

CONGRESS  
OF DEPUTIES

STANDING ORDERS  
OF THE CONGRESS  
OF DEPUTIES



MADRID  
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**STANDING ORDERS  
OF THE  
CONGRESS OF DEPUTIES**

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## PRELIMINARY PART

### Constituent meeting of Congress

68, 67, 62,  
1  
23, 99,  
115 C  
147 SO  
168 C  
5 SO

#### Section 1

Following a general election to the Congress, a constituent meeting of the House shall be held in accordance with Section 68.6 of the Constitution, on such day and at such time as specified in the Royal Decree issued to call the election.

Calling of the meeting

#### Section 2

The constituent meeting shall be chaired initially by the oldest of the Members-elect present, assisted by the two youngest acting as Secretaries.

Provisional Bureau

#### Section 3

1. The Chairperson shall open proceedings and one of the Secretaries shall read out the Royal Decree calling the election, the roll of Members-elect and any appeals lodged against the election results, specifying the Members-elect who may be affected by the decision on such appeals.

Procedure at meeting

2. The Bureau of the Congress shall then

Election of final Bureau

36 SO

be elected in accordance with the procedure described in Section 37 hereof. 37 SO

#### **Section 4**

Oath or  
pledge of  
allegiance to  
the  
Constitution

1. After the voting has concluded, those elected shall take an oath or pledge to observe the Constitution, for which purpose their names shall be called out in alphabetical order. The Speaker shall then declare Congress constituted, and shall adjourn the sitting.

9 C  
20, 59 SO

2. The constitution of Congress shall be notified by the Speaker to the King, the Senate and the Government.

#### **Section 5**

State  
opening of  
Parliament

Within the period of fifteen days from the constituent meeting, the State opening of the parliamentary term shall be held.

1 SO

### **PART I**

#### **Status of Members**

### **CHAPTER I**

#### **Rights of Members**

#### **Section 6**

Attendance of  
sittings

1. Members shall be entitled to attend and vote at plenary sittings of the House and at meetings of the Committees of which they are members. They may also attend, but may not vote at, the meetings of Committees of which they are not members.

67 C  
40, 99, 69,  
SO

75 C  
180, 185 SO

2. Members shall have the right to sit on at least one Committee, and to exercise the rights and perform the duties vested in them by these Rules.

Membership  
of  
Committees

### Section 7

105, 109 C

1. For the better fulfilment of their parliamentary duties, and with the prior knowledge of their respective Parliamentary Group, Members shall be entitled to request from administrative bodies all such information or documents as the latter may possess.

Request of  
data and  
reports

44, 49,  
202,  
203, 99 SO

2. The request shall be submitted, in each case, through the Speaker, and the body shall make available the documentation so requested or shall give notice to the Speaker, within a term not exceeding thirty days and for conveyance in the most suitable manner to the applicant, of the legally justified reasons preventing the supply of such information.

Procedure

### Section 8

71 C  
99 SO

1. Members shall be paid a financial allowance enabling them to perform their duties efficiently and in a decorous manner.

Salary

2. They shall also be entitled to receive such benefits, exemptions and compensation for expenses as may be indispensable for the performance of their duties.

Other  
remunerations

3. All payments received by Members shall be subject to general tax regulations.

General tax  
system  
applicable

4. The Bureau of Congress shall determine annually the amount of payments to be received by Members, and the forms thereof, within the relevant budgetary appropriations.

Bureau to lay  
down amount  
of remunerations  
every year

### Section 9

71 C  
99 SO

1. Contributions to Social Security and to the Mutual Provident Fund by Members who, as a consequence of taking up their parliamentary duties, cease to render the services in

Social  
Security

connection with which they were registered under such schemes, shall be paid out of the Budget of the House.

Agreements  
with Social  
Security

2. The Congress may establish the necessary arrangements with the agencies responsible for the administration of Social Security to fulfil the provisions of the preceding paragraph and to register under the appropriate scheme those Members who so wish and who were not previously registered under Social Security.

Extension of  
Subs. 1 to  
old age  
pensions in  
some cases

3. The provisions of paragraph 1 hereof shall also apply to pension contributions in the case of civil servants who as a result of their parliamentary duties have been granted extended leave.

## CHAPTER II

### Parliamentary Privileges

#### Section 10

Freedom of  
speech

Members shall not be accountable, even after their mandate has expired, in respect of opinions expressed by them in the performance of their duties.

71 C

#### Section 11

Freedom  
from arrest

During the period of their mandate, Members shall also enjoy immunity and may only be arrested in cases of *flagrante delicto*. They may not be indicted or persecuted without previous leave of Congress.

71 C  
13, 14 SO

#### Section 12

Measures to  
be taken by  
Speaker on  
arrest of a  
Member of  
Congress

As soon as the arrest of a Member or the taking of any other judicial or police action against a Member that may prevent the performance of his or her mandate becomes known, the Speaker shall immediately adopt

71, 66 C

all such measures as may be necessary to safeguard the rights and privileges of the House and its Members.

### Section 13

11 SO

1. Upon receipt of a formal petition by a Court (*supplicatorio*) requesting leave of the House as referred to in Section 11, the Speaker, upon prior resolution of the Bureau, shall refer the petition within a term of five days to the Committee of Members' Status. No such petition not submitted and supported with the necessary documents in the manner required by the procedural laws in force shall be admitted.

Procedure for  
incrimination  
of members

2. The Committee shall conclude its proceedings within a maximum term of thirty days after having heard the interested party. Evidence may be submitted in writing, within such term as the Committee shall appoint, or may take place orally before the Committee itself.

3. Once the Committee has concluded its task, the question shall be laid, with the necessary documentary support, at the first ordinary plenary sitting of the House.

### Section 14

1. Within a term of eight days following the decision adopted on the floor of the House concerning the granting or refusal of the authorization requested, the Speaker shall convey the decision to the judicial authority, advising such authority of its obligation to notify the House of any orders and judgments that are pronounced and that may personally affect the member.

Decision on  
waiver of  
immunity

21, 52,  
105,  
169, 101 SO

2. The petition shall be deemed to be rejected if the House fails to pronounce thereon within a term of sixty calendar days reckoned during the session, from the date following receipt of the petition.

Tacit  
refusal to  
waiver  
immunity

## CHAPTER III

### Duties of Members

#### Section 15

Duty to attend sittings

Members have the duty to attend plenary sittings of the Congress and meetings of the Committees of which they are members.

55, 99 SO

#### Section 16

Duty to observe the Rules of Procedure and parliamentary courtesies

Members shall conform in their conduct to these Rules and observe parliamentary order, courtesy and discipline, as well as refrain from disclosing any proceedings which, as provided herein, may in exceptional circumstances be of a secret nature.

72 C  
99, 103 C

63, 64, 66,  
SO

#### Section 17

Members not to use their status in private activities

Members may not avail themselves of or declare their status as such for the conduct of any business, industrial or professional activity.

101 SO

#### Section 18

Declaration of assets and remunerated activities

Members shall register a Declaration of assets, in compliance with the terms of the General Electoral System Act.

#### Section 19

Duty to observe rules on disqualification

1. Members shall at all times observe the rules on disqualifications laid down in the Constitution and in the electoral law.

70 C

Procedure

2. The Committee of Members' Status shall submit to the full House its proposals regarding disqualification of each member within the following twenty days from full acquisition of the Member Status, or from the notification—which the Member shall compulsorily make—of any alteration in the statement made for the purpose of the provisions on disqualifications.

48 SO

3. After any such disqualification has been declared and notified, the member affected thereby shall be allowed eight days in which to opt between his seat and the incompatible office. If he fails to exercise this option within the said term, he shall be deemed to have relinquished his seat.

Member to opt between incompatible positions

## CHAPTER IV

### Acquisition, suspension and loss of Member Status

#### Section 20

18 C

1. Members proclaimed elect shall acquire full status of Members of Congress by complying with the following requirements:

Acquisition of full Member status

i) Lodging with the Office of the Secretary-General the credential issued by the relevant electoral authority.

ii) Submitting a declaration of activities in compliance with the terms of the General Electoral System Act.

iii) Taking the oath or pledge to observe the Constitution at the first plenary sitting of Congress which they attend.

9 C  
4 SO

2. The rights and privileges shall be effective from such time as the Members are proclaimed elect. However, if three plenary sittings of the House are held without the Member fully acquiring such status in accordance with the preceding paragraph, he or she shall have no rights or privilege until such acquisition occurs.

70 C

Suspension of rights and privileges

#### Section 21

1. A Member shall be suspended from his or her parliamentary rights and duties:

Suspension from membership

i) Where such suspension is appropriate

by application of the rules on parliamentary discipline established herein. 101 SO

ii) Where the authorisation requested by a judicial authority has been granted by the House, and on the basis of a firm order of indictment, the Member is put into preventive detention, such suspension continuing for the duration of the detention. 14 SO

2. A Member shall be suspended in his or her parliamentary rights, privileges and obligations if a judgment of conviction that is final so decrees, or if the execution of such a judgment entails the impossibility of discharging parliamentary duties. 101, 106 SO

## Section 22

Loss of membership

A Member shall lose his or her status as such owing to the following causes:

i) By a final judicial decision annulling his or her election or proclamation. 70 C

ii) By death or incapacity, the latter being declared by a final judicial decision.

iii) By the termination of his or her mandate, due to expiration of the term thereof or dissolution of the House, without prejudice to the continuance in office of the principal and deputy members of the Permanent Deputation until the constitution of the new Congress. 115, 68 C  
78 C  
56 SO

iv) By relinquishment of his or her mandate as member before the Bureau of Congress. 67 C  
31 SO

## PART II

### Parliamentary Groups

#### Section 23

Setting-up of groups

1. A parliamentary group may be formed by a minimum of fifteen members. A Parliamentary Group may also be formed by mem- 6, 67, 78, 99 C  
24, 25, 26, 40, 48, 49, 52, 53,

54, 56, 53, 54,  
56, 63, 67, 68,  
84, 85,  
101, 117,  
139,  
146, 180,  
193, 195 SO

bers of one or more political parties which, although not reaching such minimum, have secured no fewer than five seats and at least fifteen per cent of the votes in the constituencies in which they have put up a candidate, or five per cent of the votes cast in the country as a whole.

Trans. Prov. 2 SO

2. In no case may a separate parliamentary group be formed by members of the House belonging to the same party. Nor may a separate parliamentary group be formed by members who at the time of the elections belonged to political parties that did not oppose one another before the electorate.

Limitations

## Section 24

1. The establishment of parliamentary groups shall be carried out within five days following the constituent meeting of Congress by means of a notice addressed to the Bureau.

Procedure to  
set up a  
group

2. The said notice, which shall be signed by all those wishing to form the group, shall state the name of the group and the names of all the members, of its spokesperson and of those members who may, if necessary, deputize for such spokesperson.

Contents of  
written notice

39 SO

23 SO

3. Members who belong to none of the parliamentary groups so established may associate with any of them by means of an application which, after having been accepted by the spokesperson of the group with which they wish to associate, shall be lodged with the Bureau of the House within the term specified in paragraph 1 hereof.

Associate  
members of  
groups

40 SO

4. Associates shall be counted for the determination of the minimum numbers laid down in the preceding article as well as for fixing the number of members of each group on the various Committees.

## Section 25

Mixed Group

1. Members who, according to the provisions of preceding Sections, are not included in a parliamentary group within the term specified, shall form part of the Mixed Group.

27, 75 SO

2. No Member may belong to more than one parliamentary group.

23 SO

## Section 26

Accession of  
new  
members

Members who acquire their status as such subsequently to the constituent meeting of the Congress shall join a parliamentary group within five days from such acquisition. In order to do so, the acceptance of the spokesperson of the parliamentary group in question must be attested. Otherwise they shall be included in the Mixed Group.

23 SO

## Section 27

Moving from  
one group to  
another

1. Transfers from one parliamentary group to another, except for the Mixed Group, may only take place within the first five days of each session, and in all cases the provisions of the preceding section shall be applicable.

25, 75 SO

Dissolution  
of a group

2. If the membership of a parliamentary group, other than the Mixed Group, is reduced during the life of Parliament to less than one-half of the minimum required for the formation thereof, the group shall be dissolved and its members shall automatically become members of the Mixed Group.

## Section 28

Congress to  
make  
facilities  
available to  
groups

1. The Congress shall make available to parliamentary groups sufficient premises and material means and shall allocate them, out of its Budget, a fixed subsidy which shall be the same for all groups, and an additional subsidy which shall vary according to the number of members of each group. The amounts shall be

99 SO

settled by the Bureau of the House within the limits of the relevant budgetary appropriation.

31 C

2. Parliamentary groups shall keep a specific account of the subsidy referred to in the preceding paragraph, which they shall make available to the Bureau of Congress upon request.

### **Section 29**

75 SO

All parliamentary groups, with the exceptions set forth herein, shall have exactly the same rights.

Equal rights  
for all groups

## PART III

### **Organization of Congress**

#### CHAPTER I

#### **The Bureau**

#### DIVISION 1

#### *Functions of the Bureau and its members*

### **Section 30**

72 C

1. The Bureau is the body entrusted with the management of the House and vested with the collective representation thereof in all acts at which it is present.

Nature

77, 86 SO

2. The Bureau consists of the Speaker of Congress, four Deputy Speakers and four Secretaries.

Members

Speaker to lead the Bureau	3. The Speaker directs and coordinates the action of the Bureau.	72 C 32 SO
<b>Section 31</b>		
Functions of Bureau. Organization	1. The Bureau shall have the following functions:	
	i) To adopt such decisions and measures as are required for the arrangement of business and the internal regulation and management of the House.	
Drafting Budget of Congress	ii) To prepare a draft Budget of the House, supervise and oversee its implementation and submit to the full House, at the end of each year, a report as to its fulfilment.	72 C
Ordering expenses	iii) To order the expenses of the House, without prejudice to its rights to delegate authority in this connection.	
Assessing papers and records	iv) To assess parliamentary papers and documents, in accordance with the Standing Orders, and to declare the admissibility or inadmissibility thereof.	22, 109, 130, 174, 176, 194, 197, 43 SO
Deciding how to deal with papers	v) To decide upon the consideration of all parliamentary papers and documents in accordance with the provisions of these Standing Orders.	
Arranging proceedings of the full House and of Committees	vi) To arrange the general proceedings of the House, draw up the order of business of plenary sittings and of committees for each session and coordinate the business of the various bodies, upon previous consultation in each case with the Board of Spokesmen.	67 SO 39 SO
Other functions	vii) Any other functions entrusted to it hereunder, and all functions not entrusted to a specific body.	40, 53, 60, 62, 63, 69, 76, 90,
Reconsideration of decisions	2. If a Member or a parliamentary group disagrees with the decision adopted by the Bureau in the performance of the functions referred to in paragraphs (iv) and (v) of the foregoing subsection reconsideration of such decision may be requested. The Bureau shall	91, 101, 118, 119, 126, 127, 130, 136, 149, 150, 181 SO 39 SO

finally decide, after having heard the Board of Spokesmen, by a resolution with a statement of the reasons thereof.

### Section 32

64, 72, 78  
99 C

1. The Speaker shall represent the House, ensure progress of its business without hindrance, direct debates, maintain order during the same and order payments, without prejudice to delegation of his or her authority.

Speaker's  
nature and  
functions

30 SO

72, 52 SO

2. It is the responsibility of the Speaker to observe the Standing Orders and ensure their observance, interpreting them in case of doubt and making good any omission therein. When in the performance of the latter duty he or she proposes to issue a general ruling, a favourable opinion shall be required of the Bureau and of the Board of Spokesmen.

Interpreting  
and, if necessary  
supplementing  
the Standing  
Orders

42, 67, 68,  
70, 71,  
73, 76,  
96, 97,  
104, 169 SO

3. The Speaker shall also perform all other duties vested in him or her by the Constitution, the laws and these Standing Orders.

Other duties

### Section 33

72 C

Deputy Speakers, in order of seniority, shall deputize for the Speaker and perform his or her duties in the event of vacancy, absence or incapacity. They shall also perform any other duties entrusted to them by the Speaker or the Bureau.

Deputy  
Speakers

30, 39 SO

### Section 34

72 C  
30, 56, 84,  
86, 171 SO

The Secretaries shall supervise and authorise with the Speaker's approval the minutes of plenary sittings, of the Bureau and of the Board of Spokesmen, as well as any certificates that may have to be issued; assist the Speaker in the sittings of the House to ensure order in debates and correct voting; cooperate in ensuring the unencumbered progress of business in the House in accordance with the Speaker's

Secretaries

instructions and perform, in addition, any other duties entrusted to them by the Speaker or the Bureau.

### Section 35

Secretary-General  
(Head Clerk  
of the House)

1. Meetings of the Bureau shall be called by the Speaker and shall be counselled by the Clerk (*Letrado de las Cortes*) appointed as Secretary-General, who shall draw up the minutes of meetings and shall ensure, under the supervision of the Speaker, the implementation of its decisions.

67, 72, 79  
C  
20, 39, 45,  
65,  
92, 60 SO

Appointment  
of the  
Secretary-General

2. The Secretary General shall be appointed by the Bureau of the House, upon the Speaker's proposal among Clerks with more than five years of actual service.

## DIVISION 2

### *Election of members of the Bureau*

### Section 36

Election of  
the Bureau

1. Congress shall elect the members of the Bureau in its constituent sitting.

72 C

Bureau to be  
elected again

2. A new election of members of the Bureau shall be held if the decisions pronounced on appeals lodged against the election results involve a change in more than ten per cent of the seats. Such election shall take place after the new Members have acquired full status.

3 SO

### Section 37

Election of  
Speaker

1. In the election of the Speaker, each member shall write a single name on the ballot paper. The candidate having obtained the votes of the overall majority of members of the House shall be elected. If no candidate obtains such a majority on the first ballot, the election shall be repeated among the two candidates

72 C  
3, 41, 56 SO

who have achieved the highest number of votes, and the candidate who obtains more votes shall then be elected.

2. The four Deputy Speakers shall be elected simultaneously. Each member shall write a single name on the ballot paper. The four candidates obtaining the highest number of votes shall be elected in that order. The four Secretaries shall be elected in the same manner.

Election of Deputy Speakers

88, 204 SO

3. In the event of a tie, successive ballots shall be held among the tied candidates until the tie is broken.

Ballots to be held in case of tie

### Section 38

72 C

Any vacancies occurring in the Bureau during the parliamentary term shall be filled by election in plenary sitting as provided for in the preceding Section, the provisions of which shall be adjusted to fit the actual number of vacancies to be filled.

Vacancies in Bureau

## CHAPTER II

### The Board of Spokesmen (*Junta de Portavoces*)

#### Section 39

67, 78 C  
31, 67, 40,  
50, 52, 53,  
118, 89,  
147, 150, 151,  
161, 171,  
177, 149 SO  
110 C  
55, 62, 63,  
67, 70, 86,  
112, 33, 34, 35,  
SO  
67 SO

1. Spokespersons of parliamentary groups shall make up the Board of Spokesmen. Meetings of the Board shall be chaired by the Speaker of Congress. The Speaker shall convene such meetings on his own initiative or at the request of two parliamentary groups or one-fifth of the Members of the House.

Members of the Board

2. Meetings of the Board of Spokesmen shall be notified to the Government so that, if it sees fit, it can send a representative who may, if necessary, be accompanied by an assistant.

Government entitled to send a representative to meetings

Attendance	3. Meetings of the Board of Spokesmen must be attended by at least one Deputy Speaker, one of the Secretaries of the House and the Secretary-General. The spokesmen or their substitutes may be accompanied by a member of their group, who will not be entitled to vote.	24 SO
Decisions always by weighted vote	4. The decisions of the Board of Spokesmen shall always be adopted by applying the principle of weighted vote.	88 SO

## CHAPTER III

### Committees

#### DIVISION 1

##### *Committees. General rules*

#### Section 40

Membership	1. Except where otherwise provided, committees shall consist of such number of members designated by each parliamentary group as shall be determined by the Bureau of Congress, upon consultation with the Board of Spokesmen and in proportion to the number of each group in the House.	75 C 6, 24, 39, 47, 48, 50, 56, 68 SO
Replacements	2. Parliamentary groups may replace one or more of their members on a committee by any other member or members of the same group, upon prior written notice to the Speaker of Congress. If the substitution is for a specific matter, debate or meeting only, notice shall be given verbally or in writing to the Chairman of the committee and if in such notice it is stated that the substitution is a purely contingent one, then the Chairman shall admit as a member of	70 SO

the committee either the substitute or the original member.

110 C  
44 SO

3. Members of the Government may attend and speak at committee meetings but may only vote at meetings of committees of which they are members.

Members of Government may attend, but not vote

### Section 41

37, 67, 77,  
110 SO

Subject to the exceptions provided for herein, committees elect among their members a bureau (Mesa) composed of a Chairperson, two Vice-Chairs and two Secretaries. The election shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions governing the election of the Bureau of Congress, with due allowance for the different number of posts to be filled.

Bureau of Committee Election of the same

### Section 42

61 C

1. Committees shall be convened by the Chairperson, in agreement with the Speaker, on his own initiative or at the request of two parliamentary groups or one-fifth of the Committee members.

Committees convened by Chair

32 SO

2. The Speaker may convene and chair any committee meeting, but he or she shall only be entitled to vote at the meetings of committees of which he or she is a member.

Speaker entitled to convene and preside over any committee

### Section 43

31 SO

1. Committees shall have cognizance of the bills or business entrusted to them, in accordance with their respective jurisdiction, by the Bureau of Congress.

Committees to deal with bills sent to them by Bureau

2. The Bureau of Congress, on its own initiative or at the request of an interested committee, may resolve that on questions falling within the principal jurisdiction of one committee, another committee or committees shall report previously.

Prior report by other committees

Time-limit for  
Committee's  
report

3. Committees must conclude the consideration of any business within a maximum term of two months, except in cases in which the Constitution or these Standing Orders set a different term, or the Bureau of the House, having regard to such exceptional circumstances as may exist, resolves to extend or reduce such term.

113 SO

#### Section 44

Committees may request, through the Speaker:

Information  
and papers

i) Such information and documentation as they may require from the Government and administrative bodies, subject to the provisions of Section 7, paragraph 2.

109 C  
110 C  
7 SO  
DF 5 SO

Attendance of  
members of  
Government

ii) The attendance of members of the Government to report on matters relating to their respective Department.

40, 202,  
203 SO

Attendance of  
other  
authorities

iii) The attendance of authorities and civil servants competent by reason of the subject-matter of the debate in order that they report to the committee.

52 SO

Attendance of  
other persons

iv) The attendance of persons competent in the subject-matter for the purposes of reporting to and advising the committee.

52 SO

#### Section 45

Clerks of the  
House

The Clerks shall furnish to committees, and in particular to their Bureaus and reporting sub-committees, the necessary technical and legal advice for the accomplishment of the tasks entrusted thereto, and shall draw up the appropriate reports reflecting any resolutions adopted.

35, 55 SO

## DIVISION 2

### Standing Committees

#### Section 46

1. There shall be the following Standing Legislative Committees:

- i) Constitutional
- ii) Foreign Affairs
- iii) Justice
- iv) Home Affairs
- v) Defence
- vi) Finance and Treasury
- vii) Budget
- viii) Public Works and Housing
- ix) Education and Science
- x) Social and Employment Policy
- xi) Industry, Trade and Tourism
- xii) Food, Agriculture and Fishing
- xiii) Public Administration
- xiv) Culture
- xv) Health and Consumer Affairs and xvi) Environment

2. Other Standing Committees are those required to be set up by a legal provision, and they shall be the following:

- i) Rules
- ii) Members' Status
- iii) Petitions

3. The Standing Committees referred to in the preceding paragraphs shall be set up within ten days following the constituent meeting of the Congress.

#### Section 47

The Rules Committee shall consist of the Speaker, who shall chair the Committee, the remaining members of the Bureau of Congress and the members appointed by parliamentary groups in accordance with the provisions of Section 40 hereof.

