



And that's Final, Maybe CA Sacramento Parliamentarians –August 12, 2015

Question:

A Main Motion to buy 3 computers was defeated by an assembly in accordance with proper rules of order. What action has the assembly decided?

Renewability of a Motion in the Same Session:

A Motion may be renewed a second time in the same session, after having been *made and disposed of without adoption*, as long as on the second time, it is not the same or substantially the same as the first motion. [RONR (11th ed.), p. 88, ll. 9-22]

Does this restriction apply to motions that are Defeated? Adopted? Withdrawn? Die for lack of a Second? Subsidiary Motions? Incidental Motions?

Definition:

Substantially Different = significant change in the wording or difference in the time or circumstances in which it is proposed. [RONR (11th ed.), p. 336, ll. 12-16]

Exceptions to renewability of a motion in the same session:

A motion may be brought up a second time in the same session by means of the parliamentary motions that bring a question again before the assembly. That is to say,

1. Take from the Table;
2. Rescind;
3. Amend Something Previously Adopted;
4. Call Reconsider the Vote; and
5. Discharge a Committee.

At a subsequent session, a motion could be renewed unless the motion came over from the previous session (not more than a quarterly time interval ago, except #5) by any of these five processes.

The original motion can still be reached because it was not finally disposed of. [RONR (11th ed.), p. 90, ll. 15-26 to p. 91, ll. 1-7]

1. Was Postponed to, or made a Special Order for, the second session;
2. Was not Taken from the Table at the first session;
3. Went over to the second session as Unfinished Business;
4. Was the subject of the motion to Reconsider but was not called yet; or
5. Was Referred to a Committee that is to report during the second session.



Particular cases of rules on Renewal during the same session:

1. An amendment is defeated.
Can the same amendment be renewed for the same motion?
2. A Series of Resolutions is defeated.
Can one of those resolutions be renewed?
3. Motion to Postpone Indefinitely was defeated. The motion is amended substantially.
Can the motion to Postpone Indefinitely be renewed?
4. A motion to Reconsider a vote is defeated.
Can a motion to Reconsider that same vote be renewed?
5. A motion to Rescind a main motion is defeated.
Can the motion to Rescind that same main motion be renewed?
6. A motion to Divide a Question is defeated.
Can a motion to Divide the same Question in substantially the same way be renewed?
7. A decision of the chair has been sustained on an Appeal.
Can the original Point of Order be renewed?

Particular cases of rules on Renewal at a later meeting of the same session:

1. A motion to Suspend the Rules is defeated.
Can the motion be renewed at a later meeting on the same day? On a different day?
2. A motion to Fix the Time to Which to Adjourn is defeated.
Can this motion be renewed during the same meeting? At the Adjourned meeting?

Specific cases of rules on Renewal within the same meeting:

1. What would have to be true in order for Renewal of Subsidiary Motions (e.g., Commit, Postpone to Certain Time, Limit or Extend Limits of Debate, Call for the Previous Question) to be in order?
2. What would have to be true in order for Renewal of Take from the Table and Call for the Orders of the Day to be in order?
3. Can the motion to close Nominations (or the Polls) be renewed?
4. A motion to Object to Consideration is lost. Can it be renewed?
The original motion that was objected to is lost, but renewed at a later session.
Can the motion to Object to Consideration be renewed?