

Article IV – Representative Assembly

Section 6—Meetings.

Notification of the time and place of any meeting of the Representative Assembly and the calendar to be considered shall be mailed by the Clerk or published by him/her in the Michigan Bar Journal, not less than 30 days prior to the time fixed for the first session of the meeting. Such notice, other than by publication in the Journal, shall be sent to each member of the Assembly and to each Chair of a Section of the State Bar of Michigan.

Meetings of the Assembly shall be open to attendance by members of the State Bar of Michigan, subject to the right of the Assembly by vote to go into closed session at any time when it is determined that a particular session shall be a closed session. In fixing and announcing any annual or special meeting of the Assembly, the Board of Commissioners or the President or the Chair of the Assembly, as the case may be, may announce one or more sessions as closed sessions of the Assembly and such sessions shall be closed unless the Assembly shall vote otherwise.

At all meetings of the Assembly, elected Representatives shall be seated by the circuit they represent. Those who are members of the Assembly in any other capacity shall be seated with the circuit in which they maintain their principal office. Nonmembers of the Assembly shall be seated separately from members.

The Chair of the Representative Assembly shall preside at meetings of the Assembly. In the absence of the Chair of the Assembly, the Vice-Chair shall serve in that capacity.

The presiding officer shall preserve order and shall have the power to designate members of the Assembly to aid him/her in so doing. He/she shall require observance of the rules of the Assembly and shall decide questions and order of procedure subject to majority vote of the members present. On an appeal by a member from a ruling by the presiding officer, no member shall speak more than once except by unanimous consent.

The order of business of the Assembly shall be conducted pursuant to its calendar as modified by special orders of business. Any subject may, upon recommendation of the Board of Commissioners and by vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided there is a quorum, be made a special order.

In the event that less than a quorum of the Assembly attends a meeting, those present shall have the right to adjourn the meeting to a later time, and if a quorum is present at the adjourned time the Assembly may proceed with action at such time without further call or notice.

The Assembly shall have the authority to conduct debate and vote on items of business through electronic process as delineated through such rules that the Assembly may prescribe, provided that: 1) the item of business requires action before the next regular business meeting of the Assembly; 2) 21 days' notice has elapsed from the date of the notice of the electronic meeting to any vote to be taken; 3) a quorum is present during the voting period as evinced by a majority of the members of the Assembly casting a vote on any items of business; and 4) passage of any vote shall be determined by a majority vote of the members of the Representative Assembly or a supermajority of the members of the Representative Assembly as appropriate.