List of  
Legislative  
Committees

Setting-up of  
Committees  
within 10 days

Rules  
Committee

60 SO

72 C  
Final Prov.  
2 SO  
40 SO

## Section 48

Committee on Members' Status	1. The Committee on Members' Status shall consist of one member from each parliamentary group. It shall have a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary who shall be representatives, in that order, of the three largest parliamentary groups at the beginning of the parliamentary term.	40 SO
Committee to prepare decisions of full House on Members' Status	2. The Committee shall act as the body responsible for preparing the resolutions of the full House when the latter, pursuant to these Standing Orders, is to pronounce on matters affecting the status of Members, except where the proposal rests with the Speaker or the Bureau.	71 C 18, 64, 101 SO
Committee's proposals to be sent up to the full House	3. The Committee shall lay before the full House, properly arranged in articles and giving reasons therefor, the proposals agreed upon by its members.	63 SO

## Section 49

Petitions Committee	1. The provisions of subsection 1 of the preceding Section shall be applicable to the Committee on Petitions.	
Procedure on each petition	2. The Committee shall examine each individual or collective petition received by Congress and may resolve upon the reference thereof, as may be appropriate and through the Speaker of the House, to: i) The Defender of the People (Ombudsman). ii) The committee of Congress that is considering the matter in question. iii) The Senate, the Government, the Courts, the Public Prosecutor, the Selfgoverning Community, Provincial Council, Canarian insular Council (Cabildo) or Town Council concerned.	77 C 54 C 7 SO
Committee may shelve petition	3. The Committee may also resolve, if the reference provided for in the preceding paragraph is not appropriate, on the shelving of the petition with no further action.	

4. In all cases the petition shall be acknowledged and the resolution shall be notified to the petitioner.

Shelving  
decision to  
be notified to  
petitioner

### **Section 50**

39, 40 SO

1. The full House, upon the proposal of the Bureau following consultation with the Board of Spokesmen, may resolve upon the appointment of other Standing Committees for the duration of the parliamentary term in which the resolution is taken.

Other  
Standing  
Committees  
may be set up  
by full House

2. The resolution to set up such a committee shall lay down the criteria governing the distribution of responsibilities between the committee so created and such other committees, if any, as may be affected thereby.

3. The dissolution of the committees referred to in this Section may be resolved upon by the same procedure as specified in subsection 1 hereof.

## **DIVISION 3**

### *Ad Hoc Committees*

### **Section 51**

Ad Hoc Committees are committees set up for a specific task. They are dissolved upon the conclusion of the business entrusted to them, and in any event at the end of the parliamentary term.

207 SO

### **Section 52**

76 C

1. Upon the proposal of the Government, the Bureau, two parliamentary groups or one-fifth of the members of the House, the full House may resolve to set up a Committee of Enquiry into any matter of public interest.

Procedure for  
setting up  
an Enquiry  
Committee

Schedule of business	2. Enquiry Committees shall draw up an agenda and may appoint reporting sub-committees among their members and require, through the Speaker, any person to give evidence. Requirements shall be issued in compliance with the Law described in Section 76.2 of the Constitution, and will in any case meet the following requirements:	44 SO
	a) A requirement to give evidence, including the particular subjects to be reported on, must be issued a fortnight in advance. Shorter notice may be given in case of emergency, but will never be under three days.	
	b) In the written notice, the person in question shall be informed of his or her rights and duties. The person giving evidence may be accompanied and assisted by the person of his or her choice.	
Procedure	3. The Speaker, after having heard the Committee, may, when necessary, dictate the appropriate rules of procedure. In an Enquiry Committee, decisions shall always be adopted on the basis of a weighted vote.	32, 63, 64, SO
Findings to be discussed by full House	4. The findings of these committees, which shall not be binding upon the courts nor affect judicial decisions, shall be set forth in a report for discussion on the floor of the House. The Speaker, upon consultation with the Board of Spokesmen, shall be entitled to arrange the debate, grant the floor and determine the amount of time to be allocated to each speaker.	76 C 39 SO
Publication of findings	5. The findings approved by the full House shall be published in the Official Parliamentary Bulletin ( <i>Boletín Oficial de las Cortes Generales</i> ) and notified to the Government, without prejudice to the possibility of their being sent by the Bureau of the House to the Public Prosecutor for the institution, if appropriate, of legal proceedings.	96 SO 97 SO 76 C 101, 105, 169 SO

6. At the request of the parliamentary groups proposing the conclusions, any dissenting opinions rejected shall also be published in the Official Parliamentary Bulletin.

Dissenting opinions also to be published

### Section 53

31, 39 SO

The appointment of ad hoc committees other than those provided for in preceding Section, and the possible mixed or joint nature thereof in relation to other existing Committees, may be resolved upon by the Bureau of the House on its own initiative, on that of two parliamentary groups or of one fifth of the members of Congress, and after consultation with the Board of Spokesmen.

Other non standing committees

## CHAPTER IV

### Plenary Sitzings

#### Section 54

67, 75, 79  
23 SO

Plenary sittings shall be convened by the Speaker, on his or her own initiative or at the request of a least two parliamentary groups or one fifth of Members of Congress.

Convocation

#### Section 55

15, 70 SO

1. Members shall take their seats in accordance with their membership of parliamentary groups and shall always occupy the same seats.

Arrangement of seats

2. There shall be a special bench for members of the Government.

Special Government bench

3. Access to the House shall only be allowed, in addition to the above-mentioned persons, to the personnel of the *Cortes Generales* in the discharge of their duties and to persons expressly authorised by the Speaker.

Limitations to access to Assembly Hall

## CHAPTER V

### Permanent Deputation

#### Section 56

- Chairmanship
- Membership
- Principal and deputy members
- Bureau of Committee
- Convocation of Committee
1. The Permanent Deputation shall be chaired by the Speaker and consist of a minimum of twenty-one members, who shall represent parliamentary groups in proportion to their numerical importance.
  2. The number of members shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of Section 49.1. Each parliamentary group shall appoint the number of principal members to which it is entitled, and an equal number of deputies.
  3. The Permanent Deputation shall elect among its members two Vice-Chairmen and two Secretaries, in accordance with the rules for the election of the Bureau of Congress with due allowance for the different number of posts to be filled.
  4. The Permanent Deputation shall be convened by the Speaker on his own initiative or at the request of two parliamentary groups or one-fifth of the members of the Deputation.

#### Section 57

- Functions of Permanent Deputation
- It shall be the responsibility of the Permanent Deputation to safeguard the powers of the House when not in session, and in addition:
1. In the event of dissolution or expiry of the mandate of Congress,
    - a) To assume all the authority in relation to Decree-Laws (Decretos-leyes) that is vested in the Congress under Section 86 of the Constitution. 86 C  
151 SO
    - b) To exercise the powers with respect to states of alert, emergency and siege vested 116 C  
152 a

165 SO in the House under Section 116 of the Constitution.

73 C  
61 SO 2. In the intervals between sessions, to exercise the initiative provided for in Section 73.2 of the Constitution.

### Section 58

Meetings of the Permanent Deputation and the functioning thereof shall be governed by the rules set out herein with respect to plenary sittings.

Functioning of the Permanent Deputation

### Section 59

78 C  
4 SO Following a general election, the Permanent Deputation shall inform Congress once it is constituted, of the business that it has transacted and of any decisions adopted.

Report to full Congress after new general election

## CHAPTER VI

### Human and material resources

#### Section 60

72 C  
35, 45 SO 1. The Congress shall have available the necessary personal and material means and facilities for the conduct of its business, and in particular technical, documentary and advisory services.

Technical facilities

46 SO 2. The Budget Committee shall especially be provided with a suitable allocation of personal and material means of its own to enable it to furnish relevant technical advice on those aspects of legislative proceedings bearing upon revenue and public expenditure.

Special facilities to be made available to the Budget Committee

31 SO 3. The schedule of individual posts, and the determination of the duties of each post, shall be drawn up by the Bureau of Congress.

Bureau to draw up schedule of posts and description of tasks

PART IV

General arrangement of business

CHAPTER I

Sessions and sittings

Section 61

Sessions

1. Congress shall meet annually in two ordinary sessions from September to December and from February to June.

73 C

Extraordinary sessions

2. Outside these periods, Congress may only hold extraordinary sessions at the request of the Government, the, Permanent Deputation or the overall majority of Members of the House. The request must specify the agenda proposed for the extraordinary session.

73 C  
57 SO, 90 SO

3. The Speaker shall convene the extraordinary session whenever called upon to do so, pursuant to the Constitution, by the persons mentioned in the preceding paragraph and in accordance with the agenda proposed to him or her. In any event, Congress shall remain sitting until such time as the agenda for which it was convened is concluded.

67 SO

Section 62

Ordinary sitting days

1. As a general rule, sittings shall be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of each week.

67, 71 SO

Extraordinary sitting days

2. They may, however, be held on other days:

i) By a decision adopted on the floor of the House or in a committee on the initiative of the Speaker or the Chairman, as the case may be, or of two parliamentary groups or one-fifth of the Members sitting in the House or on the committee.

ii) By a decision of the Bureau accepted by the Board of Spokesmen.

### Section 63

80 C  
64 SO

Sittings of the full House shall be public with the following exceptions:

Exceptions to public sittings

71, 101,  
169 SO

i) When transacting business relating to the decorum of the House or of its Members or to the suspension of a Member.

48, 52 SO

ii) When debating proposals, reports or findings tabled by the Committee of Member's Status.



31, 39,  
23 SO

iii) When so decided on the floor of the House by the overall majority of its members, on the initiative of the Bureau of the Government, of two parliamentary groups or of one fifth of Members of Congress. When a request for a secret sitting is submitted, the question shall be put without a debate and the sitting shall continue in the form resolved upon.

### Section 64

Committee meetings not public

63, 98 SO

1. Committee meetings shall not be public. However, they may be attended by duly accredited representatives of the media, except when they are secret.

2. Committee meeting, including enquiry committees, shall be secret when so decided by the overall majority of their members, on the initiative of the Chair, the Government, two parliamentary groups or one-fifth of their members.

Secret committee meetings

48, 52 SO

3. Meetings and proceedings of the Committee of Members' Status shall, in all cases, be secret.

4. Meetings held by Enquiry Committees to draw up their agenda or prepare decisions for the Plenum, for internal deliberation, or meetings of sub-committees, shall not be public. Information, reports or documents laid before Committees for the exercise of their functions shall also be secret when so stated in Law, or

on the agreement of the Committee itself. Inversely, Enquiry Committee meetings held to hear evidence shall comply with Sub-section 1 above, except in the following cases:

a) When the subject matter has been classified as reserved or secret in compliance with the current law.

b) When the Committee considers the subject matter is related to legal proceedings under way that have been declared secret.

### **Section 65**

1. Sittings of the full House and committee meetings shall be recorded in the minutes, which shall give a brief description of the matters debated, the speakers, any other issues that have arisen and the resolution adopted.

2. The minutes shall be signed by one of the Secretaries with the approval of the Speaker or Chairman, as the case may be, and shall be available for examination by members at the Office of the Head Clerk (Secretary General). If no objection is raised to the contents within ten days of the sitting, the minutes shall be deemed to be approved; otherwise they shall be submitted to the decision of the body concerned at its next sitting.

### **Section 66**

Senators may attend plenary sittings and committee meeting that are not secret.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **Agenda**

#### **Section 67**

1. The agenda of plenary sittings shall be drawn up by the Speaker in agreement with the Board of Spokesmen.

Minutes of full House sittings and of committee meetings

34, 35 SO

Senators' right to attend

Drawing-up of agenda of full House

32, 39, 61, 62 SO

41, 31, 31 SO	2. The agenda of committees shall be drawn up by their respective bureau, in consultation with the Speaker, taking into account the order of business arranged by the Bureau of Congress.	Agenda of committees
110, 89 C 39, 55, 133 SO	3. The Government may request that at a specific sitting certain business be accorded priority, provided it has been complied with the proper formalities enabling it to be included on the agenda.	Request by Government for priority
68 SO	4. On the initiative of a parliamentary group or the Government, the Board of Spokesmen may resolve, for reasons of urgency and subject to unanimity, to include certain business on the agenda that has not yet fulfilled the due procedures.	Inclusion of urgent business
<b>Section 68</b>		
32, 23 SO	1. The agenda of a plenary sitting maybe altered by a resolution of the full House upon the Speaker's proposal or at the request of two parliamentary groups or one-fifth of the Members of the House.	Changes in agenda of full House
40 SO	2. The agenda of a committee may be altered by decision of the committee, upon the proposal of its Chairman or at the request of two parliamentary groups or one fifth of the members sitting on the committee.	Changes in a committees agenda
67 SO	3. In both cases, whenever the inclusion of an item of business is suggested, it must have fulfilled the proper formalities enabling it to be included.	

## CHAPTER III

### Debates

#### Section 69

Prior distribution of papers relating to subject matter

No debate may start without prior distribution to all members entitled to attend the plenary sitting or the committee meeting, as the case may be, at least forty-eight hours in advance, of the report, opinion or documents which is to serve as the basis of such debate, unless otherwise resolved by the Bureau of the House or of the committee, with proper justification.

6 SO

#### Section 70

Right to speak

1. No member may speak without having requested and obtained the right to do so from the Chair. If a member called upon to speak is found not to be present, he shall be deemed to have waived his right to take the floor.

32, 80 SO

Conditions and limitations

Speeches to be personal

2. Speeches shall be made personally and aloud. The speaker may address the House from the rostrum or from his seat.

55 SO

No interruption allowed

3. No-one may be interrupted while speaking except by the Chair to advise him or her that his or her time has run out, to call him or her order, to withdraw the right to speak or to call to order the House or any member thereof, or the public.

32 SO

102 SO

103, 104 SO

Passing the floor to other members

4. Members who have asked for the floor to like effect may assign to each other their turn to speak. Subject to prior notice to the Chair and for a specific case, any member entitled to speak may be replaced by another member of the same parliamentary group.

40 SO

Members of Government may speak at any time

5. Members of the Government may take the floor whenever they request, without prejudice to the powers vested in the Chair for the organisation of debates.

110, 39, 73, 118 SO

32, 102 SO      6. Once the time allocated to a member has run out, the Chair after having twice called upon him to conclude, shall withdraw from him the right to address the House.      Withdrawal of floor after time has elapsed

**Section 71**

63, 103 SO      1. When in the course of a debate allusions are made which, in the opinion of the Chair, entail value judgments or inaccuracies concerning the person or conduct of a Member, the person referred to may be granted the floor for a period of time not exceeding three minutes during which, without going into the substance of the question under debate, he or she may strictly reply to the references made. If the member oversteps this allocation of time, the Speaker shall immediately withdraw his or her right to continue speaking.      Personal allusion to Members

62 SO      2. Allusions may only be responded to in the same sitting or in the next.      Reply

32, 63, 103 SO      3. If the allusion affects the decorum or dignity of a parliamentary group, the Chair may grant the floor to a representative thereof for the same time and subject to the same conditions as laid down in paragraphs 1 and 2 hereof.      Allusions affecting the decorum of the House

**Section 72**

9 C, 32 SO      1. At any stage in the debate a member may call for the observance of the Standing Orders. To this end, he shall quote the section or sections the application of which he demands. No debate whatsoever shall be allowed in this connection and the decision adopted by the Chair in view of the allegation so made shall be accepted.      Points of order. Calls for the observance of Rules

2. Any Member may also request, during the discussion or before a vote is taken, the reading of such rules or documents as he or she may deem conducive to the clarification of the matter at issue. The Chair may reject any such      Request to read out legal provisions or documents

readings which it deems irrelevant or unnecessary.

### Section 73

Reply and rectification to previous arguments

1. In all debates a speaker whose arguments are contradicted by another speaker or speakers shall be entitled to reply or rectify, once only, for a maximum time of five minutes.

118, 183,  
184, 188,  
195 SO

Arrangement of debate and voting by Speaker unaffected by these provisions

2. The application of these Rules to any debate shall be deemed to be without prejudice to the powers of the Chair to conduct the debate and the voting, upon consultation with the Board of Spokesmen, and, assessing the importance thereof, to increase or reduce the number and duration of the opportunities to speak granted to parliamentary groups or members, as well as to accumulate, taking into account circumstances of groups and subject-matters, all those allocations of time to which, in a given matter, any single parliamentary group may be entitled.

70, 118,  
103,  
192, 195 SO

### Section 74

One turn for, one turn against, in every debate

In the absence of a specific provision, it shall be understood that in any debate a speech for and a speech against shall be allowed. The time allotted to any speaker in a discussion of any matter or question, unless otherwise herein provided, shall not exceed ten minutes.

112, 126,  
122, 131,  
150, 151,  
161, 168 SO

### Section 75

Speeches of the Mixed Group

1. Speeches of the Mixed Group may be made by a single member and for the same length of time as other parliamentary groups, on condition that all members thereof so agree and convey to the Speaker of Congress, through their spokesmen or the member deputising for him, the decision so adopted.

169 SO  
25, 27, 29  
SO

2. Failing such agreement, no member belonging to the Mixed Group may speak, during the time allotted to parliamentary groups, for more than one-third of the total time allocated to each parliamentary group, and no more than three such members may speak. If the allocation of time resulting from the division of the total by three does not equal or exceed five minutes, then the time allocated shall be one-half instead of one-third, and the number of members entitled to speak shall be two instead of three.

3. If there is disagreement as to who is to speak, the Chair shall decide on the spot on the basis of actual differences of position, and may refuse to grant any allocation of time to members of such group.

4. In all general allocations of time to parliamentary groups, the Mixed Group shall be the first to speak.

Mixed Group  
to speak first

## Section 76

31, 32 SO

The closure of a debate at any time may be decided by the Chair in agreement with the Bureau when it considers that a matter has been sufficiently debated. It may also so decide upon request by the spokesman of a parliamentary group. With respect to the request for closure, one speech for and one against, each for a maximum of five minutes, may be allowed.

## Section 77

30, 41 SO

If the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker or the Secretaries of the House, or the Chairman, Vice-Chairmen or Secretaries of a Committee, wish to take part in the debate, they shall leave their seat on the Bureau and shall not resume it until the discussion of the matter concerned has concluded.

Speaker,  
Chairman or other  
members of  
Bureau taking  
part in  
House debates

## CHAPTER IV

### Voting

#### Section 78

Quorum of attendance

1. For the passage of resolutions, the full House and its bodies shall be assembled in accordance with these Standing Orders and with the attendance of the majority of their members.

79 C  
79 SO

Postponement of voting if there is no quorum

2. If at voting time, or after a vote has been taken, it is found that the quorum referred to in the preceding paragraph is not present, the voting shall be postponed for a maximum period of two hours. If after the lapse of this time it again proves impossible for a vote to be validly taken, the matter shall be referred to the decision of the appropriate body at its next sitting.

#### Section 79

Majority requirements for validity of decisions

1. In order to be valid, resolutions must be carried by a single majority of members of the appropriate body in attendance, without prejudice to special majorities provided for in the Constitution, Organic Acts or these Standing Orders.



79 C  
79 SO

Vote to be personal. No delegation

2. A Member's vote is personal and may not be delegated. No Member may vote on resolutions affecting his status as such.

67 C, 79 C

#### Section 80

No interruptions in voting

Voting may not be interrupted for any reason whatsoever. During the course of the voting, the Speaker shall not grant the floor and no member may enter or leave the House.

70, 55 SO

#### Section 81

Fixing of voting time

In the cases considered herein, and in such other cases as, due to their special nature or importance, the Speaker may so decide, votes

131, 169 SO

shall be taken at a fixed time previously announced by the Speaker. If at the time appointed the debate has not concluded, the Speaker shall appoint a new time for voting.

### Section 82



Voting may be:

- i) By assent to the Speaker's proposal.
- ii) Ordinary.
- iii) Public, by roll call.
- iv) Secret.

Forms of voting

### Section 83

82 SO

The proposal made by the Speaker shall be deemed adopted by assent if, when put to the House, no objection or opposition is raised.

Proposal accepted by assent

### Section 84

82 SO

Ordinary voting may be conducted, at the discretion of the Speaker, in either of the following ways:

Different ways of ordinary voting

34, 23 SO

1. By those in favour standing up first, those against next and lastly those who abstain. The Speaker shall order the Secretaries to count the votes if he is in any doubt as to the outcome, or if, even after the result has been announced, any parliamentary group so requests.

87 SO

2. By an electronic process recording each member's vote, and the total result of the voting.

### Section 85

82 SO

23 SO

1. Voting shall be public by roll call or secret when so required by these Standing Orders, or when requested by two parliamentary groups or one-fifth of Members of the House or the committee's members. In the event that more than one request is made, to opposite effects, the request for a secret ballot shall prevail. In no case shall voting be secret on legis-

Public voting by roll call.  
Secret voting

lative procedure or in those cases in which resolutions must be passed according to the principle of weighted voting.

Public vote for investiture of Prime Minister, for censure and for confidence

2. Voting on investiture of the Prime Minister, motions of censure and questions of confidence shall in all cases be public by roll call.

### Section 86

Procedure in public vote by roll call

In public voting by roll call, the Secretary shall call upon Members by name and they shall reply “yes”, “no” or abstention. The call shall be made in alphabetical order of first surnames, beginning with a member whose name is drawn by lot. The Government and the Bureau shall vote last.

34 SO

39, 30 SO

### Section 87

Secret vote and forms thereof

1. A secret ballot shall be held:

89 SO

i) By an electronic process recording the total outcome of the voting, but omitting the identity of voters.

80 C  
84, 85 SO

ii) By ballot papers when the election of persons is involved, when so decided by the Speaker and when this form of voting has been specified in the request for a secret ballot.

169, 204,  
205, 206 SO

2. To carry out the voting referred to in subparagraph 2 of preceding subsection, members shall be called by name to the table at which the Bureau sits to put their ballot paper into the appropriate box.

### Section 88

Ties in votes at plenary sittings

1. If any voting results in a tie, a second vote shall be taken, and if the tie is repeated, the voting shall be suspended for such period as the Speaker may deem reasonable. Once this period has elapsed, the vote shall be repeated and if a tie again occurs, the report, article, amendment, dissenting opinion or proposal in question shall be deemed to have been rejected.

37, 204 SO

39 SO            2. In committee votes, no tie shall be deemed to exist when there is a possibility of breaking the tie by allowing for the number of votes represented by each group in the full House, provided all members of the committee belonging to the same parliamentary group have voted in the same way.

Ties in voting at committees

### Section 89

118, 156 SO        1. Once a vote or a series of votes on the same question has been taken, each parliamentary group shall be allocated a maximum time of five minutes in which to explain its vote.

Explanations of vote

118, 156 SO        2. In the case of public bills, private members' bills and international treaties or agreements, vote may only be explained after the conclusion of the voting, unless this has been divided into clearly differentiated parts for the purpose of the debate, in which case the explanation may be given after the last vote on each part. In the cases considered in this paragraph, the Chair may extend the time allocation to ten minutes.

Explanations of vote on bills and international treaties

87 SO            3. No explanation of vote shall be allowed if the voting has been secret or if all the parliamentary groups have had the opportunity to take part in the preceding debate.

Cases in which no explanation of vote is allowed

39 SO            Nevertheless, in the latter case, a parliamentary group that has taken part in the debate and as a consequence thereof has changed its vote, shall be entitled to explain the change.

## CHAPTER V

### Calculation of terms and lodging of documents

#### Section 90

Computation  
of terms

1. Unless otherwise provided, terms expressed in days in these Standing Orders shall be counted as business days and those expressed in months shall be reckoned from date to date.

Non-session  
periods not  
to be counted

2. The calculation shall not include days on which Congress is not sitting, unless the business in question is included in the agenda of an extraordinary session. The Bureau of Congress shall determine the days that are to be specially set aside for the sole purpose of complying with the necessary formalities to enable such a session to be held.

61 SO

31 SO

#### Section 91

Extension or  
reduction of  
terms

1. The Bureau may resolve upon the extension or reduction of the terms laid down in these Rules.

31, 113 SO

2. Apart from exceptional cases, extensions shall not exceed the length of the term itself nor reductions one half.

94 SO

#### Section 92

Tabling of  
documents  
and entry in  
Register

1. The tabling of documents with the Register of the Secretary-General of Congress may be made on such days and at such times as the Bureau shall appoint.

35 SO

2. Documents delivered to the Post Office within the term allowed shall be accepted, provided the requirements laid down for this purpose in the Administrative Procedure Act are complied with.

## CHAPTER VI

### Urgent Procedure

#### Section 93

90, 86 C  
151 SO

1. At the request of the Government, two parliamentary groups or one-fifth of the Members, the Bureau may resolve that certain business be transacted by the urgent procedure.

Decision of Bureau to use urgent procedure

2. If the resolution is adopted while a formality is in progress, the urgent procedure shall apply to the formalities subsequent thereto.

#### Section 94

91 SO

Without prejudice to the provisions of Section 91 hereof, terms shall have one-half of the duration established for ordinary terms.

Terms cut by one half

## CHAPTER VII

### Publications of Congress and publicity of its business

#### Section 95

97 SO

The following shall be the official publications of the Congress.

List of official Congress publications

i) The Official Parliamentary Bulletin, Congress Section.

