

# ROLE PLAY SCRIPT

**Who:** Lieutenant Governor, President of the Senate

**What:**

- You run the proceedings in the Senate
- You call on Senators to speak
- You decide whether amendments offered during the debate are germane

**Where:** Senate Chamber

**Setting:** We are entering the Senate for the second reading of S.238 and the floor debate. The bill has just come out of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee.

## *ASK REPORTER OF BILL TO SPEAK*

**1. Call the Senate to order and ask Reporter of the bill to speak:**  
“Please come to order (bang gavel). I am calling the Senate to order to discuss S.238, An Act to Increase the Legal Age for Purchase And Use Of Tobacco to 21. Would the reporter of the bill, Senator \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_, please rise and explain the Committee’s recommendation?”

You listen to the Reporter. When the Reporter is finished, you say:

“Thank you Senator \_\_\_\_\_. Are there any questions for the Reporter?”

This is the time for Senators to ask questions if they don’t understand the bill. **Debate and amendments come later. You call on the Senators that have questions. You call on the Reporter to respond.**

*WHEN A LEGISLATOR RISES TO SPEAK IN THE SENATE, THEY SPEAK TO YOU, THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, EVEN WHEN THEY ARE ASKING QUESTIONS OF OTHER SENATORS.*

## *DEBATE AND AMENDMENTS*

### **2. You ask for debate on the bill:**

**“Would any Senator like to comment on the bill or offer any amendments to the bill?”**

You call on the Senators one at a time. Make sure they stand up while they are active on the floor. If a Senator offers an amendment and another member raises ‘a point of order’, it is your job to decide whether or not it is germane.

*GERMANE MEANS "RELATED TO." AN AMENDMENT IS NOT GERMANE IF IT IS UNRELATED TO THE PURPOSE OF THE BILL*

**If you decide the amendment is not germane**, you say so and ask again for comments and amendments.

*In the General Assembly there is no need to second motions to amend.*

**If you decide the amendment is germane**, you say:

**“The Senator from \_\_\_\_\_ has proposed to amend the bill by (you describe the proposed amendment). I have determined that this proposed amendment is germane. Is there any discussion about this proposal?”**

You call on Senators who have comments on the amendment. After everyone who has a comment has spoken, you call for a vote on the amendment.

You say:

**“We will now vote on whether to amend the bill as proposed by the Senator from \_\_\_\_\_. (You restate the amendment.) All in favor of the amendment signify by saying ‘Aye’. (You listen to the vote.) All opposed say ‘Nay’.”** (You listen to the vote and decide which vote won.)

You say:

**“The (Ayes/Nays) have it. The amendment (passes or fails).”**

## *CLOSING DEBATE AND VOTE ON BILL*

### **3. "Are there any further amendments or any further debate on S.238?"**

If there are, call on the Senators and repeat the process. If not, move on to vote.

*FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS ROLE PLAY, WE ARE GOING TO SKIP THE THIRD READING OF THE BILL. THIS WILL BE THE FINAL READING.*

You say:

**“We will now vote on S.238. All in favor please signify by saying ‘Aye’. You listen to the vote. “All opposed say ‘Nay’. The (Ayes/Nays) have it, the bill (passes/fails).**

*SIGNING THE BILL*

4. For the purpose of this role play, assume the bill passes, sign the back of the bill send it on to the Speaker of the House.