

**State of Vermont**  
**House of Representatives**  
Montpelier, Vermont



**House Resolution**

H.R. 11

House resolution relating to amending House Rules to allow municipal charter bills to be read three times without referral to committee

Offered by: Representative Jerman of Essex

Whereas, the General Assembly normally adopts municipal charter legislation as proposed by the voters of the municipality, and

Whereas, the Committee on Government Operations, which has primary jurisdiction over municipal charters, also has multiple other areas under its broad jurisdiction that are extremely important to the State, and

Whereas, providing for a more streamlined review process for the House to consider passage of municipal charter bills would provide the Committee on Government Operations with more time to consider the other areas under its jurisdiction and would help acknowledge the deference the General Assembly normally provides to municipalities regarding issues of local control, now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That this legislative body amends the Rules and Orders of the House of Representatives to add Rule 45a to read:

45a. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 44(a), and except as provided in subsection (b) of this rule, a bill that adopts, amends, or repeals a municipal charter shall not be referred to committee and shall be placed on the Calendar for Notice for two legislative days before being placed in the Orders of the Day, after which it shall proceed in regular course as other bills but without the need for a committee report. However, such a bill may be committed to a committee at the discretion of the Speaker or upon the motion of a member.

(b) Prior to second reading, the Speaker shall refer a municipal charter bill subject to Rule 35(a) to the Committee on Appropriations or the Committee on Ways and Means, as the case may be, which shall consider the bill and make such report as it considers advisable, at which time the bill shall proceed in the regular course as other bills.