96 SO

ii) The Journal of Debates (*Diario de Sesiones*) of Plenary Sitzings of Congress, of the Permanent Deputation and of Committees.

#### Section 96

95 SO

1. In the Journal of Debates all proceedings and resolutions adopted on the floor of the House, in the Permanent Deputation and

Contents of Journal of Debates

in Committees that are not secret in character shall be printed in full, with details of any other issues arising.

Minutes  
of secret  
sittings

2. Minutes of secret sittings shall be taken down in shorthand, the sole copy of which shall be kept in the Office of the Speaker. This copy may be consulted by Members with prior agreement of the Bureau. The resolutions adopted shall be published in the Journal of Debates, unless the Bureau decides that they are confidential, without prejudice to the provisions of subsections 5 and 6 of Section 52 hereof.

80 C, 32 SO

52 SO

### Section 97

Official  
Parliamentary  
Bulletin

1. The Official Parliamentary Bulletin, Congress Section, shall print the texts and documents whose publication is required by these Standing Orders is necessary for purposes of due information and appropriate parliamentary examination, or is ordered by the Speaker.

52 SO

95, 97 SO

32 SO

Reproduction  
of documents  
by other  
means

2. For reasons of urgency, the Speaker may order, for the purpose of debate and voting and without prejudice to the subsequent printing thereof in the Official Bulletin, that the documents referred to in the preceding paragraph be reproduced by some other mechanical means and distributed to members belonging to the body that is to debate them.

32 SO

### Section 98

The Bureau  
to give  
information  
to mass  
media

1. The Bureau shall adopt such measures as are appropriate in each case to provide information to the media on the activities of the various bodies of Congress.

64 SO

Credentials  
for  
representatives  
of mass  
media

2. The Bureau shall also regulate the granting of credentials to photographers and reporters representing the various media in order that they may have access to the premises allocated to them within the parliamentary pre-

64 SO

cincts and to the sittings which they are allowed to attend.

72 C 3. Without the express authorization of the Speaker, no one may make film or sound recordings of the sittings held by the bodies of the House.

Film and sound recordings

## CHAPTER VIII

### Maintenance of order

#### DIVISION 1

##### *Penalties for breach of Members' duties*

#### Section 99

6, 7, 8, 9 SO 1. A Member may be deprived, by resolution of the Bureau, of some or all of the rights granted to him under Sections 6 to 9 of these Standing Orders in the following cases:

Forfeiture of Member's rights as penalty

15 SO i) If he repeatedly or notoriously fails, of his own free will, to attend sittings of the full House or of committees.

16 SO ii) If he fails to keep the duty of secrecy established in Section 16 hereof.

28, 101 SO 2. The resolution of the Bureau, which shall state the reasons therefor, shall specify the scope and duration of the penalties, which may also extend to a proportional part of the allowance contemplated in Section 28 hereof.

Resolution to state reasons for penalty inflicted

#### Section 100

104 SO Prohibition to attend one or two meetings and the immediate expulsion of a member, may be imposed by the Speaker on the terms laid down in these Rules.

Barring members from attendance  
Expulsion

## Section 101

Suspension  
of  
membership  
by the full  
House

1. Temporary suspension of the status of Member of Congress may be resolved upon by the full House, on grounds of parliamentary discipline, in the following cases:

21, 106,  
107 SO

i) If, after the penalty contemplated in Section 99 has been imposed and complied with, the Member persists in his attitude.

99 SO

ii) If the Member carries weapons within the parliamentary precincts.

iii) If the Member, having been expelled from the Assembly Hall, refuses to leave it.

iv) If the Member is in breach of Section 17 hereof.

17 SO

Proposals of  
Bureau to be  
discussed in  
secret sitting  
of the House

2. The proposals made by the Bureau of the House in the first three cases of the preceding subsection and by the Committee of Members' Status in the fourth case, shall be submitted to consideration and decision by the full House in a secret sitting. In the debate, parliamentary groups may speak through their spokesmen and the House shall resolve forthwith.

31, 48 SO

63 SO

Reference to  
judicial  
authorities

3. If the cause of the penalty may, in the opinion of the Bureau, constitute a criminal offence, the Speaker shall convey the incriminating facts to the judicial authority having jurisdiction.

21, 52,  
05, 169 SO

## DIVISION 2

### *Calls to Order*

## Section 102

Member  
called to keep  
to the point

1. Speakers shall be requested to keep to the point whenever they have digressed therefrom or reverted to a question that has already been debated and voted.

70 SO

70 SO            2. The Speaker shall withdraw the right to address the House from any Member whose attention he has had to call for a third time in the same speech.            Withdrawal of the right to speak

### Section 103

70 SO            Members and speakers shall be called to order:            Calls to order

63, 71, 104, 192 SO            1. If they utter words or make statements that are offensive to the decorum of the House or its Members, of State institutions or of any person or entity.

73, 118 SO            2. If in their speeches they fail to observe the rules established for the expeditious progress of the debates.

16 SO            3. If by interruptions or otherwise they disturb the order of the sittings.

70 SO            4. If, after the right to address the House has been withdrawn from them, they attempt to continue to avail themselves of such right.

### Section 104

70, 32, 100 SO            1. A Member or speaker who has been called to order three times in the same sitting, having been warned the second time of the consequences of a third call, shall if necessary, have the right to speak withdrawn from him and the Speaker may, without debate, impose upon him the penalty of not attending the rest of the sitting.            Penalties and procedure for adoption of the same

72 C 32 SO            2. If the Member fails to comply with the request to leave the Assembly Hall, the shall adopt such measures as he deems appropriate to effect the expulsion. In this case, and without prejudice to the provisions of Section 101, the Speaker may, in addition, impose upon him the prohibition of attending the next sitting.            Measures to be adopted in case of refusal by a member to leave the House

101, 100 SO            3. In the case considered in paragraph 1 of preceding Section, the Speaker shall call upon the Member or speaker to withdraw the offen-            Member to withdraw offensive words

ces uttered and shall order them not to be recorded in the Journal of Debates. Refusal to comply with this request may give rise to further calls to order, with the consequences provided for in the previous paragraphs of the section. 103, 32 SO

## DIVISION 3

### *Order within the parliamentary precincts*

#### **Section 105**

Maintenance of order      In the exercise of disciplinary authority under Section 72.3 of the Constitution, the Speaker shall ensure maintenance of order within 72 C

the precincts of the House and in all its premises, to which end he may adopt all such measures as he sees fit, including the committing to the courts of any persons disturbing such order. 14, 21, 52, 101, 107, 169 SO

#### **Section 106**

Serious disorder      Any person who, within the parliamentary precincts, in or outside a meeting, and whether or not a Member of Congress, arouses a serious disturbance by his conduct in word or deed, shall be immediately expelled. If he is a member, the Speaker shall in addition suspend him immediately from his status as such for a term of up to one month, and the House may, upon the proposal of the Bureau and in accordance with the provisions of Section 101, resolve to extend or increase the penalty. 72 C

21, 101 SO

#### **Section 107**

Order to be kept in the public gallery      1. The Speaker shall ensure, during public sittings, the maintenance of order in the public gallery. 72 C

2. Any person who in the said gallery gives voice to expressions of approval or disapproval, causes a disturbance or fails to observe proper behaviour, shall be immediately expelled from the premises by order of the Speaker, who shall, whenever he or she sees fit, direct the Security Guards of the House to make the appropriate record in case the actions committed may constitute a criminal offence or misdemeanour.

Disorders and  
expulsion of  
persons  
causing  
disorder

52, 101,  
105 SO

## PART V

### Legislative procedure

#### CHAPTER I

#### Initiative of Bills

##### Section 108

- 87 C Initiative of Bills in Congress is vested in:
- 109 SO i) The Government.
- 125 SO ii) The Senate, in accordance with the Constitution and its own Rules of Procedure.
- 127 SO iii) Legislative Assemblies of Selfgoverning Communities, in accordance with the Constitution and their respective Statute of Devolution and Rules of Procedure.
- 127 SO iv) The citizens, in accordance with Section 87,3 of the Constitution and the Organic Law implementing the same.
- 126 SO v) Congress itself, on the terms provided for herein.

Initiative of  
Bills

## CHAPTER II

### Ordinary legislative procedure

#### DIVISION 1

##### *Government bills*

#### I. Tabling of amendments

##### **Section 109**

Governments  
Bills to be  
tabled with an  
explanatory  
memorandum  
and the  
necessary  
supporting  
information

Bills submitted by the Government shall have an explanatory memorandum and the necessary supporting information attached to them so as to make possible a decision thereon. The Bureau of Congress shall cause the bill to be published, set a date for the opening of the period during which amendments may be proposed and refer the bill to the appropriate committee.

88 C  
108, 126,  
128 31,  
131 SO

##### **Section 110**

Amendments

1. After a bill has been published, Members and parliamentary groups shall be allowed a term of fifteen days in which to propose amendments thereto, in writing addressed to the bureau of the committee. The document containing the amendments must be signed by the spokesman, or person deputising for him, of the parliamentary group to which the Member belongs, merely for purposes of information. The omission of this formality may be made good prior to the beginning of committee discussion.

84 C  
197, 137,  
126, 130,  
41 SO

Types of  
amendment

2. Amendments may relate to the whole text of the bill or to certain sections.

23 SO

Amendments

3. Amendments to the whole bill shall be



II. Debates on the whole bill  
in plenary sitting

**Section 112**

Procedure	1. A debate on the whole bill on the floor of the House shall be held when amendments to the whole bill have been tabled within the period provided for herein. The Chairman of the committee, in this case, shall convey to the Speaker any amendments to the whole bill that have been proposed, for entry in the agenda of the plenary sitting in which they are to be debated.	74, 110 SO
	2. The debate on the whole bill shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of these Standing Orders for debates of this nature, although for each of the amendments proposed an opportunity shall be granted to speak for and against.	
Vote on amendments after discussion	3. Once the discussion has concluded, the Speaker shall put to the vote the amendments to the whole bill that have been defended, starting with those proposing the return of the bill to the Government.	
	4. If Congress in plenary sitting resolves that the bill be referred back, it shall stand rejected and the Speaker shall notify the Government accordingly. If not, it shall be forwarded to the committee for continuation of proceedings.	39 SO
Adoption of alternative text by the full House	5. If Congress in plenary sitting adopts an amendment proposing an alternative text, this shall be referred to the appropriate committee and published in the Official Parliamentary Bulletin, and a new period shall be appointed for the tabling of amendments, which may refer solely to sections of the bill.	97 SO 110 SO

### III. Deliberation in Committee

#### Section 113

1. After the debate on the whole bill has concluded, where such a debate has been held, and in any event after the expiration of the term allowed for the tabling of amendments, the committee shall appoint among its members one or more rapporteurs who on the basis of the text and of amendments proposed to its sections, shall make a report within the next fifteen days.

Rapporteurs

114 SO

2. Without prejudice to the provisions of Section 43.3, hereof, the bureau of the committee may extend the term allowed for the issuing of the report, where the importance or complexity of the bill so requires.

Extension of term for reporting

43 SO

91 SO

#### Section 114

1. Upon conclusion of the report by the reporting sub-committee (Ponencia) the debate in committee shall proceed section by section. In connection with each section, the amenders and members of the Committee may speak.

Debate of Committee on the report

113 SO

2. Amendments proposed in connection with the Explanatory Memorandum shall be discussed at the end of the sections if the committee resolves to include said Memorandum as a preamble to the bill.

Amendments in connection with the Memorandum  
Compromise amendments and amendments of correction

110 SO

3. During the discussion of a section, the bureau may admit for consideration new amendments tabled in writing by a member of the committee, provided they are intended to bring about a compromise agreement between amendments already submitted and the text of the section. Amendments seeking correction of technical, terminological or grammatical errors or inaccuracies shall also be admitted for consideration.

118 SO

## Section 115

Debates in committee

1. In conducting the debates in committee, the Chairman and the bureau shall exercise the functions conferred by these Standing Orders upon the Speaker and the Bureau.

73, 118,  
192,  
195 SO

Allocation of the floor by the Chairman

2. The Chairman of the committee, in consultation with the bureau thereof, may allot each speaker a maximum time for the discussion of each section and each intervention in the light the number of requests for the floor and the total allocation of time for the conclusion of the report.

## Section 116

Committee's report to be forwarded to Speaker

The report of the committee, signed by the Chairman and by one of the Secretaries, shall be forwarded to the Speaker for the purpose of such further consideration as may be appropriate.

## IV. Deliberation on the floor of the House

### Section 117

Amendments submitted to the full House

Within forty-eight hours of conclusion of the report, parliamentary groups shall make known by notice addressed to the Speaker any dissenting opinions and amendments defended by them and voted upon in the committee, but not included in the report, if they intend to defend them again on the floor of the House.

23 SO

110 SO

### Section 118

Submissions of initiative and presentation of report

1. The debate may begin with the presentation of the Government's initiative by a member thereof and with the presentation of the report by a committee member, if the committee has so decided. These speeches may not exceed fifteen minutes.

126 SO

70, 73, 89  
SO

2. The Speaker, after having consulted the Bureau and the Board of Spokesmen, may:

Conduct of proceedings by Speaker

103, 115,  
192, 195 SO

i) Arrange the debates and votes by sections or by subject-matters, groups of sections or amendments, where advisable on account of the complexity of the text, homogeneity or interconnection of aims of the amendments or for greater clarity in the political contrast of different positions.

ii) Fix in advance the maximum time for the debating of a bill, distributing it accordingly among the various speakers and proceeding, once the time has run out, to take any votes that may remain pending.

114, 119 SO

3. In the course of the debate the Speaker may admit amendments aimed at the correction of technical, terminological or grammatical errors or inaccuracies. Compromise amendments between those already tabled and the text of the report may only be admitted for consideration if no parliamentary group opposes the admission thereof and such admission entails withdrawal of the amendments to which the compromise refers.

Admission by Speaker of merely technical, linguistic or grammatical amendments. Compromise amendments

### Section 119

114, 118,  
31 SO

After the debate on a bill has concluded, if, as a consequence of the adoption of a dissenting opinion or an amendment, or of the voting of the articles, the resulting text may prove to be inconsistent or obscure in any respect, the Bureau may, on its own initiative or at the request of the committee, send the text passed by the full House back to the committee, solely in order that the committee, within one month, may prepare a harmonious draft respecting the decisions of the full House. The text so drafted shall be submitted for final decision to the Plenum, which shall adopt or reject it as a whole, by a single vote.

Text to be sent to a Committee

131 SO

V. Deliberation on resolutions  
of the Senate

**Section 120**

Reference of  
adopted Bill  
to Speaker of  
Senate

After a bill has been passed by Congress, the Speaker shall forward it to the Speaker of the Senate, together with the background information thereon and the papers drafted in the course of its passage through the House.

90 C  
150 SO

**Section 121**

Bills from  
Senate to be  
examined by  
full Congress

Bill passed by Congress and vetoed or amended by the Senate shall be submitted for further consideration to the floor of the Congress.

90 C

**Section 122**

Procedure in  
case of veto  
by Senate

1. Where the Senate has exercised its veto against a bill, the debate shall conform to the provisions for debates on a whole text. Upon conclusion of the debate, the text initially adopted by the Congress shall be put to the vote and if ratified by the favourable vote of the overall majority of members of the House, the veto shall be lifted.

90 C  
74 SO

2. If it does not obtain such a majority, the bill shall be put to the vote after two months have elapsed from the exercising of the veto. If on this further vote the bill secures a single majority of the votes cast, the veto shall also be lifted; otherwise the bill shall stand rejected.

**Section 123**

Debate and  
vote of  
amendments  
adopted by  
Senate

Amendments proposed by the Senate shall be debated and put to the vote and those carried by a single majority of the votes cast shall be incorporated in the text passed by Congress.

90 C

## DIVISION 2

### *Private Members' Bills*

#### **Section 124**

84, 87, 89  
C

Private Members' Bills shall be submitted together with an Explanatory Memorandum and the necessary supporting information enabling a decision to be adopted thereon.

Bills to be submitted with Memorandum and supporting documents

#### **Section 125**

89 C  
108 SO

Private Members Bills which, in accordance with the Constitution, have been taken into consideration by the Senate, shall be transacted by Congress as such private Members' bills, excluding the formality of taking into consideration.

Private Members' Bills already passed by Senate

#### **Section 126**

108 SO

1. Private Members' bills in Congress may be adopted in the initiative of: (1) a Member, with the signature of fourteen other members of the House; (2) a parliamentary group with the sole signature of its spokesman.

Private Members' Bills originating in Congress

2. Once the initiative has been exercised, the Bureau of the House shall order the publication of the bill and its reference to the Government, to enable the latter to express its opinion as to whether or not it should be taken into consideration, as well as its approval or otherwise as to its further examination if it entails an increase in budgeted appropriations or a reduction in the budgeted revenue.

Bill to be published and sent to the Government

134 C

3. If thirty days elapse without the Government having expressly refused to grant its assent to the consideration thereof, the bill may then be included in the agenda of the Plenum for its taking into consideration.

Bill to be included in the agenda if Government does not explicitly withhold its assent to consideration

4. Before the debate is opened, the Government's position, if any, shall be read out.

Debate on the Bill	The debate shall be conducted according to the rules for debates on the whole text of a Bill.	74 SO
Decision of full House whether to take the Bill «in consideration»	5. The Speaker shall then ask whether or not the House will take the bill into consideration. If the reply is yes, the Bureau of the House shall resolve on the reference of the bill to the appropriate committee and the opening of the relevant period for the tabling of amendments, but except in the case contemplated in Section 125, amendments to the whole bill recommending the return thereof shall not be admissible. The bill shall be dealt with in accordance with the procedure contemplated for Government bills, and its presentation to the full House shall be made by one of the proposers or by a member of the group exercising the initiative.	31 SO
Further proceedings		110 SO
		109, 118 SO

### **Section 127**

Bill proposed by Self-governing Communities	Bill proposed by Self-governing Communities and by popular initiative shall be examined by the Bureau to ascertain that the legal prerequisites have been fulfilled. If they meet such requirements, they shall be dealt with in accordance with the rules of the preceding section, except that in the case of bills submitted on the initiative of a Self-governing Community's Legislative Assembly, the presentation of the bill for the purpose of the taking into consideration thereof shall rest with the Delegate of that Community.	87 C 108, 31 SO
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## DIVISION 3

### *Withdrawal of Government Bills and of private Members' Bills*

### **Section 128**

Withdrawal of Government's Bills	The Government may withdraw their bills at any stage of their passage through Congress	88 C 109 SO
----------------------------------	--	----------------

as long as the House has not yet adopted a final resolution thereon.

### **Section 129**

89 C  
126 SO

The initiative for the withdrawal of a nongovernmental bill by its promoter shall be fully effective per se, if adopted before Congress has resolved to take it into consideration. Once such resolution has been adopted, withdrawal shall only be effective if accepted in a plenary sitting.

Withdrawal of  
private  
Members'  
Bills

## CHAPTER III

### **Special rules of legislative procedure**

#### DIVISION 1

#### *Organic Bills*

### **Section 130**

136, 154 SO  
31 SO  
81 C

1. Bills to which the Bureau, upon consultation with the Board of Spokesmen, gives the status of Organic Statutes, shall be transacted as such in accordance with the provisions of Section 81.1 of the Constitution, and having examined the motivated opinion expressed by the Government, the promoter or the appropriate reporting sub-committee at the report stage.

Classification  
by Bureau

2. After the report has been concluded, and provided that the question has not been raised previously, the committee may request the Bureau of Congress to examine whether or not the bill is an Organic Statute. The Bureau, with the opinion, where applicable, of the reporting sub-committee, shall decide as

	to the appropriate classification. If the bill is classified as an Organic Statute after the debate in committee has begun, the proceedings shall start again from the beginning of such debate.	31 SO
Amendments	3. Amendments involving matters reserved for an Organic Act but which have been proposed in respect of an ordinary bill may only be admitted for consideration by resolution of the Bureau of the Congress, upon consultation with the appropriate reporting subcommittee, and where applicable, the rules of the preceding subsection shall be observed.	110 SO
	<b>Section 131</b>	
Ordinary legislative procedure to be applied	1. Organic Bills shall be dealt with by the ordinary legislative procedure, with the special provisions laid down in this Section.	109 SO
Overall majority of Congress required	2. The passage of such bills shall require the favourable vote of the overall majority of Members of Congress in a final vote taken on the whole text. The voting shall be announced in advance by the Speaker and if said majority is obtained, the bill shall be forwarded to the Senate. If, on the other hand, overall majority is not achieved the bill shall be referred back to the committee, which is to issue a further report within a term of one month.	81 C 81, 132, 169 SO
Rules for debate on the whole text of ordinary Bills to be applied	3. The debate on the new report shall take place according to the rules governing debates on a whole text. If the affirmative vote of the overall majority of Members of Congress is obtained, the bill shall be forwarded to the Senate, and if not it shall be deemed rejected.	119 C  74 SO
	<b>Section 132</b>	
Senates veto or amendments	If the Senate exercises its veto or makes amendments to an Organic Bill, the rules for the ordinary legislative procedure shall be observed, with the following two exceptions:	90 C

- |        |    |  |                                  |
|--------|----|--|----------------------------------|
| 131 SO | 1. | The ratification of the initial text, and the consequent lifting of the veto, shall in all cases require the affirmative vote of the overall majority of Members of Congress.  | Exceptions to ordinary procedure |
| 81 C   | 2. | The text resulting from the inclusion of amendments made by the Senate and passed by the Congress shall be put to the vote as a whole. If the overall majority of Members of the House vote in favour, it shall be definitively passed as it stands. If not, the initial text adopted by the Congress shall be ratified and all the amendments proposed by the Senate shall be rejected. |                                  |

## DIVISION 2

### *Finance Bill*

#### **Section 133**

- |                    |    |  |   |
|--------------------|----|--|---|
| 134C<br>135 SO     | 1. | Ordinary legislative procedure applies, except as provided in this Section, to examination and passage of the Finance Bill.  | Ordinary legislative procedure applicable       |
| 67, 182,<br>188 SO | 2. | Consideration of the Finance Bill shall take precedence over the other business of Congress.   | Priority  |
| 111 SO             | 3. | Amendments to the Finance Bill involving an increase in appropriations under any heading may only be admitted for consideration if, in addition to meeting the general requirements, they propose a reduction of the same amount under the same heading. | Amendments involving increase in appropriations |
| 118 SO             | 4. | Consideration of amendments to the Finance Bill involving a reduction in revenue shall require the approval of the Government.   | Amendments implying cuts in revenue             |

#### **Section 134**

- |        |    |   |                    |
|--------|----|---|--------------------|
| 112 SO | 1. | The debate on the whole text of the Finance Bill shall take place on the floor of the House. In this debate, the overall amounts of the statements marking up the Budget shall be | General discussion |
|--------|----|---|--------------------|

determined. Once the debate has concluded, the bill shall be forwarded immediately to the Budget Committee.

2. The debate on the draft Budget itself shall relate to its sections and to the schedule of appropriations. Any other documents that may have been attached to such schedule may also be examined.

114 SO

Arrangement  
of debate

3. The Chairman of the committee and the Speaker, in consultation with the respective Bureau, may arrange the debates and voting in such manner as shall be best suited to the structure of the Budget.

115 SO

Final debate  
on chapters  
and sections

4. The final debate of the Finance Bill, in plenary sitting, shall be conducted by differentiating between the sections of the bill as a whole and each of its headings.

### Section 135

Budget of  
other public  
entities

The provisions of this Division shall be applicable to consideration and passage of the budgets of public corporations which are required by law to be passed by the *Cortes*.

133 SO

## DIVISION 3

### *Statutes of Devolution*

#### I. Ordinary procedure

### Section 136

Examination  
of Bill and  
Annexes by  
Bureau of the  
House

1. When a draft Statute prepared in accordance with the procedure contemplated in Sections 143, 144, 146 and the First Transitional Provision of the Constitution is received by Congress, the Bureau shall proceed to examine the text and the documentation submitted, in order to check on the fulfilment of the requirements laid down by the Constitution.

Trans. Prov.  
143, 144,  
146,  
TP 1 and 6 C  
31 SO



### Section 138

Computation  
of terms

1. The term of two months referred to in Sect. 151.2.2 of the Constitution shall be reckoned as from the date of expiration of the term allowed for the presentation of grounds of disagreement.

151 C

2. The reckoning of the period shall conform to the Sixth Transitional Provision of the Constitution.

90 SO  
Trans.  
Prov.  
6 C

### Section 139

Rapporteurs  
in Constitution-  
al Committee

1. On the same day on which the reckoning of the term of two months contemplated in the preceding section is due to begin, the Constitutional Committee, duly convened for his purpose, shall appoint among its members a reporting sub-committee, affording adequate representation thereon to all the parliamentary groups composing Congress.

