96-4.19 Selection of Conference Committees Chairs, cont'd.**Other ways a conference committee chair or co-chair is selected:**

California Assembly: First member listed from each house shall act as co-chair of the committee. The chair from the bill's house of origin sets the meeting time.

Idaho Senate: The chair of the Senate standing committee shall be chair; in his absence, the House chair shall preside.

Indiana Senate: President Pro Tem appoints the chairs to Senate conference committees.

Kansas House: First member named from the bill's house of origin acts as the chair.

Maine Senate: First named member from the chamber that requested the committee of conference acts as the chair.

Oklahoma House: First member named in the house of origin shall be chair man; this is usually the author.

South Carolina House: The chair is elected by members of conference committee (usually senior ranking member).

Vermont Senate and House: The chair shall be the first member chosen from the House in which the bill did not originate.

Table 96-4.20 Scope of Consideration for Conference Committees

The scope always is limited to the differences between the two houses:	
California Senate	New Hampshire Senate
Florida Senate	New Mexico House
Hawaii Senate and House	North Carolina House
Idaho House	Ohio House
Illinois Senate	Oregon Senate
Indiana Senate	Pennsylvania House
Iowa House	Texas Senate
Maryland Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Michigan Senate and House	Vermont Senate and House
Minnesota Senate and House	Virginia Senate and House
Nevada Senate	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
The scope is limited unless the body authorizes it to be free:	
Alaska Senate and House	Kentucky House
Arizona House	Missouri Senate and House
Colorado Senate and House	Montana Senate and House
Florida Senate	South Carolina House
Idaho Senate	West Virginia Senate and House
The scope is limited for the first conference committee appointed, but it is free for any subsequent committees chosen to consider the same bill:	
Kentucky Senate	Wyoming Senate and House
The scope of conference committees always is free:	
Alabama Senate and House	Nevada Assembly
Arkansas Senate and House	New Jersey Assembly
California Assembly	New Mexico Senate
Connecticut Senate and House	New York Senate
Florida House	Ohio Senate
Georgia House	Oklahoma Senate and House
Illinois House	Pennsylvania Senate
Indiana House	South Carolina House
Iowa Senate	South Dakota Senate and House
Louisiana Senate and House	Tennessee Senate and House
Maine Senate and House	Washington Senate and House
The scope is set by another method:	
Arizona Senate (the scope is set separately for each conference committee)	
Kansas Senate and House (no description given)	
New York Assembly (the scope is set separately for each conference committee)	
North Dakota Senate and House (the scope is limited by rule, but free by practice)	
Oregon House (amendments that go beyond the differences between chambers may be proposed by notifying the chair of original House committee)	
Texas House (scope is limited unless the chamber votes to suspend limitation on specific provisions in the bill)	

Table 96-4.21 Vote and Signatures Requirements

State (1)	Vote			Signature				
	Majority vote of the conferees from each chamber	Majority vote of all conferees	Unanimous vote of conferees	Conference committee chair(s) must sign	Majority of conferees from each body must sign	Majority of all conferees must sign	All conferees must sign	Other
Alabama	B				B			
Alaska		B				B		
Arizona	B				B			
Arkansas	H			H				
California	B				B			2
Colorado	S	H			B			
Connecticut	B						B	
Delaware								
Florida	B				B			
Georgia	H				H			
Hawaii	B				B			
Idaho	B			S			H	
Illinois		B				B		
Indiana			B				B	
Iowa	B				B			
Kansas	H						B	3
Kentucky	B				B			
Louisiana		B				B		
Maine	B				B			
Maryland		B				B		
Massachusetts								
Michigan	B				S		H	
Minnesota	B				B			
Mississippi	H				H			
Missouri		B				B		4
Montana	B				B			

Table 96-4.21 Vote and Signatures Requirements, cont'd.

State (1)	Vote			Signature				
	Majority vote of the conferees from each chamber	Majority vote of all conferees	Unanimous vote of conferees	Conference committee chair(s) must sign	Majority of conferees from each body must sign	Majority of all conferees must sign	All conferees must sign	Other
Nebraska								
Nevada	B				H		S	
New Hampshire			B				B	
New Jersey		H				H		
New Mexico	B			H	S			
New York	B			H				
North Carolina	H				H			
North Dakota	B				B			
Ohio	B				B			
Oklahoma	H	S			B		H	
Oregon	B				B			
Pennsylvania	B				B			
Rhode Island								
South Carolina	H				H			
South Dakota	B				B			
Tennessee	B				B			
Texas	B				B			
Utah	B			S	H			
Vermont	B				B			
Virginia		B				S	H	
Washington	B				B			
West Virginia		B				B		
Wisconsin	B				H			5
Wyoming	B				B			

Table 96-4.21 Vote and Signatures Requirements, cont'd.