113 SO  
23 SO

Rapporteurs  
appointed by  
delegation of  
the proposing  
Assembly

2. At the same time, the Delegation of the proposing Assembly shall appoint among its members a reporting sub-committee the number of whose members shall not exceed that of the sub-committee of the Constitutional Committee.

137 SO

### Section 140

Joint  
examination  
by both  
working  
parties

1. Under the authority of the Chairman of the Constitutional Committee, both reporting sub-committees shall proceed jointly to examine the grounds of disagreement raised against the draft Statute.

139 SO

Procedure

2. The joint sub-committee shall attempt to reach an agreement within one month from its appointment, and propose the drafting of a final text. This text shall be put to the separate vote of each of the subcommittees. Agreement shall be deemed to exist if the majority of each such-committee, expressed as a weighted vote based on the number of mem-

bers of each parliamentary group or political party, respectively, votes in favour of the proposal text.

3. The joint reporting sub-committee may request the attendance of representatives of the Government for the purpose of providing information which may contribute to a better study of the draft Statute. For the same purpose, it may request the attendance of experts who have assisted the proposing Assembly.

Request of information from Government

4. The proceedings of the joint reporting sub-committee shall be written up in minutes.

Minutes

### Section 141

1. Upon completion of its work, and in any event after the term referred to in paragraph 2 of the preceding section has elapsed, the joint reporting sub-committee shall submit its report to the Constitutional Committee and to the Delegation of the proposing Assembly, specifying the texts on which there is agreement, those on which disagreement exists and the dissenting opinions, if any.

Report by joint reporting sub-committee

2. The report of the joint sub-committee, together with the agreed texts, differing text, if any, and dissenting opinions, shall be published and immediately referred to a joint meeting of the Constitutional Committee and the Delegation of the proposing Assembly, held under the authority of the Chairman of the Committee.

Joint meeting of Constitutional Committee and delegation of proposing Assembly

### Section 142

1. In the joint Committee referred to in the preceding Section, fifteen minutes shall be granted for the defence of the agreed text, differing texts if any, and dissenting opinions. Likewise, such rectifying speeches as the Chairman of the Committee shall deem appropriate may also be made.

Debate in Joint Committee

Voting

2. After all the speakers have concluded, each text shall be put to a separate vote of the Committee and of the Delegation of the Assembly, and the existence or non-existence of agreement shall be ascertained.

Procedure in the event of disagreement between Committee and Delegation

3. In the event of disagreement, each side may propose that the question be referred back to the joint reporting sub-committee in order that, within such term as is fixed, they attempt to achieve agreement by means of the procedure contemplated in Section 140.

**Section 143**

Final voting on the whole text

1. After the discussion and voting of Sections has concluded, a vote shall be taken on the whole text, in which the Committee and the Delegation shall again pronounce separately. If the result of the voting bears out the agreement of both bodies, previous disagreements, if any, shall be deemed to have been overcome and the resulting text shall be delivered to the Speaker for further consideration.

Procedure in case of no agreement having been reached

2. If no agreement is reached, this fact shall be declared and the result shall be notified to the Speaker for the purposes of paragraph 5 of Sect. 151.2 of the Constitution.

151 C

**Section 144**

Vote of ratification by Congress in plenary sittings

Upon receipt of notification from the Government as to the approval by referendum of a draft Statute, it shall be put to the vote on the floor of the Congress, following a debate conducted in accordance with the rules for debates on a whole text.

151 C

III. Reform of Statutes

**Section 145**

By Organic Act

The reform of a Statute of Devolution transacted in accordance with the rules therein established, shall require passage by an Organic Act.

147 C  
148 C  
152 C

## DIVISION 4

### *Constitutional review and reform*

#### **Section 146**

- 87 C  
166 C  
167 C  
23 SO
1. The bills for constitutional amendments referred to in Sections 166 and 167 of the Constitution shall be dealt with in accordance with the rules laid down herein for bills, although private members' bills shall require signature by two parliamentary groups or by one-fifth of the members of Congress. Constitutional review  
Initiative
2. The text passed by the House shall be put to a final vote and in order to be carried shall require the affirmative vote of three fifths of the members of Congress. Final voting on the floor of the House
3. If there is no agreement between Congress and Senate, an attempt shall be made to achieve the same by means of a joint Committee composed of an equal number of representatives of each House. If this Committee meets agreement, a vote shall be taken on the resulting text, in which the majority referred to in the preceding paragraph must be obtained. Joint Committee in the event of disagreement between Congress and Senate
4. If agreement is not achieved by means of the procedure in the preceding paragraph, then, provided the text has obtained the affirmative vote of the overall majority of the Senate, the Congress may adopt the amendment by a two-third majority. Final adoption by Congress

#### **Section 147**

- 168 C  
56 C
1. Bills proposing total revision of the Constitution, or amendments affecting the Preliminary Part; Chapter two, Division 1, of Part I, or Part II of Constitution, shall be submitted to the floor of the House for a debate which shall be conducted in accordance with the rules for debates on the whole legislative text. Total review

Voting on the principle of review	2. Upon conclusion of the debate, a vote shall be taken. If the principle of revision is voted for by two-thirds of the members of Congress, the Speaker shall notify the Senate thereof.	
Dissolution of both Houses of Parliament	3. If in the Upper House a majority of two-thirds of Senators also vote in favour, the Speaker of Congress shall notify the Prime Minister, who shall submit a Royal Decree for de dissolution of the <i>Cortes Generales</i> to the King for his Royal sanction.	
New Parliament to vote on ratification of proposed review	4. Upon the constitution of the new <i>Cortes</i> the decision taken by the dissolved Parliament shall be submitted to ratification. If the resolution of Congress is favourable, it shall be notified to the Speaker of the Senate.	1 SO
Notification of ratification to Government	5. The reform of the Constitution having been approved by the <i>Cortes Generales</i> , the Speaker of the Congress shall give notice thereof to the Prime Minister for the purposes of Section 168.3 of the Constitution.	109 SO

## DIVISION 5

### *Full legislative authority of Committees*

#### **Section 148**

Presumption of the full House's assent for delegation to committees	1. The decision of Congress delegating full legislative authority to committees shall be presumed for all bills that may constitutionally be delegated, but such delegation shall not extend to the debate and voting on the whole text or the taking into consideration thereof, without prejudice to the provisions of the following section.	75 C
Procedure	2. The procedure applicable to consideration of these bills shall be the ordinary legislative procedure, excluding the formality of final deliberation and voting on the floor of the House.	88 SO

## Section 149

- 75 C Congress may reserve for deliberation and final voting on the floor of the House the bills referred to in the preceding article, by adopting a decision to this effect in the plenary sitting in which the debate on the whole text is held, pursuant to Section 112 of these Rules, or in
- 112 SO which the taking into consideration of a private member's bill is decided. In all other cases, and before the debate in committee takes place, the full House may reserve for itself final adoption, upon the proposal of the Bureau after consultation with the Board of Spokesmen. The motion for recall shall be put to the vote without prior debate.
- 31, 39 SO
- 75, 90 C 3. Committees shall have no jurisdiction to take full legislative cognizance of bills that have been vetoed or amended by the Senate, where the vetoes or amendments have been passed in plenary sitting thereof.

Recall by full Congress of Bills delegated to committees

Exclusive jurisdiction of full Congress for Bills vetoed or amended by Senate

## DIVISION 6

### *Consideration of a Bill in single reading*

## Section 150

- 31, 39 SO 1. When the nature of a Government Bill or of a private member's bill under consideration makes it advisable, or the simplicity of its formulation so permits, the full House, upon the proposal of the Bureau and having consulted the Board of Spokesmen, may resolve that it be considered directly and in single reading.
- 74 SO 2. If this decision is adopted, a debate shall be held in accordance with the rules for debates on a whole text with the whole of the text being put to a single vote.

Decision on one reading only by full Congress

Debate on the whole text

Final result	3. If the result of the vote is favourable, the text shall stand adopted and be forwarded to the Senate. Otherwise, it shall stand rejected.	120 SO
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## PART VI

### Control over Government provisions having the force of an Act

#### Section 151

Ratification or annulment of Royal Decree-Laws Term. Procedure	1. The debate and voting on the ratification or annulment of a Royal Decree-Law shall be carried out on the floor of the House, or in the Permanent Deputation, within thirty days from its promulgation, pursuant to Section 86.2 of the Constitution.	86, 57 C
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Nevertheless, a Decree-Law may be included on the agenda for debate voting as soon as it has been printed in the Official Gazette.

Submission and debate on the floor of the House	2. A member of the Government shall explain to the House the reasons that have required its promulgation and the ensuing debate shall be conducted in accordance with the rules governing debates on a whole text.	39 SO 74 SO
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Voting	3. After the debate has concluded, a vote shall be taken in which the affirmative votes shall be deemed favourable to ratification and the negative votes favourable to annulment	
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Possibility of a further procedure as ordinary governmental Bill	4. Upon the ratification of a Royal Decree-Law, the Speaker shall enquire whether any parliamentary group wishes it to be dealt with as a bill. If so, the question shall be put to the decision of full Congress. If the House pronounces in favour, the urgency procedure for bills shall be followed and amendments calling for the return of the whole text shall not be admissible.	109, 93 SO
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78 C 57 SO	<p>5. The Permanent Deputation may, where necessary, consider as bills, and deal with them by the urgency procedure, any Decree-Laws which the Government may issue during the periods between parliamentary terms.</p>	Powers of Permanent Deputation to this procedure
	<p>6. The decision on the ratification or annulment of a Royal Decree-Law shall be published in the Official Gazette.</p>	Publication of final decision
<p><b>Section 152</b></p>		
82 to 86 C	<p>As soon as it has made use of the delegation contemplated in Section 82 of the Constitution, the Government shall address the relevant notice to Congress containing the text in sections, or consolidated text drawn up as a result thereof, which shall be published in the Official Parliamentary Bulletin.</p>	Control of legislative delegations
97 SO		
<p><b>Section 153</b></p>		
82 C	<p>1. When, pursuant to the provisions of Section 82.6 of the Constitution, the enabling Acts direct that additional control of delegated legislation shall be exercised by Congress, the provisions of this section shall be observed.</p>	Procedure
110 SO	<p>2. If, within one month following publication of the articulated or consolidated text, no Member or no parliamentary group raises objections, Government shall be deemed to have made a proper use of the legislative delegation.</p>	Implicit approval of use of delegation by Government
113 SO	<p>3. If within the said term any objection is raised to the use of the delegation in a document addressed to the Bureau of Congress, the latter shall refer such document to the relevant committee, which shall report on the question within such term as is appointed for this purpose.</p>	Objections to use of delegation by Government
	<p>4. The report shall be debated on the floor of the House in accordance with the general rules on legislative procedure.</p>	Debate of report on the matter
	<p>5. Legal effects of control shall be those contemplated in the enabling Act.</p>	Effects of control

PART VII

**Granting of authorizations and other acts  
of Congress having direct legal effect**

CHAPTER I

**International treaties**

**Section 154**

Authorization  
by Organic  
Act for the  
entering into  
international  
treaties

The conclusion of treaties vesting in an international organization or institution the exercise of authority deriving from the Constitution, shall require prior passage by the *Cortes Generales* of an enabling Organic Act which shall be transacted and adopted in accordance with the Rules for this category of Acts.

93 C

130 SO

**Section 155**

Other treaties  
requiring prior  
authorization  
by Parliament

1. The grant of the State's consent to the acceptance of binding obligations under treaties or agreements shall require prior authorization of the *Cortes Generales* in cases contemplated in Sect. 94.1 of the Constitution.

94 C

Request by  
Government

2. The Government shall request such authorization from the *Cortes Generales* by forwarding to Congress the relevant decision of the Cabinet, together with the text of the treaty or agreement and a memorandum justifying the request and the reservations and declarations, if any, which the Government may intend to enter. Congress shall pronounce both as to the granting of the authorization and as to the entering of the reservations and declarations proposed by the Government.

109 SO

Term for  
submission  
of request

3. The request referred to in the preceding subsection shall be submitted by the Government to Congress within ninety days following

the Cabinet's decision, a term which, in justified cases, may be extended to one hundred and eighty days. In the latter event, upon the expiry of the initial ninety days, the Government shall be required to send a notification to Congress, giving documentary justification for the delay.

43 SO

4. Congress shall take a decision within sixty days:

Term for Congress decision

### Section 156

89 SO

1. The consideration by Congress of the granting of authorization shall conform to the ordinary legislative procedure, subject to the special rules contained in this Chapter.

Procedure

110 SO

2. Proposals submitted by members and parliamentary groups shall be considered as amendments to a whole text in the following cases:

Proposals to be dealt with as if relating to the whole text.

i) When advocating the refusal or postponement of the authorization requested.

ii) When proposing reservations or declarations not contained in the treaty or agreement.

110 SO

3. Proposals submitted by members and parliamentary groups shall be considered as amendments to section in the following cases:

Proposals to be dealt with as relating «to sections»

i) When they call for deletion, addition or amendment of the reservations or declarations which the Government intends to enter.

ii) When they call for reservations or declarations not contained in the treaty or the agreement.

### Section 157

95, 161 C

1. If, during consideration of a treaty or agreement by Congress, doubts are raised as to the constitutionality of any of its clauses, the full House on the initiative of two parliamentary groups or one-fifth of its members, may resol-

Reference of treaty to Constitutional Court

ve to lodge with the Constitutional Court the petition provided for in Section 95.2 of the Constitution.

Suspensive effect of reference

2. The consideration of the treaty or agreement shall go into abeyance and may only be resumed if the opinion of the Court is in favour of the constitutionality of the clauses contained therein.

Effects of declaration of unconstitutionality by Court

3. If the Court holds that the treaty or agreement contains clauses contrary to the Constitution, then consideration thereof may not proceed unless a constitutional revision is carried out first.

### Section 158

Divergencies between Congress and Senate

Any divergencies between the Congress and the Senate as to the granting of consent to conclude treaties or agreements pursuant to Section 94.1 of the Constitution shall, wherever possible, be resolved by means of a joint committee set up as provided for in Section 74.2 of the Constitution, which shall present a text to be put to the vote of both Houses. If not approved in this manner, Congress shall decide by overall majority.

74 C  
Final  
Prov. 3 SO

### Section 159

Foreign Affairs Committee to be informed of treaties referred to in Section 94.2 of Constitution

Notice shall be given immediately to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House, for its information, of Government's communications in compliance with Section 94.2 of the Constitution, and of texts of the relevant treaties or agreements.

94 C

### Section 160

Procedure for denunciation of treaties

In case of denunciation of a treaty or agreement, the same procedure as established for the granting of consent to the acceptance of obligations under such treaty of agreement shall apply.

96 C

## CHAPTER II

### Consultative referendum

#### Section 161

- 92 C 1. Prior authorization by Congress shall be required for any draft Decree submitted by the Prime Minister to the King for the calling of a consultative referendum on any political issue of exceptional importance. Authorization by Congress
- 74 SO 2. The notice or communication addressed to this end by the Prime Minister to Congress shall be debated on the floor of the House. The debate shall conform to the rules for debates on a whole text. Debate on the floor of the Rouse
- 39 SO 3. The decision of Congress shall be notified by the Speaker to the Prime Minister. Notification to Prime Minister

## CHAPTER III

### States of alert, emergency and siege

#### Section 162

- 55, 116 C  
57 SO 1. When the Government declares a state of alert, it shall immediately forward to the Speaker a communication attaching the text of the Decree adopted in Cabinet. Notice shall be given of this communication to the appropriate committee, which may request such information and documentation as it sees fit. Prior authorization by Congress
2. If the Government seeks to extend the term of fifteen days referred to in Section 116.2 of the Constitution, it shall request the authorization of Congress before the expiry of that term. Prior authorization for extension of initial term
3. Groups may submit proposals as to the scope and the conditions in force during the extension until two hours prior to the beginning. Proposals by parliamentary groups

of the sitting in which the granting of the authorization requested is to be debated.

Debate on the floor of the House

4. The debate shall take place in plenary sitting and begin with the explanation by a member of the Government of the reasons justifying the request for an extension of the state of alert, and conform to the rules for debate on a whole text.

Final vote

5. When the debate has concluded, the request and the proposals submitted shall be put to the vote, and the decision of the House shall be notified to the Government.

### Section 163

Prior authorization of Congress for declaration of state of emergency

1. If the Government seeks to declare a state of emergency, or to extend a state of emergency already declared, it shall require prior authorization of Congress, for which purpose it shall send the relevant notification, which is to be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the preceding Section.

55, 116 C  
57 SO

Authorization to specify extent and duration

2. In any event, the authorization of a state of emergency shall expressly specify the effects thereof, the area to which it is to apply and its duration, which may not exceed thirty days, but which may be extended for a further equal period subject to the same requirements.

### Section 164

Procedure for authorization of state of siege

1. If the Government proposes the declaration of a state of siege (martial law), the debate on the floor of the House shall conform to the rules laid down in Section 162.

55, 116 C  
57 SO

Authorization to define scope and duration

2. A state of siege shall be declared within the area, for the duration and on the conditions specified in such proposal as obtains the vote of the overall majority of the members of Congress in plenary sitting.

Notification of final decision to Prime Minister

3. The Speaker shall notify the Prime Minister and shall cause the decision of the House to be published in the Official Gazette.

## Section 165

57 SO

1. In the cases considered in the three preceding Sections, the matter shall immediately be laid before the full House, convened for the purpose if not sitting, even at a time of recess.

Immediate  
debate on the  
floor of the  
House

78 C

2. If, after the Congress has been dissolved or its term has expired, a situation giving rise to any of such states occurs, the powers vested by this Chapter in the full House shall be assumed by the Permanent Deputation.

Role of  
Permanent  
Deputation  
when  
Congress  
dissolved

## CHAPTER IV

### Acts of Congress in relation to Self-governing Communities

#### Section 166

146 C

1. When the notification of an agreement between Self-governing Communities, relating to the administration and provision of public services thereof, is received in Congress, the Bureau shall refer it to the Constitutional Committee for the purposes provided in the relevant Statutes of Devolution.

Agreements  
between  
Self-gover-  
ning  
Communities  
about public  
services.  
Procedure or  
examination

145 C

2. Upon receipt of a communication from the Senate granting or refusing authorization for a cooperation agreement between Self-governing Communities, in cases other than those considered in the preceding paragraph, the Bureau shall resolve upon reference thereof to the Constitutional Committee, which is to issue the relevant report for debate on the floor of House in accordance with the procedure for debate on a whole text.

Procedure in  
cases other  
than those  
provided for  
in paragr. 1

3. If the decision of Congress agrees with that of the Senate, the Speaker shall notify it to the Presidents of the Communities concerned. If it is contrary, he shall notify the Speaker of

Final decision

Senate for the appointment of the Joint Committee provided for in Sect. 74.2 of the Constitution, which shall prepare a text to be put to the vote in both Houses. If this is not approved in such manner, Congress shall decide by overall majority. 74 C

**Section 167**

Control of legislative delegations to Self-governing Communities      The form of control established in an Act of the State promulgated pursuant to the provisions of Sect. 150.1 of the Constitution, shall be carried out, as regards Congress, in accordance with provisions of Sect. 153 hereof. 150C  
153 SO

**Section 168**

Decision on the need to issue harmonization laws      1. The necessity for the State, when so required by the general interest, to issue laws setting forth the necessary principles for harmonizing the legislative provisions of Self-governing Communities, even for matters in which jurisdiction is vested in such Communities, shall be resolved upon by the overall majority of Members of Congress, in a debate conducted according to the rules governing debates on a whole text. The debate may be brought in upon the proposal of the Government, of two parliamentary groups of one-fifth of members. 150 C

Procedure      2. The decision of the House shall be notified by the Speaker to the Speaker of the Senate, for the purpose of compliance with Sect. 150.3 of the Constitution. 74 SO

Notification to Senate      3. In the subsequent passage through Congress of harmonization bills, amendments that are contrary to a previous decision of the House adopted under subsection 1, shall be inadmissible. 150 C

Certain amendments not admissible

## CHAPTER V

### Indictment of members of the Government for treasonable offences or crimes against the security of the State

#### Section 169

1. After the initiative referred to in Section 102.2 of the Constitution has been exercised in writing and signed by a number of Congressmen representing not less than one quarter of the Members of Congress, the Speaker shall convene a secret sitting of the full House to debate and vote thereon.
- 102 C  
63, 32 SO
2. The debate shall conform to the rules for debates on a whole text. The person affected by the proposed indictment shall have the right to speak at any stage in the debate. The voting shall be carried out by the procedure described in Section 87.1, paragraph 2, of these Rules, and the Speaker shall announce in advance the time at which it will take place.
- 74 SO
- 87 SO
- 81, 131 SO
- 14, 21 SO  
102 C
- 52, 101,  
105 SO
- Secret plenary sitting after the initiative of indictment
- Rules of debate
- Voting
- Effects of the passage of the initiative of indictment

## PART VIII

### Granting and withdrawal of confidence

#### CHAPTER I

#### Investiture

##### Section 170

Proposal of a  
candidate for  
Prime  
Minister

In compliance with Section 99 of the Constitution, once the nomination of a candidate as Prime Minister has been received in the Congress, the Speaker shall convene a plenary sitting.

99 C

##### Section 171

1. The sitting shall begin with the reading out of the nomination by one of the Secretaries.

34 SO

Candidate to  
submit his  
programme

2. The nominated candidate shall then explain, without limitation as to time, the political programme of the Cabinet he or she intends to form and shall request the confidence of the House.

99 C

Debate

3. After a suspension by the Speaker, a representative of each parliamentary group having requested the floor shall have the opportunity to speak for thirty minutes.

174 SO

Right of speech  
by Prime Minister  
and each of the  
other speakers

4. The nominated candidate may speak as often as he or she shall request. When the candidate replies individually to any speaker, the latter shall have the opportunity to speak again for ten minutes. If the candidate replies in general to the representatives of parliamentary groups, the latter shall be entitled to a ten minutes rejoinder.

39 SO

Vote

5. The voting shall be carried out at the time appointed by the Speaker. If the nominated candidate obtains the vote of the overall

81, 85  
131, 169 SO

99 C majority of Members of Congress, confidence shall be deemed granted. If he or she fails to obtain such majority, a new vote shall then be taken forty-eight hours later and confidence shall be deemed to be granted if a single majority is obtained. Before this further vote is taken, the candidate shall be entitled to speak for a maximum time of ten minutes, and parliamentary groups for five minutes each, to make known their position.

62 C 6. Once Congress has granted its confidence to the candidate in accordance with the preceding subsection, the Speaker shall notify the King for the purpose of the candidate's appointment as Prime Minister.

Notification to the King

### Section 172

1. If, in the voting referred to in the preceding section, Congress has not granted its confidence, further nominations shall be considered by the same procedure.

Successive proposals

64, 99 C 2. After two months have elapsed from the first vote of investiture without any nominated candidate having secured the confidence of the Congress, the Speaker shall submit to the King's signature a Decree dissolving the Cortes Generales and calling new elections and shall notify the Speaker of the Senate accordingly.

Dissolution of Parliament

## CHAPTER II

### The question of confidence

#### Section 173

112 C, 171 SO The Prime Minister, after deliberation in Cabinet, may put to the Congress the question of confidence in his or her programme or in a general policy statement.

Putting the question of confidence to the Congress

## Section 174

Writ with statements of reasons for putting the question

1. The question of confidence shall be raised in a reasoned written statement submitted to the Bureau of Congress enclosing the relevant Cabinet certificate.

31 SO

2. Once the statement has been admitted for consideration by the Bureau, the Speaker shall notify the same to the Board of Spokesmen and convene a plenary sitting.

Rules of debate

3. The debate shall be conducted in accordance with the rules laid down for the debate of investiture. The Prime Minister and, where applicable, members of Government, shall be allowed the same opportunities to speak as provided for the candidate.

171 SO

Vote

4. Upon conclusion of the debate, the motion of confidence shall be put to the vote at such time as shall have been previously announced by the Speaker. The question of confidence may not be voted until twenty-four hours have elapsed from its tabling.

81, 85,  
131,  
169, 177 SO

Confidence granted by single majority  
Notification to the King

5. Confidence shall be deemed to have been granted if the vote of a single majority of Members is obtained.

6. Whatever the result of the voting, the Speaker shall notify the King and the Prime Minister.

114 C

## CHAPTER III

### The motion of censure

## Section 175

Congress entitled to censure of Government

1. The Congress may demand political responsibilities of the Government by the adoption of a motion of censure.

113 C

Conditions of motion

2. The motion must be tabled by at least one-tenth of members, in a statement with the

113 C reasons thereof addressed to the Bureau, and must nominate a candidate for the office of Prime Minister who has accepted such candidature.

### Section 176

31 SO 1. After having verified that the motion of censure meets the requirements specified in the preceding section, the Bureau shall admit the same for consideration and notify its presentation to the Prime Minister and to the spokesperson of parliamentary groups.

Bureau to verify on motion

2. Within two days following the tabling of a motion of censure, alternative motions may be tabled, which shall meet the same requirements as specified in Section 175.2, and shall be subject to the same admission procedures as laid down in the preceding paragraph.

Alternative motions admissible within two days

### Section 177

1. The debate shall begin with the defence of the motion of censure by one of the signatory Members, who shall be allowed to speak without any limitation of time. Next, and also without limitation as to time, the candidate nominated in the motion as Prime Minister shall have the opportunity to speak, in order to explain the political programme of the Cabinet he intends to form.

Debate

39 SO 2. Following the suspension ordered by the Speaker, one representative of each of the parliamentary groups of the House having asked for the floor may speak for thirty minutes. All speakers shall be given an opportunity to reply or rectify for ten minutes.

Right to speak of each parliamentary group

3. If more than one motion of censure has been tabled, the Speaker, upon consultation with the Board of Spokesmen, may resolve on the joint debate of all such motions included on

Joint debate and separate voting of concurring motions

	the agenda, but they shall be voted separately in the order of they were tabled.	
Final vote	4. The motion or motions of censure shall be put to the vote at such time as shall have been previously announced by the Speaker, which may not be sooner than five days from the lodging of the first motion with the General Register.	81, 85, 131, 169, 174 SO 113 C
Motion passed by overall majority	5. The adoption of a motion of censure shall require in all cases the affirmative vote of the overall majority of Members of Congress.	
Lapsing of all other motions of censure	6. If one motion of censure is passed, the remaining motions that have been tabled shall not be put to the vote.	
<b>Section 178</b>		
Notification to King and to Prime Minister of passing of motion	If Congress adopts a motion of censure, the Speaker shall immediately notify the King and the Prime Minister. The candidate to the office of Prime Minister nominated in the motion shall be deemed to have been granted the confidence of the House for the purposes of Section 99 of the Constitution.	114 C  99 C
<b>Section 179</b>		
Limitations to submission of new motions by same signatories	None of the signatories of a motion of censure that is rejected may sign another such motion during the same session. For these purposes, a motion tabled in a recess between sessions shall be counted as a motion tabled in the next session.	113 C

## PART IX

### Interpellations and questions

#### CHAPTER I

#### Interpellations

##### Section 180

111 C  
6, 23 SO

Members and parliamentary groups may interpellate the Cabinet and each of its members.

By Members and  
parliamentary  
groups

##### Section 181

1. Interpellations shall be submitted in writing to the Bureau of the Congress and shall be concerned with the reasons for, or intentions underlying, the conduct of the Executive in matters of general policy, whether of the Cabinet itself or of any Ministerial Department.

Object of  
interpellation.  
Submission  
to be in  
writing

31, 192 SO

2. The Bureau shall examine the document and in the event of its content being inappropriate to an interpellation, as described in the foregoing subsection, shall convey this fact to its sponsor for the conversion thereof into a question for oral or written answer.

Verification  
by Bureau

##### Section 182

1. After fifteen days have elapsed from the publication of the interpellation, it may be included in the agenda of a plenary sitting.

Inclusion in  
the agenda of  
full House

67, 133,  
188,  
194 SO

2. Priority in the entry of interpellations in the agenda shall be given to those lodged by members of parliamentary groups or parliamentary groups themselves who, in the session in question, have not taken full advantage of the quota consisting of one interpellation for

Priority

every ten members or fraction thereof belonging to a group. In addition to this criterion, the order in which interpellations were tabled shall also be considered. No agenda may contain more than one interpellation by the same parliamentary group.

Conversion of interpellation into a question for written answer

3. Upon the closure of a session, any outstanding interpellations shall be dealt with as questions for written reply to be answered before the beginning of the next session, unless the interpellating member or parliamentary group indicates his or its wish to hold over the interpellation until the next session.

### Section 183

Debate on interpellation

1. Interpellations shall be dealt within plenary sitting, an opportunity being given to the interpellant to explain the same, to the Cabinet to reply, and to each party to rejoin. Initial speeches may not exceed ten minutes nor rejoinders five.

73 SO

Right to speak of each parliamentary group

2. Following speeches by the interpellant and by the person who is to reply, a representative of each parliamentary group, except for the group moving the interpellation may speak for five minutes to make known the group's position.

### Section 184

Motions resulting from an interpellation

1. Any interpellation may give rise to a motion in which Congress makes known its position.

111 C

Tabling and discussion of such motions

2. The interpellating parliamentary group, or the group to which the signatory of the interpellation belongs, shall table the motion on the day following that on which the interpellation was debated on the floor of the House. After admission by the Bureau, the motion shall be entered in the agenda of the next plenary

sitting, and any amendments may be lodged up to six hours before the time appointed for the beginning of that sitting. The Bureau shall admit the motion if it is consistent with the interpellation.

73, 193 SO

3. The debate and voting shall be conducted in accordance with the rules for motions.

Rules of debate

## CHAPTER II

### Questions

#### Section 185

111 C

Members of Congress may put questions to the Cabinet and to any of its members.

Right of individual Members to put questions

#### Section 186

1. Questions shall be submitted in writing to the Bureau of Congress.

Question to be in writing

192 SO

2. Questions that are exclusively of interest to persons submitting the same or to any other individual person, or questions involving strictly legal consultation, shall not be admitted.

Limits as to the content

3. The Bureau shall examine the document and shall admit the question if it conforms to the provisions of this Chapter.

Examination by Bureau

#### Section 187

Unless otherwise stated, it shall be deemed that the person submitting the question requests a written answer, and if an oral reply is requested and nothing further is specified, it shall be deemed that such reply is to be given in the appropriate committee.

Types of questions

## Section 188

Questions for  
oral reply in  
plenary sitting

1. When an oral reply in a plenary sitting is sought, the text requesting the same may concise and precisely set forth a single question inquiring as to a certain fact, situation or item of information, whether the Government has taken or is going to take certain action in connection with a given matter, or whether the Government is going to forward any document to the Congress or inform it on any point. Notices containing such questions shall be submitted in advance within the term appointed by the Bureau, which shall in no case be more than one week nor less than forty-eight hours.

Priority  
criteria

2. Questions shall be included in the agenda with priority being given to those raised by Members who have not yet submitted questions on the floor of the House in the same session. Without prejudice to this criterion, the Speaker, in consultation with the Board of Spokesmen, shall specify the number of questions to be placed on the agenda of each plenary sitting, and the criterion for distribution among members of each parliamentary group.

67, 113,  
182,  
194 SO

Procedure

3. In the debate, after the question has been put concisely by the Member, the Government shall reply thereto. The Member may then rejoin or ask a further question, and following the Government's further reply the debate shall conclude. The time shall be allocated by the Speaker between the Members concerned, but in no case may the consideration of the question exceed five minutes. When the time allocated to any Member has run out, the Speaker shall automatically grant the floor to the next person entitled to speak, or pass on to the next question.

73 SO

4. The Government may, on reasonable grounds, request at any time, and once only with respect to each question, that it be deferred to the agenda of the next plenary sitting. Subject to this exception, any questions presented and not included on the agenda, as well as those included and not considered, must be repeated for them to be maintained until the next plenary sitting.

Postponement  
of reply to next  
plenary sitting

### **Section 189**

1. Questions with respect to which an oral answer in committee is sought may be entered in the agenda after seven days have elapsed from their publication.

Questions for  
oral reply in  
committee

2. They shall be dealt with in accordance with subsection 3 of the preceding section, except that ten minutes shall be allotted for speakers to rise and reply to questions, and five minutes for their respective rejoinders. Questions may be answered by Secretaries of State and Under-Secretaries.

Procedure

3. At the end of a session, any outstanding questions shall be considered as questions for written reply to be answered prior to the beginning of the next session.

Conversion of  
outstanding  
questions into  
question for  
written reply

### **Section 190**

1. Written reply to questions must be given within twenty days following their publication, a term which may be extended, upon a reasoned request from the Government and by resolution of the Bureau, for an additional period of up to twenty days.

Questions for  
written reply.  
Answers

2. If Government fails to submit a reply within this period, the Speaker, at the request of the questioner, shall cause the question to be entered in the agenda of the next meeting of the appropriate committee, where it shall be treated as an oral question. This decision shall be notified to the Government.

Conversion into  
oral question to  
be answered in  
Committee

## CHAPTER III

### Common rules

#### Section 191

Question  
time

In weeks when there is an ordinary plenary sitting, a minimum of two hours shall be set aside, as a general rule, for questions and interpellations.

#### Section 192

Grouping of  
questions and  
interpellations  
by Speaker

1. The Speaker shall be entitled to group interpellations and questions on the agenda together for simultaneous debate of he or she considers they relate to the same or connected subject matters.

73, 118,  
195 SO

Limits to  
admissibility

2. The Bureau, upon consultation with the Board of Spokesmen, may declare not admissible for consideration questions or interpellations the text of which comes under the cases described in Section 103.1 hereof.

181, 186,  
103 SO

## PART X

### Non-legislative motions

#### Section 193

Motions for  
resolution

Parliamentary groups may put forward motions for Congress to pass resolutions of a non-legislative nature.

66 C  
23 SO

## Section 194

- 31 SO      1. Such motions shall be submitted in writing to the Bureau of Congress, which shall decide as to their admissibility, cause them to be published, where appropriate, and resolve upon their consideration on the floor of the House or in appropriate committee, depending upon the intention expressed by the proposing group and the importance of the matter.      Motions to be in writing. Bureau to decide on them and to classify them
- 110 SO      2. After a motion has been published, amendments may be tabled by parliamentary groups up to six hours before the beginning of the sitting in which they are to be debated.      Amendments by parliamentary groups
- 67, 133, 182, 188 SO      3. For the entry of motions on the agenda of a plenary sitting, the provisions of Section 182.2 hereof, relating to interpellations, shall be observed.      Priority criteria

## Section 195

- 73 SO      1. A non-legislative motion shall be the subject of a debate in which, first of all, the parliamentary group having tabled the motion, then the representatives of each of the parliamentary groups that have submitted amendments, and finally of those who have not done so, may speak. Once these speeches have concluded, the motion, together with amendments accepted by the promoter, shall be put to the vote.      Procedure for debate of non-legislative motions
- 23 SO
- 73, 118, 192 SO      2. The Chairman of the committee or the Speaker of Congress may group motions on the same or similar subjects together for the purposes of discussion.      Grouping together of related non-legislative motions

## PART XI

### Examination and debate of Government communications, programmes or plans and other reports

#### CHAPTER I

#### Government communications

##### Section 196

Debate on the floor of the House or in committee

1. When the Government submits to Congress a communication for debate, which may take place in the Plenum or in committee, the debate shall be opened by a member of the Government, after which a representative of each parliamentary group may take the floor for a maximum of fifteen minutes.

Reply by Government. Rejoinder by speakers

2. Members of the Government may reply to questions raised either separately, jointly or in groups of related topics. All speakers shall be allocated a maximum time of ten minutes each in which to reply.

##### Section 197

Motions for resolution by parliamentary groups

1. Upon conclusion of the debate, a period of thirty minutes shall be allowed in which parliamentary groups may table draft resolutions to the Bureau. The Bureau shall admit all such motions as are consistent with the subject under debate.

110 SO

Limits to motions for resolution

2. Proposals so admitted may be defended for a maximum of five minutes. The Speaker may allocate the same amount of time for opposition after the defence of each motion.

3. Draft resolutions shall be voted upon in the order of their tabling, except for those which entail total rejection of the contents of the Government's communication, which shall be voted upon in the first place.

Voting

## CHAPTER II

### **Examination of programmes and plans submitted by the Government**

#### **Section 198**

1. If the Government submits a programme or plan requiring a decision by Congress, the Bureau shall cause it be referred to the appropriate committee.

Reference by  
Bureau to  
appropriate  
committee

2. The bureau of the committee shall make arrangements for consideration of such programme and shall allocate time thereto. The committee shall designate, where applicable, a reporting sub-committee to study the programme or plan in question. The debate in committee shall conform to the preceding Chapter, provided however that the term for submission of motions for resolution shall be three days, if the Bureau of Congress has decided that such motions shall be debated on the floor of the House.

Procedure

## CHAPTER III

### Examination of reports laid before Congress

#### Section 199

Annual report by  
Auditing Court

1. Upon receipt of the annual report of the Auditing Court, Congress shall proceed as provided in the preceding section.

136 C

Request for  
information and  
papers to Auditing  
Court

2. The Speaker, in agreement with the Bureau and after having consulted the Board of Spokesmen, at the request of a committee, may direct the Auditing Court in the cases provided for in the Organic Art governing that Court, to forward to the House reports, documents or records on a given matter.

#### Section 200

Report by the  
Defender of the  
People  
(Ombudsman)

1. Upon receipt of the annual report or of any extraordinary report of the Defender of the People, and after its placing on the agenda, the Defender of the People shall deliver an oral summary thereof to the full House or, as the case may be, to the Permanent Deputation. Following this explanation, one representative of each parliamentary group may take the floor for fifteen minutes to make known its position.

54 C

Requests of  
information to the  
Defender of  
the People

2. Members of Congress, parliamentary groups and committees may request in writing, through the Speaker, stating the reasons therefor, the intervention of the Defender of the People to investigate or clarify decisions, resolutions and specific actions taken by Public Administration and affecting a citizen or group or citizens.

#### Section 201

Other  
reports

All other reports which, by virtue of a constitutional or legal provision, must be submitted

to the Cortes or to Congress, shall be transacted as provided for in Sections 196 and 197 hereof, excluding the introductory speech of the Government, and may or may not give rise, depending on their nature, to the putting of motions for resolutions.

## CAPTER IV

### Information by the Government

#### Section 202

110, 109 C  
44, 7, 203  
SO

1. Members of the Government, at their own request or when so requested by the relevant committee, shall appear before such committee to hold an informative sitting.

General  
informative  
sitting Initiative  
to convene  
such sittings

2. The sitting shall be conducted in the following stages: oral explanation by the Minister, adjournment for a maximum time of forty-five minutes to enable Members and parliamentary groups to prepare their questions or comments, and subsequent reply thereto by the member of the Cabinet.

3. Members of the Cabinet may be accompanied for this purpose by authorities and officials from their Department.

Right of members  
of Cabinet to be  
assisted by  
authorities and  
officials

#### Section 203

110, 109 C  
44, 7, 202  
SO

Members of the Cabinet, at their own request or by a resolution of the Bureau of Congress and the Board of Spokesmen, shall appear before the full House or any of the committees to report on a given matter. The initiative for the adoption of such resolutions shall rest with two parliamentary groups or one-fifth of Members of the House or of the committee, as the case may be.

Appearance of  
members of the  
Government to  
give evidence on  
specific matters  
Initiative

- Procedure 2. Following oral explanation by the Government, the representatives of each parliamentary group may speak for ten minutes to make their positions known, put questions or make remarks, which shall be answered by the Government, without subsequent voting.
- Special turn for Members 3. In exceptional cases, the Speaker may, in agreement with the Bureau and after having consulted the Board of Spokesmen, allocate time for Members to put succinct questions or request clarifications on the information furnished. To this end, the Speaker shall fix a maximum number or duration of speeches.

## PART XII

### Nominations and appointments

#### Section 204

- Members of General Council of the Judicial Power and judges of the Constitutional Court 122, 159 C
- The nomination of the four members of the General Council of the Judicial Power and of the four members of the Constitutional Court, referred to respectively in Sections 122.3 and 159.1 of the Constitution, shall be resolved upon in plenary sitting of Congress.
- Nominations by parliamentary groups 2. Each parliamentary group may propose up to four candidates for each institution, and shall be allocated a maximum time of five minutes in which to defend such nominations.
- Up to four names by group 3. Members may write up to four names on the ballot paper. 87 SO
- Election by three-fifth majority 4. Both for the General Council of the Judicial Power and for the Constitutional Court, the four candidates having obtained the highest number of votes shall be elected, provided each has obtained three-fifths of total membership of the Congress.

5. If on the first vote the four positions are not filled in accordance with the requirements specified in the preceding paragraph, further votes shall be taken in which the number of candidates may be progressively reduced, starting from a number not exceeding twice the number of vacancies to be filled. In this further voting, a number of candidates may be entered on the ballot papers equal to that of the positions to be filled. The Speaker may, if circumstances so warrant, suspend the voting for a reasonable time.

Successive votes  
in the event of no  
sufficient majority  
in first vote

37, 88 SO

6. Any ties that may be significant for the purposes of a nomination shall be decided by taking a further vote between those candidates who have obtained an equal number of votes.

Ties

### Section 205

54 C  
87 SO

1. The system provided for in the preceding Section, adapted to the actual number of positions to be filled and to other legal requirements, shall be applicable in cases in which a legal provision requires the nomination, acceptance or appointment of any persons by a qualified majority of members of Congress.

Other proposals  
for appointments  
requiring qualified  
majority

2. Proposals for the nomination of the six members of the General Council of the Judiciary Power selected by the Congress amongst judges and magistrates of all judicial categories shall comply to the following rules:

a) Candidates, up to a maximum of thirty-six, shall be proposed by the judges and magistrates, according to the terms described in the Organic Act of the Judiciary.

b) Candidates proposed in accordance with subsection a) shall be put to the Plenary, once the Bureau has verified they comply with the requirements set down in the Constitution and the Law. Attendance of the candidates at this stage is not required.

c) Parliamentary Groups may speak to explain their position for a maximum of five minutes.

d) Votes will be cast according to subsections 4 and 6 of Section 204. Members may write up to six names on the ballot paper.

### **Section 206**

Appointments  
requiring only  
single majority

In the event that other persons are to be elected without the requirement of a qualified majority, the election shall be made in plenary sitting in such form as the Bureau of Congress, upon consultation with the Board of Spokesmen, shall propose, if so accepted by the full House. If a direct election is to be made by the full House, the proposal of the Bureau shall contain a formula of restricted suffrage, based on the number of appointments to be made and on membership of the House.

87 SO

## **PART XIII**

### **Business pending upon expiry of the term of Congress**

#### **Section 207**

Pending items  
lapse

Upon the dissolution of Congress or at the expiry of its term, all business pending examination and decision by the House shall lapse, except for such business as must constitutionally be transacted by the Permanent Deputation.

115, 68 C

## **REPEALS**

Provisional Rules  
of Procedure  
hereby repealed

The Provisional Rules of Procedure of Congress, of October 13, 1977, and the provisions issued to implement them, are hereby repealed.

## FINAL PROVISIONS

### First

9 C            These Standing Orders shall come into force on the day of their publication in the «Official Parliamentary Bulletin». They shall also be published in the «Official Gazette».

Commencement

### Second

72 C            The reform of these Standing Orders shall be carried out by means of the procedure for private members' bills initiated by Congress. Its adoption shall require a final vote on the whole text by overall majority.

47 SO            Procedure for review

### Third

72, 74, 94,        In all matters relating to the *Cortes Generales*, or requiring joint sessions or the setting up of joint bodies of Congress and Senate, the Rules of Procedure of Parliament referred to in Section 72 of the Constitution shall be applicable, without prejudice to the present Standing Orders, Which shall apply in all respects not described therein or requiring separate consideration or voting by Congress.

145, 158 C        Applicability in certain cases of the Rules of the *Cortes Generales*

### Fourth

72 C            The rights, duties, situations, functions and responsibilities of the personnel in the employment of Congress shall be as determined in the Parliamentary Staff Regulations.

Parliamentary Staff Regulations

### Fifth

185 SO         Oral questions in committee and requiring a written answer, relating to matters falling within the responsibility of the Spanish Radio and Television Authority, shall be answered directly by the Director-General or by the Board of Directors, subject to the same rules as are contained herein for questions to the Government.

Questions relating to Spanish Television Authority

## TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

### First

Pending business to be transacted under these Rules

1. The transaction of any business pending before Congress upon the commencement of these Standing Orders shall conform to the provisions hereof with respect to pending procedures.

Exception to general rule of preceding subsection

2. Nevertheless, legislative proceedings in which the term for tabling of amendments has concluded prior to the commencement of these Standing Orders, shall continue in accordance with the procedures laid down in the provisional Rules of Procedure of Congress.

### Second

Appl. of Section 23 to parliamentary groups

The provisions of Section 23 shall be applicable as from the parliamentary term following entry into force of these Standing Orders.

23 SO

### Third

Adaptation of existing Committees

The adaptation of existing Committees to the provisions of these Standing Orders shall be carried out within a term of fifteen days as from the commencement thereof.

### Fourth

Constitutional oath or pledge by present Members

Members who already hold office at the entry into force of these Standing Orders shall comply with the requirement established in Sect. 20.1 iii) at the first plenary sitting they attend.

20 SO

House of Congress, 10 th February 1982.

## **ALPHABETICAL INDEX**

## A

### **Absence:**

- Sect. 33 (... of Speaker);
- Sect. 99.1.1.<sup>o</sup> (notorious and repeated ... of a Member at plenary sittings or committee meetings).

### **Abstention:**

- Sect. 84.1.1st paragr. (record of abstentions in electronic voting on the floor of the House);
- Sect. 86, 1st phrase (... in roll-call votes on the floor or the House).

Accusation of Members of the Government, see *Impeachment of...*

Access cards, see *Credentials*.

Activities of Members of a professional or lucrative nature, see *Members' income-earning activities*.

*Ad Hoc* committees, Sects. 51-53 (Part III, Chapter 3, Division 3).

Additional provisions of bills, Sect. 110.5 (to be treated as sections for amendment purposes).

Adjournment (of vote or reply), see *Postponement*.

**Administrative agencies** (generally, see also *Public Administration*):

- Sect. 7.1 (right of any Member of Congress to request information, reports or documents);
- Sect. 200.2 (right of Members to request intervention of the Defender of the People).

Administrative Procedure Act, Sect. 92.2, *in fine*.

### **Admissibility:**

- Sect. 31.1.4.<sup>o</sup>, *in fine* (decisions in

matter of... generally reserved to Bureau);

- Sect. 111.1 (general provision on... of amendments to bills implying increase in expenditure or reduction in revenue);
- Sect. 114.3 (conditions of... of further amendments during discussion of a bill in the reporting committee);
- Sect. 118.3 (conditions of... of new amendments during discussion of the committee's report on the floor of the House);
- Sect. 126.2 (examination by Bureau and subsequent decision of Government on the..., of amendments to private Members' bills implying increase in expenditure or reduction in revenue);
- Sect. 130.3 (Bureau's agreement required for the..., of amendments to a bill or a private Members' bill containing matters that can be regulated only by an Organic Act);
- Sect. 133.3 (conditions of... for amendments to Finance Bill entailing increase of budgetary appropriations);
- Sect. 133.4 (conditions of... amendments to said Bill implying reduction in budgeted revenue);
- Sect. 136.1, 2 and 3 (examination by Bureau of... of Draft Statutes of Devolution drawn up under Sects. 143, 144 and 146 and First Transit. Prov. Constit.);
- Sect. 168.3 (non..., of amendments to bills for harmonization of statutes of

Self-governing Communities that are incompatible with decision of the House contemplated in subsection 1);

- Sect. 174.2 (check on the... of the question of confidence by Bureau);
- Sect. 176.1 (same check of censure motions by Bureau);
- Sect. 181.2 (check on... interpellation writs by Bureau);
- Sect. 186.2 (non... of certain questions to Government);
- Sect. 186.3 (check on the... of questions by Bureau);
- Sect. 192.2 (power of Bureau not to admit questions or interpellations falling under Sect. 103.1.<sup>o</sup>);
- Sect. 197.1 *in fine* (admission by Bureau of motions for resolution submitted following a communication of the Government);
- Sect. 201 (possibility to apply Sects. 196 and 198 to reports mentioned in this Sect.).

Admission, see *Admissibility* above.