<p>Key:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">S=SenateH=House or AssemblyB=Both chambers <p>Notes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The following chambers did not respond to the survey: Delaware Senate, Georgia Senate, Massachusetts Senate and House, Mississippi Senate, North Carolina Senate, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate; nor did any legislatures from the U.S. territories respond.2. California Assembly: Space also is made available for dissenting members' signatures and comments.3. Kansas Senate and House: If the initial conferees cannot come to an agreement and another conference committee(s) must be appointed, all subsequent conference committee reports must be signed by a majority of the conferees from each chamber.4. Missouri Senate and House: According to joint rule, not less than two conferees from each house must sign the report.5. Wisconsin Senate: Conferees who are in favor of the final report sign it.

Table 96-4.22 Chamber First to Consider a Conference Report

The originating chamber is always first to consider the conference committee report:	
Alabama Senate and House	New Mexico House
Arkansas House	North Dakota Senate and House
Florida Senate	Oklahoma House
Hawaii House	Oregon Senate and House
Idaho Senate and House	Pennsylvania Senate and House
Iowa Senate and House	South Carolina House
Kentucky Senate	South Dakota Senate and House
Michigan Senate and House	Tennessee Senate and House
Minnesota Senate and House	West Virginia Senate and House
Missouri Senate and House	Wyoming Senate and House
Nevada Senate and Assembly	
The nonoriginating chamber is always first to consider the conference report:	
Arizona Senate and House	Utah Senate and House
Colorado Senate and House	Vermont Senate and House
Kansas Senate and House	Washington Senate and House
New Hampshire Senate and House	Wisconsin Senate and Assembly
The chamber first to consider the conference report varies:	
Alaska Senate and House	Mississippi House
California Senate and Assembly	Montana Senate and House
Florida House	New Mexico Senate
Illinois Senate and House	North Carolina House
Indiana Senate and House	Ohio Senate and House
Kentucky House	Oklahoma Senate
Louisiana Senate and House	Texas Senate and House
Maine Senate and House	Virginia Senate and House
Maryland Senate and House	
Chambers consider the report simultaneously:	
Connecticut Senate and House	Hawaii Senate

Key:

Originating=the chamber in which the bill was originally introduced (i.e., House for House bill)

Nonoriginating=the opposite chamber from which the bill was originally introduced (i.e., Senate for House bill)

Table 96-4.23 Floor Vote to Adopt a Conference Report

State (1)	Majority of the members elected to the chamber	Majority of the members present and voting	Same vote that was required to pass the original bill	Other
Alabama	H		S	
Alaska			B	
Arizona		B		
Arkansas	H			
California				2
Colorado	B			
Connecticut		B		
Delaware				
Florida		B		
Georgia	H			
Hawaii	B			
Idaho		B		
Illinois			B	
Indiana	B			
Iowa		B		
Kansas	H		S	
Kentucky		B		
Louisiana			B	
Maine		B		
Maryland		B		
Massachusetts				
Michigan	H		S	
Minnesota	S	H		
Mississippi			H	
Missouri	B			
Montana		B		

Table 96-4.23 Floor Vote to Adopt a Conference Report, cont'd.

State (1)	Majority of the members elected to the chamber	Majority of the members present and voting	Same vote that was required to pass the original bill	Other
Nebraska				
Nevada		H		3
New Hampshire		B		
New Jersey	H			
New Mexico		B		
New York				
North Carolina			H	
North Dakota		B		
Ohio			B	
Oklahoma	H	S		
Oregon	S	H		
Pennsylvania	H		S	
Rhode Island				
South Carolina		H		
South Dakota			B	
Tennessee	S		H	
Texas		S	H	
Utah			B	
Vermont		B		
Virginia			H	4
Washington		B		
West Virginia		B		
Wisconsin		B		
Wyoming	B			

Table 96-4.23 Floor Vote to Adopt a Conference Report, cont'd.

Key:

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

Notes:

1. The following chambers did not respond to the survey: Delaware Senate, Georgia Senate, Massachusetts Senate and House, Mississippi Senate, North Carolina Senate, Rhode Island House, South Carolina Senate; nor did any legislatures from the U.S. territories respond.
2. California Senate and Assembly: The floor vote may vary depending upon whether the conference committee report changes the necessary vote requirement.
3. Nevada Senate: A voice vote is used.
4. Virginia Senate: It takes a majority vote of not less than 16.