#### **Agenda:**

- Sect. 61.3, *in fine* (compulsory completion of... in plenary sittings);
- Sect. 67 to 69 «Agenda Part IV, Chapter II): drawn up by Speaker in agreement with Board of Spokesmen —inclusion of new matters with priority, on request of the Government —Inclusion of urgent matters— Amendment of agenda);
- Sect. 182.1 (inclusion of interpellations in... of Plenum);
- Sect. 182.2 (priority criteria for such inclusion);

- Sect. 184.2 (inclusion in... of motions following interpellations);
- Sect. 188.2 (inclusion of questions to Government in...);
- Sect. 189.1 (inclusion of questions in... of committees);
- Sect. 190.2 (inclusion in... of committee of questions with a written answer to which Government has not replied in time);
- Sect. 192.1 (power of Speaker to join for simultaneous discussion two or more questions or interpellations included in the... of the same sitting);
- Sect. 194.3 (Sect. 182.2 also to apply to inclusion of non-legislative motions in the... of plenary sittings).

Agreements between Self-governing Communities, Sect. 160.

Agriculture, Stockbreeding and Fisheries Committee, Sect. 46.1.viii).

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- Allowance of members, Sect. 8,1 and 4.

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#### **Amendments:**

- Sect. 110 (general provision);
- Sect. 111 (Government's consent necessary for the discussion of... entailing increase in expense or reduction in revenue);
- Sect. 112.1 (general discussion necessary if there are..., to the principle itself of the bill);
- Sect. 112.2 (procedure for discussion of each of these...);
- Sect. 112.3 (vote on...);

- Sect. 112.5 (effects of the adoption of one of such...)
  - Sect. 113.1 (referral of bill to committee after expiry of term for tabling of...);
  - Sect. 114.2 (discussion of... to Preamble of the bill);
  - Sect. 114.3 (conditions for admission of new... during committee discussion);
  - Sect. 117 (right of parliamentary groups to defend in Plenum the... they have unsuccessfully tabled in committee);
  - Sect. 118.2.1.<sup>o</sup> (power of Speaker to decide the order of explanation and defence of...);
  - Sect. 118.3 (admissibility of... of a grammatical or terminological nature);
  - Sect. 119.1st phrase (possibility of referral to committee as result of the adoption of...);
  - Sect. 121 (... of Senate to bills passed by Congress);
  - Sect. 123 (Congress to debate any... proposed by Senate);
  - Sect. 126.2, *in fine* (... to a private Member's bill that might entail increase in expenditure or reductions in revenue);
  - Sect. 126.5, 2nd subparagr. (non admissibility of... to principle or to whole text of a private Member's bill aiming at returning it to promoter);
  - Sect. 130.3 (... tabled on an ordinary public bill but dealing with matters that can only be governed by an Organic Act);
  - Sect. 132 (... by Senate to Organic bills);
  - Sect. 133.3 (conditions for admission of... to Finance Bill entailing increase in expenditure);
  - Sect. 134.4 (conditions for admission of... to said Bill implying a reduction in revenue);
  - Sect. 151.4, *in fine* (non admissibility of... to principle or to whole text demanding the return to Government of a Decree-Law to be converted into a bill);
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  - Sect. 198.2, *in fine* (... to programmes or plans of Government submitted under Sect. 1981.1).
- Annulment of-Decree-Law, Sect. 151.  
 Annulment of election or proclamation of a candidate, Sect. 22.1.<sup>o</sup>  
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**Appointments by Congress:**

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- Sect. 205 (overall majority of the House required for said...);
- Sect. 206 (procedure for other...).

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Arms (cannot be carried by members within Parliaments's premises), Sect. 101.2.<sup>o</sup>

Arrest of a Member, Sects. 11 and 12.

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**Assemblies of Self-governing Communities (see also Delegations of...):**

- Sect. 127, *in fine* (bills proposed by...);
- Sect. 137.2 (appointment of a delegation to discuss draft Statute of Devolution with Congress'Constitutional Committee);
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- Sect. 140.3, *in fine* (right of *rappor-teurs* to request attendance of experts having assisted the promoting Assembly);
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**Assembly Hall:**

- Sect. 55 (distribution of seats)
- Sect. 55.2 (special bench reserved to Government);
- Sect. 55.3 (persons having access to...);
- Sect. 80 (no entry and no exit while voting is in progress);
- Sect. 100 (immediate expulsion of a Member from...);

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- Sect. 107 (maintenance of order in the galleries), see also *Galleries* and *Order*.

**Assistance (help and counsel):**

- Sect. 39.2 (right of Government to be assisted by another person at meetings of the Board of Spokesmen);
- Sect. 45 (of Clerks to Bureaus and *rappor-teurs*);
- Sect. 140.3, *in fine* (of other persons to Assemblies of Selfgoverning Communities for the drafting of Statutes of Devolution);
- Sect. 202.3 (right of Government to be assisted by authorities or civil servants at informative sittings);

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**Attendance:**

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- Sect. 39.2 (right of Government to attend meetings of the Board of Spokesmen);
- Sect. 64.1, 2nd paragr. (right of accredited representatives of mass-communication *media* to attend non secret meetings of committees);
- Sect. 66 (right of Senators to attend any plenary sitting and any non-secret committee meeting).

**Authorities (generally):**

- Sect. 44.3.<sup>o</sup> (obligation to appear before committees upon subpoena);

- Sect. 202.3 (right of Government to be assisted by authorities of Department concerned at informative sittings), see also *Informative sittings*.
- Authorities of the Judicial Power, see *Judicial Authorities*.
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- Sect. 137.2, see *Assemblies of...*;
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- Sect. 16 (duty of Members to observe Standing Orders);
- Sect. 106 (disturbances in Congress premises).

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- Sect. 111, see *Amendments* and also *Increase of expenditure and Reduction in revenue*;
- Sect. 112 (general debate on the floor of the House), see also *General debate*;
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- Sect. 120 (sending to Senate after passage by Congress);
- Sects. 121 to 123 (new examination of bill in case of veto or amendments by Senate);
- Sect. 126.5 *in fine* (procedure for... also applicable to private Members' bills, once these have been taken into consideration);
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- Sect. 50.1 (prior hearing of... for setting-up of other non-standing committees);
- Sect. 62.2.2.<sup>o</sup> (acceptance of the... necessary for every decision of Bureau to hold a plenary sitting other than on working days);
- Sect. 67.1 (agreement of the... required for fixing of agenda of plenary sittings by Speaker);
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- Sect. 130.1 (prior hearing of... for certification of Government's or private Members's bills as Organic Bills);
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- Sect. 188.2 (agreement of the... necessary for fixing the number of questions to be included in agenda by Speaker and the distribution criteria among Members of each group);
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- Sect. 203.1 (decision, in agreement with Bureau, to summon members of Government to report on a particular business);
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- Sect. 134.1 (discussion of annual Finance Bill).
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  - Sect. 8.4 (annual fixing by... of Member's allowance or salary);
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  - Sect. 22.4.<sup>o</sup> (resignation or renunciation of Members to their seat to be addressed in writing to the...);
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- Sect. 96.2 (...’s agreement necessary for Members to have access to minutes of secret sittings);
- Sect. 98.1 (adoption of necessary measures for the *media*’s activities);
- Sect. 98.2 (grant of access cards to representatives of the *media*);
- Sect. 99 (power to deprive a Member to the totality or part of his rights under Sects. 6 to 9);
- Sect. 101.2 (right to table on the floor of the House proposals to suspend a Member);
- Sect. 101.3 (statement to the effect that a certain fact may be an offence, as necessary condition for the reference thereof by Speaker to judicial authorities);
- Sect. 106.2 (power to propose extension or increase in penalties imposed on a Member suspended for disturbance in the House);
- Sect. 109, 2nd phrase (publication of Government’s bills, opening of a term for the tabling or amendments and referral to the appropriate committee);
- Sect. 110.1 (amendments must be addressed in writing to...);
- Sect. 113.2, see *bureaus of committees*;
- Sect. 114.1 (power to admit upon certain conditions further amendments during plenary debate of the Committee’s report);
- Sect. 115, see *bureaus of committees*;
- Sect. 118.2 (prior hearing of... necessary for the exercise by Speaker of power to conduct discussion of bills on the floor of the House);
- Sect. 119 (power after plenary debate, to refer the bill back to committee for technical and redactional improvements);
- Sect. 126.2 (publication of private

- Members' bills and sending of these to Government);
- Sect. 126.5, 2nd subparagraph (after taking into consideration of a private Members' bill, power to have it sent to the appropriate committee and open a term for the tabling of amendments);
  - Sect. 127 (examination of bills tabled by Self-governing Communities and bills of popular initiative);
  - Sect. 130.1 (definition as Organic Bills of any governmental bill or private Members' bill);
  - Sect. 130.2 2nd paragr. (definition in certain cases, after the committee's report stage);
  - Sect. 130.3 (decision of admissibility of amendments on matters to be governed only by Organic Act);
  - Sect. 134.3 (conduction of debates on Finance Bill), see also *bureaus of committees*;
  - Sect. 136 (powers regarding Statutes of Devolution);
  - Sect. 137.1 (admission of draft Statutes);
  - Sect. 149.1, *in fine* (power to propose to the full House the withdrawal of full legislative jurisdiction granted to a committee);
  - Sect. 150.1 (power to propose to the full House a «single reading» discussion);
  - Sect. 153.3 (objections of parliamentary groups to execution by Government of a legislative delegation must be addressed to...);
  - Sect. 166.1 (reference of agreements between Self-governing Communities to Constitutional Committee);
  - Sect. 174.1 (question of confidence tabled by Government must be submitted to... first);
  - Sect. 174.2 (declaration of admissibility of such question);
  - Sect. 175.2 (censure motions to be addressed to...);
  - Sect. 176.1 (admission of such motions);
  - Sect. 181.1 (interpellations must be submitted to... first);
  - Sect. 181.2 (certification of writs of interpellation);
  - Sect. 184.2 2nd phrase (admission of motions tabled as a result of interpellations);
  - Sect. 186 (reception and certification of questions to Government);
  - Sect. 190.1 (right to decide on extension of the term for Government to give a written answer);
  - Sect. 192.2 (power to declare inadmissible certain questions or interpellations falling under Sect. 103.1<sup>o</sup>);
  - Sect. 194.1 (reception of nonlegislative motions or proposais and decision as to their admission);
  - Sect. 197.1 (reception of motions for resolution after message from Government and declaration of admission thereof);
  - Sect. 198.1 (reference of plans or programmes of Government to appropriate committee);

- Sect. 198.2, see *bureaus of committees*;
- Sect. 199.2 (hearing of... necessary for Speaker to request Auditing Commission to send documents on a certain matter);
- Sect. 203.1 (power to decide on the appearance of members of the Government in plenary sitting or in committees in order to supply information on a given matter);
- Sect. 23.3 (consent of... required for the Speaker to grant an exceptional turn allowing Members to put questions or to ask for clarification);
- Sect. 206 (power to propose to the full House the procedure for appointment of persons when the law does not require a special majority).

**Bureaus of committees:**

- Sect. 41 (election-membership);
- Sect. 64.2 (may propose to the committee that meeting be held in secret);
- Sect. 67.2 (fixing of agenda);
- Sect. 113.2 (power to extend term for completion of report on a bill);
- Sect. 115 (power to conduct debates), see also *Speakers of committees*;
- Sect. 198.2 (organization of debate on programmes or plans of the Government).

**Business days:**

- Sect. 62.1 (general rule both for Plenum and for committees; from Tuesday to Friday);
- Sect. 62.2 (procedure required for

holding plenary sittings or committee meetings other than on business days);

- Sect. 90.1 (basis for computation of terms);
- Sect. 90.2 (... within periods during which Congress is not assembled not be taken into account for computation).

C

*Cabildos*, Sect. 49.2.3.<sup>o</sup>

**Call to order:**

- Sect. 70.3 (power of Speaker to interrupt a Member);
- Sect. 103 (general provision);
- Sect. 104.1 (exclusion of a Member for the remainder of the sitting after he has been called three times to order).

**Call to keep to the point:**

- Sect. 70.3 (power of Speaker to interrupt a Member);
- Sect. 102 (power of Speaker to withdraw the floor from a Member after having called him three times to the point in the sitting).

Call to question, see *Call to (keep to) the point* above.

Canarian Insular Councils, see *Cabildos* above.

Cards, see *Credentials*.

**Censure motions:**

- Sect. 85.2 (vote always by public roll-call);
- Sect. 175 (conditions required for submission thereof);

- Sect. 176.1 (notification by Bureau to Prime Minister and to groups'spokesmen);
- Sect. 176.2 (alternative... may be also tabled within the 2 following days);
- Sect. 177 (discussion-votingoverall majority required for adoption-lapsing of other motions if one of them is adopted);
- Sect. 178 (effects of adoption: immediate notice thereof to King and to Prime Minister);
- Sect. 179 (prohibition for promotors of unsuccessfull motion to table another one during the same session);

**Certification** (in the sense of definition or classification):

- Sect. 13.1.4.<sup>o</sup> (function of Bureau for all sorts of parliamentary scripts and documents);
- Sect. 130.2 (... of a bill or private Members' bill as Organic Bill or not by Bureau);
- Sect. 181.2 (... of interpellations by Bureau);
- Sect. 196.3 (... of questions by Bureau).

Certifications (written..., by Secretaries), Sect. 34.

**Chairman of Constitutional Committee:**

- Sect. 140.1 (holds the chair at meetings of the two reporting subcommittees on draft Statute of Devolution under Sect. 151.2 CONSTIT.);
- Sect. 141.2, *in fine* (holds the chair at joint meetings of Constitutional Com-

mittee and Delegation of the relevant Regional Assembly);

- Sect. 142.1 *in fine* (power to authorize speeches for clarification);

**Chairmen of committees:**

- Sect. 41 (mode of election);
- Sect. 42.1 (convening of respective committee);
- Sect. 47 (chairmanship of the Rules Committee), see *Speaker of Congress*;
- Sect. 48.1 (chairmanship of Committee of Members' Status);
- Sect. 62.2.1.<sup>o</sup> (right to propose to the committee to meet on days that are not working days);
- Sect. 65.2 (power to approve minutes of proceedings as signed by Secretaries of committee);
- Sects. 70 to 75 (general provisions on the conduction of debates);
- Sect. 76 (closure of the debate);
- Sect. 77 (right to take part in discussions, provided he or she leaves the chair for the time being);
- Sect. 81 (power to appoint time of voting);
- Sect. 88.1 (power to interrupt the vote in case of tie twice during the meeting on the same matter);
- Sect. 102 (calls to keep to the point);
- Sect. 103 (calls to order);
- Sect. 104 (penalties against the Member or the speaker who has already been called three times to order during the meeting);
- Sect. 115 (power to organize discussion of bills);

- Sect. 116 (signature of the committee's report and reference thereof to Speaker of Congress);
  - Sect. 134.3 (power to organize discussion on Finance Bill);
  - Sect. 195.1.2.<sup>o</sup> (power to join and have simultaneously debated non-legislative motions with the same or very similar purpose);
  - Sect. 203.3 (power exceptionally to open a new period of speech for Members to put questions or ask for clarification at informative meeting).
- Citizens (right to initiate bills), Sect. 108.4<sup>o</sup>, see also *Initiative*.
- Civil servants, generally:**
- Sect. 44.3 (duty to appear before committees when so requested);
  - Sect. 202.3, *in fine* (may accompany Members of the Cabinet at informative sittings).
- Classification of scripts and documents, see *Certification* above.
- Clerks (Letrados) of the *Cortes Generales*, Sect. 45.
- Closed-door sittings, see *Non-public sittings*.
- Closure of debate, Sect. 76.
- Coming into force of Standing Orders, see *Date of entry of...*
- Commencement, see *Date of entry of Standing Orders*.
- Committee of Agriculture, Stockbreeding and Fisheries, see *Agriculture... Committee*.
- Committee of Budget, see *Budget Committee*.
- Committee of Defence, see *Defence Committee*.
- Committee of Economy, Commerce and Finance, see *Economy... Committee*.
- Committee of Education and Culture, see *Education... Committee*.
- Committee of Foreign Affairs, see *Foreign Affairs Committee*.
- Committee of Industry, Public Works and Services, see *Industry... Committee*.
- Committee of Justice and Home Affairs, see *Justice... Committee*.
- Committee of Petitions, see *Petitions Committee*.
- Committee of Public Administration's Status, see *Public... Committee*.
- Committee on Standing Orders see *Rules Committee*.
- Committee of Social and Employment Policy, see *Social... Committee*.
- Committee of Status of Members of Congress, see *Member's Status Committee*.
- Committees (generally):**
- Sect. 6.1 (right of their members to attend meetings);
  - Sect. 6.2 (right of Members to be part of...);
  - Sect. 15 (duty of their members to attend meetings);
  - Sect. 24.4, *in fine* (right of each group to have members in committees);
  - Sect. 40 (general provision regarding composition thereof);
  - Sect. 41 (election of their bureau);
  - Sect. 42 (convening and chairmanship);
  - Sect. 43 (field of jurisdiction)

- deadline for reporting to full House);
- Sect. 44 (power to claim information and documents, as well as summon members of Government and high officials);
- Sect. 45 (functions of clerks at...).
- Sect. 62.2.1<sup>o</sup>, *in fine* (decision to meet outside regular meeting days);
- Sect. 64 (General rules on meetings).
- Sect. 65 (minutes);
- Sect. 66 (right of Senators to attend);
- Sect. 67.2 and 3 (amendments to agenda);
- Sect. 68.2 and 3 (amendments to agenda);
- Sect. 69, *in fine* (distribution of documents prior to discussion);
- Sect. 78 (*quorum*);
- Sect. 79.1 (decision by singlemajority as general rule);
- Sect. 79.2, see *Voting*;
- Sect. 81 to 89, *id.*, *id.*
- Sect. 95.2.<sup>o</sup> (proceedings to be recorded in Journal of Debates);
- Sect. 96.1 (contents of Journal);
- Sect. 99.1.<sup>o</sup> (penalty for non attendance);
- Sect. 109, *in fine* (reference of bills to appropriate...);
- Sect. 110.1 (tabling of amendments in committee's bureau);
- Sect. 111.2.4<sup>o</sup> (reference of bill to... after favourable discussion on the floor of the House);
- Sects. 113 to 116 (Part. V, Chapter 2, Division 1112): «Deliberation in committee»);
- Sect. 117, see *Amendments and Parliamentary groups*;
- Sect. 119 (bill referred back to... for editorial improvements);
- Sect. 126.5 (reference to... of private Members's bills adopted in Plenum);
- Sect. 131.2, *in fine* (reference to... of Organic Bills);
- Sect. 148 (full legislative jurisdiction of... for a particular Bill);
- Sect. 149 (recall or revocation thereof);
- Sect. 153.3. (report by... on objections to use made by Government of a legislative delegation);
- Sect. 187, *in fine* (question to members of Government);
- Sect. 189 (procedure for said questions);
- Sect. 194.1 (discussion of bills);
- Sect. 195.2 (joining of nonlegislature motions on similar or related matters);
- Sect. 196.1 (communications by Government);
- Sect. 198 (Examination of Government's plans or programmes);
- Sect. 199.2 (requests of information to Auditing Commission);
- Sect. 202.1 (requests for appearance of members of Government);
- Sect. 203.1 (appearance of members of Government on their own initiative or by joint decision of Bureau of Congress and Board of spokesmen);
- 3rd Transit. Prov. (adaptation of former... to present Rules of Procedure).

Committees of Enquiry, see Enquiry Committees.

Committees of Investigation, *id. id. id.*

**Common legislative procedure:**

- Sects. 109 to 123 (bills tabled or submitted by Government);
- Sects. 124 to 127 (private Members' bills);
- Sects. 128 and 129 (withdrawal or governmental or private Members' bills);
- Sect. 156.1 (... applies to bills authorizing signature or international treaties, except for cases contemplated in said Sect.).

**Communications** (see also *Notifications*):

- Sect. 14.1 see *Notifications, Judicial authorities and Immunity*;
- Sect. 19.2, see *Notifications and Statement of Members' assets...*
- Sect. 24.1, see *Notifications and Parliamentary Groups*;
- Sect. 49.4, see *Notifications*;
- Sect. 52.5, see *Notifications and Enquiry Committees*;
- Sect. 59 (... to new-elected Congress of affairs examined and decisions adopted by Permanent Deputation between two parliamentary terms);
- Sect. 70.4, see *Replacement of Speakers...*
- Sect. 101.3 *in fine*, see *Notifications and Judicial Authorities*.
- Sect. 137.3, see *Notifications and Assemblies of Self-governing Communities*.
- Sect. 143.2, see *Notifications*;
- Sect. 144, see *Notifications*;

- Sect. 147.2, *in fine, id id.*;
- Sect. 147.3 *id id.*;
- Sect. 147.4, *id id.*;
- Sect. 157.6, *id id.*;
- Sect. 152 (... by Government to Congress of articulated or consolidated text drawn up as delegated legislation);
- Sect. 159 (... by Government to Congress, under Sect. 94.2 CONSTIT., of the signing of any international treaty or agreement not included in Subs. 1 of said Section). See also *International treaties*;
- Sect. 161.3 (by Speaker to Prime Minister of Congress decision on proposed referendum).
- Sect. 162.1 of decree proclaiming state of alarm);
- Sect. 162.5.<sup>o</sup> (to Government of the House's decision to extend or not to extend state of alarm);
- Sect. 164.3 (of declaration of state of siege);
- Sect. 166.1 (to Congress of cooperation agreements between Selfgoverning (Communities). See also *Cooperation agreements*;
- Sect. 166.2 (same by Senate on agreements between Selfgoverning Communities requiring approval by the *Cortes Generales*);
- Sect. 166.3, 1st phrase (of identical decisions of both Houses to Presidents of the Self-governing Communities concerned);
- Sect. 166.3, 2nd phrase (of a contrary result to that reached in Senate to Speaker of the latter);

- Sect. 168.2 (to the Speaker of senate on Congress decision on Harmonization Acts);
- Sect. 169.3, 1st phrase, see *Notifications and Impeachment*;
- Sect. 171.6, see *Investiture and Notifications*;
- Sect. 174.6, see *Notifications and Question of Conference*;
- Sect. 176.1, see *Censure motion and Notifications*;
- Sect. 196 and 197 (by Government, Part XI, Chapter I);
- Compensation for Members' expenses, Sect. 8.2.

**Computation of terms and deadlines:**

- Sect. 90 (general provision);
- Sect. 138 (... of 2-month term laid down by Sect. 151.2.2 Const.);

**Congress (see also House):**

- Sect. 1 (constitutive sitting);
- Sect. 3.2 (election of Board);
- Sect. 4.1 (declaration of its constitution by the Speaker);
- Sect. 4.2 (notification thereof to King, Senate and Government);
- Sect. 9.2 (agreements with the Social Security);
- Sect. 13.1 (authorization of... for indictment of a Member);
- Sect. 28.1 (obligation of putting the necessary means at the disposal of Parliamentary Groups);
- Sect. 32.1 (representation by the Speaker);
- Sect. 60.1 (personal and material means);

- Sect. 61.1 and 2 (ordinary and extraordinary sittings, respectively);
- Sect. 95 (official publications of the House);
- Sect. 108.5 (initiative of bills);
- Sect. 130 sending of bills passed by... to Speaker of Senate);
- Sect. 121 (new consideration by... of bills vetoed or amended by Senate);
- Sect. 122.1 (procedure for this new consideration);
- Sect. 123 (inclusion, under certain conditions, of amendments by Senate in the text finally adopted by...);
- Sect. 126.1 (private members bills by initiative of... );
- Sect. 126.5, 1st phrase (decision on the taking of a private members' bill into consideration);
- Sect. 132.2 (vote on the text which has resulted from amendments introduced by Senate and accepted by...);
- Sect. 146.3 (procedure in case of disagreement between both Houses on a constitutional reform bill);
- Sect. 147.4 (ratification of the principle of constitutional review by the new...);
- Sect. 147.5 (adoption-of the bill of constitutional reform);
- Sect. 151.2, see *House*;
- Sect. 153.1 (additional control of legislative delegations by..., art. 86.6, Const.);
- Sect. 155.2 (previous authorization by... for the signing of international treaties);
- Sect. 155.4 (deadline for the adoption of a decision by... );

- Sect. 156.1 (use of the legislative procedure for said authorization);
- Sect. 157.1 (procedure in case of doubt about the constitutionality of a treaty);
- Sect. 158 (resolution of disagreements between... and Senate over authorization for the signing of a Treaty);
- Sect. 161.1 (previous authorization for the organization of a consultative referendum);
- Sect. 161.2 (discussion of Government's messages in this respect);
- Sect. 161.3 (communication of Congress' decision to the Government);
- Sect. 162.2 (authorization of... required to declare state of alarm);
- Sect. 162.5, *in fine* (communication of decision of the House to Government);
- Sect. 163.1 (previous authorization for declaration of the state of emergency);
- Sect. 164.2 (adoption of Government's proposal concerning the state of siege);
- Sect. 165.2 (exercise of authority of the... by Permanent Deputation);
- Sect. 166.1 (procedure for discussion of agreements between Selfgoverning Communities);
- Sect. 166.3, *in fine* (final decision in case of failure of the Committee contemplated by art. 74.2, Constit);
- Sect. 167 (control of legislative delegations in favour of Selfgoverning Communities);
- Sect. 168.1 (evaluation of the need for Acts of Harmonization of Selfgoverning Communities' provisions by the House);
- Sect. 168.2, see *House*;
- Sect. 168.3, see *House*;
- Sect. 169.1 (initiative for impeachment of members of the Government);
- Sect. 169.3, see *House*;
- Sect. 171.2, *in fine*, see *House*;
- Sect. 172.2 (dissolution of the *Cortes Generales* in case of repeated failures of the investiture procedure);
- Sect. 173 (vote of confidence);
- Sect. 177.5 (motion of censure);
- Sect. 177.5 (need of favourable vote by overall majority for adoption of the motion of censure);
- Sect. 178 (effects of adoption);
- Sect. 184.1, see *House*;
- Sect. 188.1 (content of written questions with an oral answer);
- Sect. 193, see *House*;
- Sect. 196.1 (procedure for the debate on Government communications);
- Sect. 198.1 (submission of Government plans or programmes to the...);
- Sect. 199.2, see *House*;
- Sect. 201 (procedure for examination of reports other than those of the Ombudsman);
- Sect. 207 (expiry of business pending at dissolution of... or at expiry of Parliament's term);
- 4th Final Provision (statute of personnel);

— 1st Transitional Provision (procedure for pending business).

Consent of Government, see *Government's approval*.

Consolidated texts, see *Legislative Delegations*.

**Constitution** (= opening act, opening):

— Sects. 1 to 4 (... of the House in formal sitting);

— Sects. 24.1 and 2 (... of parliamentary groups);

— Sect. 26 (incorporation to a parliamentary group of Members having acquired this capacity after the constitutive sitting of the House);

— Sect. 36.1 (election of Bureau during the constituent sitting);

— Sect. 59 (communication of Permanent Deputation to the newlyconstituted Congress);

— Sect. 147.4 (review of the Constitution-Procedure after the... of the new *Cortes Generales*).

**Constitution** (= Fundamental law):

— Sect. 4.1 (constitutional oath);

— Sect. 19.1 (parliamentary disqualifications);

— Sect. 57.1.a) (duties of Permanent Deputation under Sect. 86, Constit.);

— Sect. 57, 2nd (duties of Permanent Deputation under Sect. 73-2, Constit.);

— Sect. 61.3 (extraordinary sittings);

— Sect. 105 (powers of Speaker for the maintenance of law and order under Sect. 72.3, Constit.);

— Sect. 108, 2<sup>o</sup>, 3.<sup>o</sup> and 4.<sup>o</sup> (initiative of bills);

— Sect. 125 (private members' bills taken into consideration by Senate);

— Sect. 130.1 (certification of a bill as an Organic one under art. 81, Constit.);

— Sect. 136.1 (draft statutes of Devolution made under Sects. 143, 144 and 146, and under the 1st. Transit. Provision, Constit.);

— Sect. 137 (discussion of said drafts under Sect. 151, Constit.);

— Sect. 138 (computation of deadline referred to in Sects. 151.2 and in the 6th. Transit. Provision, Constit.);

— Sect. 143.2, *in fine* (notification of the disagreement referred to in Sect. 151.2.5th., Constit.);

— Sect. 146.1 (bills and proposals of constitutional reform Sects. 166 and 167, Constit.);

— Sect. 147.0, *in fine* (communication to Government of adoption of constitutional reform, Sect. 168.3, Constit.);

— Sect. 151.1 (validation or repeal of Decree-Laws, Sect. 86.2, Constit.);

— Sect. 152 (legislative delegation under Sect. 82, Constit.);

— Sect. 153.1 (control of the execution of legislative delegations, Sect. 82.6, Constit.);

— Sect. 155.1, *in fine* (authorization of the *Cortes Generales* for the signing of international treaties, Sect. 94.1, Constit.);

— Sect. 157.1, *in fine* (petition to Constitutional Court, Sect. 95.2, Constit.);

— Sect. 158 (disagreements between

the two Houses on international treaties, Sect. 194.1, Constit-Joint Committee under 74.2, Constit.);

- Sect. 159 (Government's communications under Sect. 94.2, Constit.);
- Sect. 162.2 (extension of the state of alarm, Sect. 116.2, Constit.);
- Sect. 163.3 (Joint Committee for disagreements between Congress and Senate regarding Selfgoverning Communities, Sect. 74.2, Constit.);
- Sect. 167 (control of legislative delegations to Self-governing Communities, Sect. 150.1, Constit.);
- Sect. 168.2 (communication to Speaker of Senate of any Congress decision on Harmonization Acts, 150.3, Constit.);
- Sect. 169.1 (initiative for impeachment of members of Government, Sect. 102.2, Constit.);
- Sect. 169.3 (communication to senate of the adoption of said initiative by Congress, Sect. 102.1, Constit.);
- Sect. 170 (appointment of Prime Minister Sect. 99, Constit.);
- Sect. 178, *in fine* (automatic appointment as Prime Minister of candidate proposed by victorious motion of censure, Sect. 99, Constit.);
- Sect. 204.1 (allusion to Sects. 22.3 and 159.1, Constit., regarding appointment of 4 members of General Judiciary Council and of 4 magistrates of Constitutional Court);
- 3rd Final Provision (issues regarding *Cortes Generales* as a whole or re-

quiring joint sittings or the setting-up of joint committees, Sect. 72, Constit.).

#### **Constitutional amendments** (Sect. 167, Constit.):

- Sect. 146 (procedure);
- Sect. 157.3 (a... required, in case of unconstitutionality of a clause in an international treaty).

#### **Constitutional Committee:**

- Sect. 46.1 (list of Standing Committees);
- Sect. 137.2 (draft Statutes of Devolution);
- Sect. 139.1 (*rapporteurs* of the same);
- Sect. 140 (working procedure of said *rapporteurs*);
- Sect. 141 (submission of report to...);
- Sect. 142 (joint meeting with Delegation of the Assembly of the Self-governing Community concerned);
- Sect. 145 (vote of draft Statute);
- Sect. 166.1 (examination of agreements between Self-governing Communities).

#### **Constitutional Court:**

- Sect. 157 (petition to... to give a ruling on alleged unconstitutionality of a international treaty);
- Sect. 207 (appointment by Congress of 4 magistrates of...).

Constitutional oath, Sect. 4.1, 2nd subparagraph., and 4th Transit. Prov.

Constitutional reform (Sect. 168 Constit), Sect. 147.

Constitutional revision, see *Constitutional amendments*.

**Consultation:**

- Sect. 157.1 (of Constitutional Court in case of doubt on the constitutionality of certain stipulations of a international treaty);
- Sect. 185.2, *in fine* (non admissibility of questions constituting mere legal...).

Consultative referendum, Sect. 161.

Contributions, see *Pension contributions*.

**Control:**

- Sects. 152 and 153 (... by Congress of legislative delegations granted to Government);
- Sect. 167 (... by State, as far as Congress is concerned, of legislative delegations granted to Selfgoverning Communities).

Cooperation agreements between Selfgoverning Communities, Sect. 166.

**Cortes Generales:**

- Sect. 95th (Official Parliamentary Bulletin);
- Sect. 97 (content of said Bulletin);
- Sect. 147.3, *in fine* (dissolution for certain constitutional reforms);
- Sect. 147.4 (ratification by new... of decision of the preceding Chambers on constitutional reform);
- Sect. 147.5 (approval of reform by the two Houses successively);
- Sect. 154 (treaties requiring previous authorization by...);
- Sect. 155.1 and 2 (previous authorization of international treaties by the... under, Sect. 94.1 Constit);
- Sect. 166.3 (voting by each House of the text drawn up by the Joint Com-

mittee, Sect. 74.2 Constit, on agreements between Selfgoverning Communities);

- Sect. 172.2 (dissolution of the... in case of reiterated failure of nomination votes for the office of Prime Minister);
- Sect. 201 (compulsory reports to the... by virtue of the Constitution or of a legal provision).
- 3rd Final Provision (Standing Orders of the... as a whole to be applied in matters pertaining to... as such or requiring joint sittings or the setting up of mixed bodies of both Houses);
- 4th Final Prov. (Statute of Personnel of...).

Courtesy, see *Parliamentary Courtesy*. Courts... see *Judicial authorities*.

**Credentials:**

- Sect. 20.1 (... issued to each new Member by electoral authorities);
- Sect. 98.2 (... for representatives of mass-media).

**Crimes:**

- Sect. 11 (case of *flagrante delicto* as exception to the privilege of immunity or freedom from arrest). See also *Immunity and Freedom from arrest*;
- Sect. 101.3 (notification to judicial authorities of a Member's suspension if, in the Bureau's opinion, it may constitute a...). See also *Judicial authorities and Notifications*;
- Sect. 107.2, *in fine* (duty of Speaker to instruct Security Guards of the House to make appropriate record of

disturbances that may constitute a crime). See also *Disturbances*.

- Sect. 169 (treasonable or... against security of the State committed by members of Government). See also *Government, Impeachment and Members of Government*.

## D

### **Date of entry of Standing Orders.**

- 1st. Temporary Provision (procedure for business pending on the date of...);
- 2nd. Transitional Provision (application of the provisions under art. 23 —constitution of parliamentary groups— according to the statute law after the coming into force of the Standing Orders);
- 3rd. Transitional Provision (15 days deadline starting from the... for the adaptation of the committees);
- 4th. Transitional Provision (obligation of Members in this capacity on the date of... to express the option provided under Sect. 20.13th for incompatibility cases).
- Deadlines, see Terms.

### **Debates:**

- Sect. 32.1 (conducting of... by the Speaker of the House);
- Sect. 34 (assistance of secretaries to the Speaker to ensure the order of...);
- Sect. 40.2, 2nd. phrase (replacement of a Member by another one of the

same Parliamentary Group for only one debate in committee);

- Sect. 52.4, *in fine* (powers of Speaker for... of reports of Enquiry Committees in the full house).
- Sect. 69 to 77 (general rules of procedure on the floor of the house and in committee);
- Sect. 89.3, 1st. phrase, *in fine* (no explanation of vote when all parliamentary groups have had the opportunity of taking part in...);
- Sect. 97.2 (reproduction by mechanical means, for emergency reasons, of documents subject of...).
- Sect. 101.2, 2nd phrase (... on the suspension of a member);
- Sect. 104.1 (no... for the exclusion for the rest of the sitting);
- Sect. 112, ... on the whole text, see General discussion.
- Sect. 114 (... on the subcommittee's report by full Committee);
- Sect. 115 (conducting of said...);
- Sect. 118.1 (... of bills on the floor of the house after their discussion in committee);
- Sect. 121 (discussion in full Congress of bills vetoed or amended by Senate);
- Sect. 122.1 (procedure for this type of...);
- Sect. 123 (compulsory... of amendments made by Senate);
- Sect. 126.4 (procedure for ... on private members' bills);
- Sect. 127 (procedure for plenary of bills tabled by Self-governing Com-

- munities or by popular initiative);
- Sect. 130.2, *in fine* (... of Organic private members' bills and bills);
- Sect. 131.3 (... on the new committee report on organic private members' bills and bills);
- Sect. 134.1, see *General discussion...*
- Sect. 134.2 (... of the Finance bill);
- Sect. 134.3 (powers of Speaker and of committee Chairmen for conducting said... );
- Sect. 134.4 (final debate on finance bill);
- Sect. 142 (procedure for ... by the Constitutional Committee and the Regional Assembly's Delegation on draft Statutes of Devolution);
- Sect. 147.1 (... of certain bills or proposals for constitutional review);
- Sect. 148.1, see *General discussion...*
- Sect. 149.1, see *General discussion...*
- Sect. 150.2 (... of bills or private members' bills by single-reading procedure);
- Sect. 151.1 (... on the validation or annulment of Decree-Laws);
- Sect. 151.2, see *General discussion...*
- Sect. 153.4 (... by full House of committee reports for control of exercise of legislative delegations by Government);
- Sect. 156 (... on permission to Government to enter into international agreements);
- Sect. 162.4 (... on extension of the state of alert);
- Sect. 163.1, *in fine* (application to the declaration of a state of emergency);
- Sect. 164.1 (... for the declaration of a state of siege);
- Sect. 166.2, *in fine* see *General discussion...*
- Sect. 168.1, 1st. sentence, *in fine*, see *General discussion...*
- Sect. 169.2, 1st. sentence, see *General discussion...*
- Sect. 171.3 and 4 (... of the political programme of the candidate to the office of Prime Minister);
- Sect. 174.3 (... the vote of confidence);
- Sect. 177.1, 2 and 3 (... of censure motions);
- Sect. 183 (... of interpellations to the Government);
- Sect. 184.2 (... of motions resulting from interpellations);
- Sect. 188.3 (... of questions to the Government);
- Sect. 189 (... of questions for an oral reply in Committee);
- Sect. 192.1 (accumulation and simultaneous debate of several interpellations);
- Sect. 195 (... of non-legislative motions);
- Sect. 196 (... of Government communications in the full House or in committee);
- Sect. 197.2 (... of motions by parliamentary groups after a communication of the Government);
- Sect. 198.2, 2nd. phrase (... of Government's plans and programmes);

- Sect. 199.1 (... of the Auditing Commission's annual report);
- Sect. 200.1 (... on the report of the Ombudsman);
- Sect. 201 (... on other reports to be submitted to *Cortes Generales* or to Congress);
- Decisions of courts and tribunals, see *Judgments*.

**Declaration:**

- Sect. 3.1 (of the opening of constitutive sitting of Congress by the Speaker of the House);
- Sect. 4.1, *in fine* (of the constitution of Congress by the newlyelected Speaker of the House);
- Sect. 8, see *Statements*;
- Sect. 19.3 (... of incompatibility between parliamentary mandate and another post);
- Sects. 93 and 94 (... of urgency for consideration of a particular issue);
- Sect. 143.2 (... of disagreement between Congress and the Regional Assembly's Delegation on a draft Statute of Devolution).
- Sect. 159.2 (right of Government to annex... to draft international treaties which must be authorized by *the Cortes*);
- Sect. 162.1, 1st. phrase(... of state of alarm by the Government);
- Sect. 163.1 (... of state of emergency or extension of the state of emergency in force);
- Sect. 164.1 and 2(... of state of siege by Congress on the Government's proposal);

- Sect. 173 (general policy statement by the Government to obtain the vote of confidence).

Decorum of the house, Sect. 63.1: Decree-laws, Sect. 151.1.4.5 and 8; Defence Committee, Sect. 46.1.iv).

**Defender of the people (Ombudsman):**

- Sect. 49.2.1st. (... petitions received and considered by the Petitions Committee may be addressed to...);
- Sect. 200.1 (discussion on the floor of the House of his annual report or of his extraordinary reports);
- Sect. 200.2 (right of Members, groups and committees to request his appearance in order to investigate or elucidate specific actions);
- Deferment, see *Postponement*;
- Delegated legislation (control on...), see *Legislative delegations*;

**Delegations of Self-governing Communities' Assemblies:**

- Sect. 127, *in fine* (presentation in full Congress of bill sponsored by the Assembly concerned);
- Sect. 139.2 (appointment of ... provided for in Sect. 151.2.1 Constit for discussion with Congress of draft Statute of Devolution);
- Sect. 141 (reception and examination by and Constitutional Committee of report on draft Statute);
- Sect. 142.1 (separate vote by... and said Committee, after joint meeting, of said report and dissenting opinions);
- Sect. 142.2 (new separate vote in case of persistence of disagreement with Constitutional Committee).

Deletion of words or phrases, see *Amendments*.

**Deputy speakers:**

- Sect. 30.2 (... form part of Bureau);
- Sect. 33 (functions of...);
- Sect. 37.2 and 3 (mode of election).

Disciplinary penalties, see *Penalties for breach of Members duties*.

**Discipline:**

- Sect. 16 (Members' duties);
- Sect. 21.1.<sup>o</sup> (suspension of Members);
- Sects. 99 to 107 (Part VIII, chapter 8, «Parliamentary Discipline»).

Disorder, in the House, see *Disturbances below*.

**Dissenting opinion:**

- Sect. 51.6 (... in the reports of Enquiry Committees);
- Sect. 117 (... on an ordinary bill);
- Sect. 119.1stparagr. (potential return of text to committee because of inconsistency or obscurities resulting from the adoption of a...);
- Sect. 141.2 (... in the Joint Committee of *rapporteurs* on a draft Statute of Devolution).

**Dissolution:**

- Sect. 27.2 (automatic ... of a group other than the Mixed Group).
- Sect. 51 (automatic ... of Enquiry committees upon completion of investigation and, in any case, upon expiry of parliamentary term);
- Sect. 57.1.<sup>o</sup> (... of Congress automatically entails take-over of the House's powers by Permanent Deputation);

— Sect. 147.3, *in fine* (... of the *Cortes* after adoption by both Houses of principle of constitutional reform, Sect. 168 CONSTIT.)

— Sect. 165.2 (in case of ... of Congress, the House's powers regarding states of alarm, emergency and siege are automatically vested in the Permanent Deputation);

— Sect. 172.2 (... of *Cortes Generales* in case of repeated unsuccessful investiture attempts by Congress for two months);

— Sect. 207 (... of Congress makes all pending affairs lapse);

Disturbances in the premises of Congress, Sect. 106.

Documentation services of the House, Sect. 60.1

**Documents:**

— Sect. 7 (right of Members to request... of administrative agencies);

— Sect. 31.1.4th (classification of... by the Board);

— Sect. 44.1st(fight of committees to request... from the Government);

— Sect. 92 (Tabling of... to be made with the Register of Secretary General);

— Sect. 97.1 (publication in the Official Parliamentary Journal according to Standing Orders);

— Sect. 97.2. (mechanical reproduction in certain cases);

— Sect. 109 (annexes to bills to be presented to Bureau);

— Sect. 199.2 (power of Speaker of Congress to claim specific... from Au-

ding Commission on a particular subject).

**Duration (see also Debates):**

- Sect. 115.2 (maximum... of debate in committee on a particular bill);
- Sect. 118.2.2.<sup>o</sup> (power of Speaker to fix ... of the debate on the floor of the House of committees report on the bill);
- Sect. 188.3.3rd subparagr (maximum of 5 minutes for consideration of each question to Government in plenary sittings);
- Sect. 191 (minimum of 2 hours for questions and interpellations in weeks of regular plenary sittings);
- Sect. 198.2, 1st subparagr (decision by Bureau of total ... for examination of Government's plans or programmes by fill House);
- Sect. 202.2, see *Suspension*.

E

Economy, Commerce and Finance Committee, Sect. 46.1.vi).

Education and Culture Committee, Sect. 46.1.v).

Eldest-age Speaker, see *Provisional Speaker*.

**Elections:**

- Sect. 3.2 (... of Bureau);
- Sect. 36.1 (moment of said election);
- Sect. 36.2 (cases where a new... thereof must be held);
- Sect. 37.1 (procedure for.., of Speaker);

- Sect. 41 (... of committee bureaux);
- Sect. 204 (... of 4 members of General Judiciary Council and of 4 members of Constitutional Court), see also *Constitutional Court, General Judiciary Council* and *Special majority*.
- Sect. 206 (... of other persons for which no special majority is required), see also *Single majority*.

Electoral law, Sect. 19.1, *in fine*.

Electronic voting, Sects. 84.2.<sup>o</sup> (ordinary...) and 87.1.<sup>o</sup> (secret...).

**Enquiry Committees:**

- Sect. 52 (general provision);
- Sect. 64.3, *in fine* (meetings to be held always in secret).

Equal number of votes for and against, see *Ties*.

Explanation of vote, Sect. 89.

Expulsion of a Member from the Assembly Hall, Sects. 100 and 104.2, see also *Penalties for Members'breach of order*.

Expulsion of persons having caused disturbances, Sect. 106, see also *Disturbances*.

Extinction of parliamentary mandate, see *Members of Congress and Termination of parliamentary mandate*.

**Extraordinary sittings**, Sect. 61.2 and 3.

F

Faculties of Speaker, see *Powers of Speaker*.

Final provisions of bills, Sect. 110.5 (to be treated as sections for amending purposes).

Finance Bill, Sects. 113 and 134.  
Financial allowance of Members of Congress, see *Allowance of...*  
Fisheries, see *Agriculture, Stockbreeding and Fisheries Committee*.  
Floor of the House, see *Plenary sitting*.  
Foreign Affairs Committee, Sect. 46.1.ii).  
Freedom of speech (of Members of Congress), Sect. 10.  
Full House, see *Plenary sitting*.

**Full legislative jurisdiction of Standing Committees:**

- Sect. 88.3 (ties in votes on bills);
  - Sects. 148 and 149 (Part V, Chapter 3, Section 5, «Full legislative jurisdiction of committees»).
- Full report of proceedings, see *Verbatim report*.  
Functions of Speaker, see *Speaker of Congress* (more specifically, Sects. 32, 67.1, 105, and 1882, 2nd subparagr.).

G

Galleries (order in...), Sect. 107.

**General discussion:**

- Sect. 112 (... of the whole Bill by full House);
- Sect. 113.1 (opening of Committee stage after the end of...);
- Sect. 134.1 (... of Finance Bill);
- Sect. 144 (... on ratification of draft Statutes of Devolution adopted by referendum);
- Sect. 148.1 (... cannot be delegated by full House to committees);
- Sect. 150.2 (rules on... also apply to

debates by single-reading procedure);

- Sect. 151.2 (rules on... to apply also to ratification or repeal of Decree-Laws);
- Sect. 166.2 (debates on Constitutional Committee reports on agreements between Self-governing Communities);
- Sect. 168.1 (rules on... a to apply also to debates on Harmonization bills of legal statutes of Selfgoverning Communities);
- Sect. 169.2, 1st phrase(... also applies to debates on impeachment of members of Government).

General Judiciary Council (appointment of 4 members), Sect. 204.

**Government:**

- Sect. 4.2, *in fine* (... must be informed of constitution of Congress);
- Sect. 39.2 (entitled to receive prior notification of meetings of the Board of Spokesmen and to send one of its members);
- Sect. 44.2.<sup>o</sup> (duty of its members to appear before committees at request of the latter);
- Sect. 49.2.3.<sup>o</sup> (petitions examined by Petitions Committee may be addressed to...);
- Sect. 52.5 (right of... to be informed of conclusions reached by full House on reports by Enquiry committees);
- Sect. 55.2 (special bench in Assembly Hall reserved to members of Cabinet);
- Sect. 63.3 (right of... to request to the

House that sitting be not held in public);

- Sect. 67.3 (right to have some business entered with priority in the agenda of the Plenum);
- Sect. 67.4 (right to ask the Board of Spokesmen to decide, the entry of a particular business in the agenda of a plenary sitting);
- Sect. 70.5 (right of its members to take the floor at plenary sittings whenever they so request);
- Sect. 85.2, see *Prime Minister*;
- Sect. 86, *in fine* (... always vote at the end of the voting);
- Sect. 93.1 (right to ask the Bureau to decide on the urgency procedure for a particular matter);
- Sect. 108.1.<sup>o</sup> (right of initiative of bills);
- Sect. 109 (duty to annex a Preamble and all necessary documents to its bills);
- Sect. 110.3. See *Amendments*;
- Sect. 111 (agreement of... required for admission and discussion of amendments involving increase of expenditure or reduction in revenue). See also *Amendments, Increase in expenditure and Reduction in revenue*;
- Sect. 112.3, *in fine*, see *Amendments, Increase in expenditure and Reduction in revenue*;
- Sect. 112.4, see *Prime Minister*;
- Sect. 118.1 (presentation of bill by a member of the... at discussion of the committee's report by full Congress);
- Sect. 126.2 (right of... to express their opinion on admission of a private Member's bill as well as on any amendment involving an increase of expenditure or a reduction in revenue);
- Sect. 126.3, see *Bureau of Congress and Tacit agreement of Government to discussion of private Member's bills*;
- Sect. 26.4.1, see *Reading-out of scripts and Private Member's bills*.
- Sect. 128 (power of... to withdraw a public bill tabled by them at any stage);
- Sect. 130 (right to be consulted on Organic nature of a public bill or a private Member's bill);
- Sect. 133.4 (agreement of... required for admission of amendments to Finance Bill entailing increase of expenditure). See also *Amendments, Increase of expenditure and Reduction of revenue*;
- Sect. 135 (applicability of same rule to draft budgets of public agencies requiring approval by the House);
- Sect. 144, see *Notifications and Stutes of Devolution*;
- Sect. 147.3, see *Prime Minister*;
- Sect. 147.6, see *Prime Minister*;
- Sect. 151.2 see *Decree-Laws*.
- Sect. 151.5, see *Permanent Deputation and Decree-Laws*;
- Sect. 152 (duty of... to sen'l to the House without a delay a communication on use made of legislative delegation under Sect. 82 Constit.). See also *Communications*;

- Sect. 153.2, see *Legislative delegations*;
- Sect. 155.2 and 3 (...’s request of authorization by Congress to enter an international agreement). See also *Congress and International treaties and Reservations*;
- Sect. 159, see *Communications and International Treaties*;
- Sect. 161, see *Prime Minister and Referendum*;
- Sect. 162.1.2 and 5, see *State of alarm*;
- Sect. 163.1, see *State of emergency*;
- Sect. 164.1, see *State of siege*;
- Sect. 168.1.2nd subparagraph (right of... to request a debate on the necessity of Harmonization Act for statutes of Self-governing Communities). See also *Self-governing Communities*;
- Sect. 169, see *Impeachment of members of...*;
- Sect. 170, see *Investiture and Prime Minister*;
- Sect. 172.2, see *Investiture and Prime Minister*;
- Sect. 174.5, see *Prime Minister and Question of confidence*;
- Sect. 175.1, see *Congress, Motions of censure and Political responsibility of Cabinet*;
- Sect. 178, see *Interpellations, Members of Congress and Parliamentary Groups*;
- Sect. 181.1, see *Interpellations*;
- Sect. 183 (right of... to reply to interpellations in the course of a debate in full House);

- Sect. 185, see *Members of Congress and Questions to Government*;
- Sect. 188.1, see *Questions to Government*;
- Sect. 188.3.1st suparag. (...’s reply to questions);
- Sect. 188.4 (right of... to request adjournment or deferment of questions to next plenary sitting). See also *Postponement*;
- Sect. 189, see *Questions to Government*;
- Sect. 190.1 (...’s written answer);
- Sect. 190.2 (procedure to be followed in case of failure of... to reply in time);
- Sects. 196 and 197, «Government’s communications», Part XI, Chapter I);
- Sect. 198, «Examination of programmes and plans submitted by Government» (art. XI, Chapter II);
- Sects. 202 and 203, «Information by the Government». (Part XI, Chapter IV).

**Government’s approval**, see *Government*

## H

**Harmonization Acts** (of legal provisions of Self-governing Communities), Sect. 168.

**Heard Clerk** (Secretary-General):

- Sect. 35 (functions of... in Bureau-appointment);
- Sect. 39.3 (must attend meetings of the Board of Spokesmen).

**Hearing** (both in the sense of previous advice and of right to be listened to).

- Sect. 13.2 (prior., of Member in cases of request of waiver of immunity);
- Sect. 52.2, *in fine* (... of witnesses by Enquiry Committees);
- Sect. 52.3 (... of the Enquiry Committee by the Speaker before laying down, if appropriate, specific rules of procedure for said Committee);
- Sect. 130.1 (... of Board of Spokesmen before definition of bill or a private Members' bill as an Organic Bill);
- Sect. 149.1.2nd paragr., *in fine* (... of the Board of Spokesmen to decide on «single reading» procedure);
- Sect. 169, 2nd paragr. (... of the Minister concerned at the debate on his impeachment);
- Sect. 171.1 (... of candidate to investiture at the beginning of the debate);
- Sect. 111.4 (... of candidate in the course of the debate);
- Sect. 174.4 (... of Ministers concerned at the debate on the question of confidence);
- Sect. 177.3 (... of Board of Spokesmen prior to any decision to debate two or more censure motions together);
- Sect. 192.1 (... of same Board for declaration of non-admissibility of a question or an interpellation);
- Sect. 199.2 (... of said Board for requesting reports or documents from Auditing Commission);
- Sect. 202 (... of members of Government at informative sittings);

- Sect. 206 (... of Board of Spokesmen for the election of persons by Congress without any need for a qualified or special majority).

### **Hour**

- Sect. 1 (constitutive meeting of Congress to be held at the... appointed by Royal Summoning Decree);
- Sect. 81 (vote to be taken at the... appointed by Speaker);
- Sect. 92.1 (power of Bureau to fix the... for tabling or lodging of papers and documents with the Office of the Secretary-General);
- Sect. 175.5 (censure motion or motions to be voted at the..., announced by Speaker);

### **House** (see also *Congress*);

- Sect. 12, *in fine* (duty of Speaker to safeguard rights and privileges of... the...);
- Sect. 14.2 (taut grant of request for waiver of a Member's immunity);
- Sect. 21.1.2.<sup>o</sup> (suspension of Members whose indictment has been authorized by the...);
- Sect. 22.3.<sup>o</sup> (termination of mandate of Members when the... is dissolved);
- Sect. 30.1 (definition of Bureau as leading body of the...);
- Sect. 31.1.1.<sup>o</sup> (power of Bureau to adopt all measures necessary for administration of the...);
- Sect. 31.1.3.<sup>o</sup> (power of Bureau to take decisions on the... 's expenditure);
- Sect. 31.1.6.<sup>o</sup> (power of Bureau to draw the main lines of the House's activities);

- Sect. 32.1 (... to be represented by Speaker);
  - Sect. 34 (functions of Secretaries);
  - Sect. 40.1, *in fine* (composition of committees);
  - Sect. 57, 1st phrase (jurisdiction of Permanent Deputation);
  - Sect. 57.1.<sup>o</sup>, b) (exercise by Permanent Deputation, in some cases, of the...’s powers regarding state of alarm, emergency or siege);
  - Sect. 61.2 (extraordinary sessions);
  - Sect. 61.3, *in fine* (duration of extraordinary session until completion of its agenda);
  - Sect. 62.2.1.<sup>o</sup> (... may hold sittings other than on working days adopted.
  - Sect. 63.1.<sup>o</sup> (questions affecting decorum of...);
  - Sect. 63.3.<sup>o</sup> (resolution of full... to hold a secret sitting);
  - Sect. 68. *in fine* (amendment to agenda by resolution of the full...);
  - Sect. 70.3, *in fine* (call to order to the... as a whole);
  - Sect. 78.1 (*quorum*);
  - Sect. 103.1.<sup>o</sup> (call to order for offence to decorum of the... or of Members);
  - Sect. 106, *in fine* (power of... on Bureau’s proposal, to limit or to extend penalty of suspension of a Member who has caused disturbances);
  - Sect. 107.2, see *Security services of Congress*;
  - Sect. 122.1, see *Congress*;
  - Sect. 126.1.1.<sup>o</sup> (initiative of a private Members’ bill by Members thereof);
  - Sect. 128, see *Bills*;
  - Sect. 131.2 and 3, see *Organic Bills and Over majority*;
  - Sect. 132.1.<sup>o</sup>, *in fine*, see *Veto, Overall majority, Semate and Organic bills*;
  - Sect. 133.2, see *Finance Bill*;
  - Sect. 146.2, *in fine*, see *Constitutional amendments and Constitutional reform*.
  - Sect. 147.2, see *Constitutional reform* (Sect. 168 CONSTIT.);
  - Sect. 162.5 (final decision of full... on state of alarm);
  - Sect. 164.3, see *Official Gazette and State of siege*;
  - Sect. 168.2, see *Harmonization Acts for Self-governing Communities and Senate*;
  - Sect. 168.3, see *Amendments*;
  - Sect. 171.2, see *Government’s programme and Investiture*;
  - Sect. 172.1, see *Government’s programme and Investiture*;
  - Sect. 178, 2nd phrase, see *Censure motions and Investiture*.
  - Sect. 184.1, see *interpellations and Motions*;
  - Sect. 193, *in fine*, see *Nonlegislative motions*;
  - Sect. 199.2, see *Notification and Auditing Commission*;
  - Sect. 203.1, see *Initiative and Member of Government*;
  - Sect. 206, *in fine*, see *Appointments and Single majority*;
  - Sect. 207, see *Congress*.
- Houses** (intervention of both...):
- Sect. 166.3 (vote in both... of text of

Joint Committee provided for in Sect. 74.2 CONSTIT in case of disagreement on a bill);

- 3rd Final Provision (seating-up of joint bodies);

## I

Immunity, see *Parliamentary immunity*.

Impeachment of members of Government (Cabinet), Sect. 169.

Impeachment of Ministers, see above.

Inadmissibility, see Admissibility (Sects. 31.1.4<sup>o</sup>, 111, 126.5.2nd subparagr., 168.3, 186.2 and 192.2).

Increase in expenditure (amendments implying...):

- Sect. 111.1 (... in any type of bill);
- Sect. 133.3 (in the Finance Bill). In-  
crimination of members of Govern-  
ment (*i.e.* of Ministers), see *Impeach-  
ment...* above.

Indictment of members of Government, (*i.e.* of Ministers), see *Impeachment...* above.

Industry, Public Works and Services Com-  
mittee, Sect. 46.1.ix).

### Information:

- Sect. 7 (right of Members to obtain...  
from any administrative agencies);
- Sect. 44.1.0 (right of committees to  
obtain... from Government and admi-  
nistrative agencies);
- Sect. 98.1 (duty of Bureau to  
supply... to mass-*media* on the activi-  
ties of the House);
- Sect. 188.1 (questions to Govern-

ment with oral reply or the floor of the  
House);

- Sects. 202 and 203, see *informative  
sittings below*.

**Informative sittings** (Part XI, Chapter IV,  
«Information» by Government):

- Sect. 202 (... of a general nature in  
plenary sitting or in committee mee-  
tings);
- Sect. 203 (... on a particular busi-  
ness, also in Plenum or in commit-  
tee).

**Initiative** (see also *Proposals*):

- Sect. 53 (... a decision on the set-  
ting-up of non-standing committees  
other than those of Sect. 52);
- Sect. 57.2 (... by Permanent Deputa-  
tion to summon the House on extra-  
ordinary sitting, between parliamen-  
tary sessions);
- Sect. 63.3.<sup>o</sup> (... for full House's deci-  
sion not to hold sitting in public);
- Sect. 108 (general provision on... of  
bills);
- Sect. 118.1 (bill tabled on Govern-  
ment's initiative to be presented first  
by Government at discussion by full  
House of committee's report);
- Sect. 126.1 and 2 (... of private Mem-  
bers' bills);
- Sect. 127 (... of bills by Selfgover-  
ning Communities and by citizens.  
*i.e.* «popular initiative»);
- Sect. 129 (... of withdrawal of a pri-  
vate Member's bill);
- Sect. 157.1 (... of any 2 parliamen-  
tary groups or of one fifth of Members  
for full House to decide on lodging

with Constitutional Court petition contemplated in Sect. 95.2 Constit. on alleged unconstitutional treaties);

- Sect. 168.1, *in fine*, see *Proposals*;
- Sect. 169.1 (... in writing under Sect. 102.2 Constit., for impeachment of members of Cabinet);
- Sect. 175.2, see *Censure motions and Proposals*;
- Sect. 200.2 (... of Members, groups and committees for Defender of the People to investigate or clarify a particular matter), see also *Interventions*;
- Sect. 203.1, 1st subparagraph. (... of members of Cabinet to appear before the full House or in committee to give information on a particular matter);
- Sect. 203.1, 2nd subparagraph. (... of 2 groups or of one-fifth of members of Congress necessary for Bureau to *subpoena* members of Cabinet for said purpose).

International treaties (bills authorizing them), Sects. 154 to 160 (part VII, Chapter 1).

#### **interpellations to Government:**

- Sect. 180 to 184 (Part IX, Chapter I, «Interpellations»);
- Sect. 191 (allotment of minimum time for...);
- Sect. 192.1 (joint debate of similar or identical...);
- Sect. 192.2 (inadmissible...);

#### **Interruptions:**

- Sect. 70.3 (no... of Member who is speaking);

- Sect. 80 (no... of the voting process);
- Sect. 157.2 (... of discussion of bill in an international treaty in case of petition to Constitutional Court);
- Sect. 171.3 (... of sitting at investiture debate);
- Sect. 174.3 (same rule for debate on question of confidence);
- Sect. 177.2 (... of sitting after speech of alternative candidate at the beginning of debate on censure motion);
- Sect. 204.5, *in fine* (exceptional derogation to general rule of Sect. 80, in vote on appointments to Constitutional Court and to General Judiciary Council).

#### **Interventions:**

- Sect. 74 (general provision), see also *Speeches*;
- Sect. 75 (turn to speak of Mixed Group), see also *Mixed Group*;
- Sect. 77 (of members of Bureau on the floor of the House);
- Sect. 118.1 (of Government and of reporting committee in discussion of bill by full House);
- Sect. 169.2 (of the Minister or Member of the Cabinet whose impeachment is being sought);
- Sect. 171.4 (see also *Hearing and Speeches*);
- Sect. 174.2, 2nd paragr. (... of Prime Minister on question of confidence), see also *Speeches*;
- Sect. 177.1 (... of one of signatories of censure action in debate thereon), see also *Speeches*;
- Sect. 177.2 (... of each parliamentary

group), see also *Parliamentary groups* and *Speeches*;

- Sect. 188.3 (debates in plenary sittings following questions), see also *Questions* and *Speeches*;
- Sect. 189.2 (debates of the same kind in committees), see also *Questions* and *Speeches*;
- Sect. 195.1 (... in debates on non-legislative motions), see *Speeches*;
- Sect. 200.1, 2nd (and last) subparagraph. (... of each parliamentary group after presentation of report by Defender of the People);
- Sect. 201 (... in discussion of other report that must be presented either to *Cortes Generales* or to Congress: application of Sects. 196 and 197);
- Sect. 203.2 (... at informative sittings), see *Parliamentary groups* and *Speeches*.

#### **Investiture of Prime Minister:**

- Sect. 85.2 (vote by public roll call);
- Sects. 170 to 172 (Part VIII, Chapter I, «Investiture»).

Inviolability of Members, see *Freedom of Speech*.

## J

#### **Joint (or Mixed) Committees:**

- Sect. 53 (general provision);
- Sect. 141.2 (joint meeting of Constitutional Committee and Delegation of Assembly of Self-governing Communities concerned on draft Statute of Devolution);

- Sect. 142.1 (discussion and voting in said joint meeting);
- Sect. 143.1 (global vote of report on draft State);
- Sect. 158 (... Congress — Senate in case of disagreement over an international treaty);
- Sect. 166.3 (... Congress — Senate in case of divergence over an agreement between Self-governing Communities).

#### **Journal of Debates (Diario de Sesiones):**

- Sect. 85.2.<sup>o</sup> (an official parliamentary publication);
- Sect. 96 (contents);
- Sect. 104.3 (no publishing of expressions declared to be offensive or abusive by Speaker or Chairman).

#### **Judgments:**

- Sect. 14.1 (duty of judicial authorities to notify Congress of any... personally affecting a Member of the House);
- Sect. 21.2 (suspension of a Member as a result of conviction entailing inhabilitation for the exercise of parliamentary mandate);
- Sect. 22.1.<sup>o</sup> (... annulling election or, as the case may be, proclamation of a candidate);
- Sect. 157.2 and 3 (... of Constitutional Court in reply to a consultation on alleged unconstitutionality of an international treaty).

#### **Judicial authorities:**

- Sect. 14.1, see *Judgments*;
- Sect. 21.2, see *Judgments*;
- Sect. 22.1.<sup>o</sup>, see *Annulment of elections* and *Judgments*;

- Sect. 49.2 iii) (notification to... of petitions examined by Petitions Committee of the House);
  - Sect. 52.4, 1st suparagr. (... not to be bound by conclusions of Enquiry Committees);
  - Sect. 101.3, *in fine* (duty of Members to advise.., of any act committed by a Member that might be a criminal offence);
  - Sect. 105 (power of Speaker to commit to... any persons who have caused disturbances within Congress premises). See also *Speaker*;
- Judicial Power, see *Judicial Authorities* above.
- Justice and Home Affairs Committees, Sect. 46.1.iii).
- Sect. 11, *in fine* (... necessary for indictment or incrimination of a Member of Congress by courts of law);
  - Sect. 14.1 (decision of full House on request for waiver of immunity);
  - Sect. 154 to 160(... to Government for entering international treaties or agreements, Part VII, Chapter I). See also *International treaties*.

## L

- Legislative delegations** (control of... by Congress):
- Sects. 152 and 153 (control of Government' exercise of a... granted by the *Cortes*);
  - Sect. 167 (Control of... granted by

the State to Self-governing Communities);

Lucrative activities of Members, see *Statement of Members' income-earning or...*

## M

- Majority of Members of Congress, see *Overall majority*;
- Majority of Members of Congress in attendance, see *Single majority*;
- Majority of three-fifths of Members, see *Special majority requirements*;
- Majority of two-thirds of Members, see *Special majority requirements*.

### Mass-media:

- Sect. 64.1 (right of their representatives.., to attend non-secret meetings of committees);
- Sect. 98.1 (duty of Bureau of Congress to supply them with information regarding parliamentary activities);
- Sect. 98.2 (granting by Bureau of access or accreditation cards to representatives of...).

Members' income-earning or lucrative activities, Sect. 181.1;

Members of Bureau, see *Bureau*;

Members of committees, see *Committees*.

### Members of Congress:

- Sect. 3.1 (newly elected Members);
- Sect. 6 to 9 (Rights, Title I Chapter I);
- Sects. 10 to 14 (Parliamentary privileges, Title I, Chapter II);
- Sect. 20 (acquisition of capacity as such);

- Sect. 21 (suspension of parliamentary mandate);
- Sect. 22 (loss of mandate).
- Sect. 23 (parliamentary groups);
- Sect. 24.2 (substitute members in parliamentary groups);
- Sect. 2.3 and 5 (Members associated to groups);
- Sect. 25.1 (Mixed Group);
- Sect. 25.2 (prohibition of membership of more than one group);
- Sect. 26 (accession of Members who have acquired this capacity after constitution of the House);
- Sect. 28.1 (allocation of means to groups);
- Sect. 31.2 (disagreement of a... with certain decisions of the Bureau);
- Sect. 36.2, *in fine*, see *Bureau*;
- Sect. 37.1 and 2 (election of Speaker and Deputy Speakers, respectively);
- Sect. 39.1 *in fine* (convening of Board of spokesmen on request of one-fifth of...);
- Sect. 48 (Members' Status Committee);
- Sect. 52.1, see (*Enquiry Committees*);
- Sect. 53, *in fine*, see *Non-Standing Committees*;
- Sect. 54, (convening of Plenum upon request of one-fifth of...);
- Sect. 55.1 (arrangement of seats in the House);
- Sect. 56.4, *in fine*, see *Permanent Deputation* (composition);
- Sect. 61.2, see *Extraordinary Sitting*;
- Sect. 62.2.1.<sup>o</sup>, *in fine*, see *Sittings and Business days*;
- Sect. 63.1, see *Decorum of the House and Non-Public sittings*;
- Sect. 68.1, see *Agenda and House*;
- Sect. 69 (right of... to have at their disposal all necessary documents before discussion);
- Sect. 70.1 (use of the floor);
- Sect. 70.4 (mutual transfer of the speaking turn);
- Sect. 71.1 (personal allusion to other Members in the course of debate);
- Sect. 72.1 (right to request the application or the Standing Orders);
- Sect. 72.2 (right to request the reading of documents during the debate or before the vote);
- Sect. 73.2, see *Speaker, Speaking time and Speeches*;
- Sect. 79.2 (vote to be personal — no vote by proxy);
- Sect. 80 (Members not to enter or leave Assembly Hall during votes);
- Sect. 84 (ordinary vote);
- Sect. 85.1, see *Voting, Roll-call vote and Secret vote*;
- Sect. 86 (to answer yeso, no. or oabstenton at roll-call votes);
- Sect. 87.2 (procedure for secret vote). See also *Secret vote*;
- Sect. 93.1, see *Bureau and Urgency procedure*;
- Sect. 96.2, 2nd phrase (conditions of access to minutes of proceedings). See also *Bureau and Minutes of proceedings*;

- Sect. 99.1 (causes for forfeiture of a member's rights);
  - Sect. 100 (prohibition of attending one or two sittings and immediate expulsion);
  - Sect. 101, i to (Suspension of membership);
  - Sect. 103 (call to order by Speaker);
  - Sect. 104.3 (ref usael of to withdraw offending words);
  - Sect. 106 (expulsion of a... for having caused disturbances);
  - Sect. 110.1 (right of every... to table amendments to bills);
  - Sect. 126.1.1.0 (right of initiative of bills), see also *Bills and Initiative*;
  - Sect. 132.1, 1st phrase, see *Organic bills, Overall Majority and Veto*;
  - Sect. 132.2 1st phrase, see *Organic Bills, Overall Majority and Veto*;
  - Sect. 146.1, *in fine*, see *Constitutional amendments, Constitutional reform and Initiative*;
  - Sect. 146.2, *in fine*, see *Special majority*;
  - Sect. 147.2, *in fine*, see *Constitutional reform and Special majority*;
  - Sect. 147.5, *in fine*, see *Constitutional reform and Special majority*;
  - Sect. 153.2, see *Legislative delegations*;
  - Sect. 156.2 (proposals of... regarding international treaties);
  - Sect. 157.1, see *Consultation and International treaties*;
  - Sect. 169.1, see *Impeachment*;
  - Sect. 174.5, *in fine*, see *Question of confidence and Single majority*;
  - Sect. 175.2, see *Censure motions*;
  - Sect. 177.5, see *Censure motions and Overall majority*;
  - Sect. 180 (right of interpellation);
  - Sect. 182.2, see *Priority and Interpellations*;
  - Sect. 182.3, see *Interpellations*;
  - Sect. 185 (Right to put questions to Government);
  - Sect. 188.2, see *Agenda and Questions*;
  - Sect. 200.2, 1st phrase (right to request action by the Defender or the People);
  - Sect. 202.2, see *Informative sittings*;
  - Sect. 203.1, *in fine* (right of... to put questions or request clarification at informative sittings);
  - Sect. 204.3, see *Appointments, General Judiciary Council and Constitutional Court*;
  - Sect. 205, *in fine*, see *Appointments and Special majority*;
  - 4th (and last) Transit. Prov. (duty of... at date of entry of present Rules to fulfill formalities Standing Orders for option between parliamentary seat and incompatible post or function).
- Members of Constitutional Court (appointment of 4... by Congress), Sect. 204;
- Members of Government, see *Government* (Sects. 39.2-44.2.<sup>o</sup>-70.5-86, *in fine*, 151.2-169-180-185-196.2-202 and 203).
- Members' salary, see *Allowance of Members*.
- Members' Status Committee:**
- Sect. 13 (must be heard in all cases

of request of waiver of a Member's immunity);

- Sect. 18.3 (must receive from every Member a copy of his or her statement of assets and income-earning activities);
- Sect. 19.3 (must submit proposals to full House on incompatibility or disqualification situations);
- Sect. 42.2 (lust of non-legislative standing Committees);
- Sect. 48 (composition and procedure);
- Sect. 101.2 (proposals on disciplinary suspension of Members).

Minority opinions, see *Dissenting opinions*.

Minutes of proceedings (or simply minutes):

- Sect. 34 (certification by Secretaries of Congress of... of plenary sittings, of meetings of Bureau and of meetings of Board of pokesmen);
- Sect. 35.1 (... of the Bureau's meetings to be drawn up by Head Clerk, i.e. by the Secretary General);
- Sect. 65 (... of plenary sittings and of committees' meetings-contents-access of Membes thereto, etc.).
- Sect. 96.2 (stenographic verbatim report of plenary sittings of meetings of Permanent Deputation and of committees' meetings);
- Sect. 140.5 (... of meetings of the groups of *rappoteurs* Constitutional Committee and Self-governing Community concerned, on draft Statute of Devolution).

#### **Mixed Group**

- Sect. 25.1 (definition).

- Sect. 26, *in fine* (automatic incorporation of members, elected after constitutive sitting and not admitted in other groups);
- Sect. 27.1 (exception to time limits for moving from one group to another);
- Sect. 27.2 (exception to dissolution rule);
- Sect. 75.1 and 2 (limitation of speaking time in sittings of the House);
- Sect. 75.4 (priority in general discussions of bills).

#### **Motions** (by Members of the House):

- Sect. 85.2, see *Censure motions* and *Roll-call vote*;
- Sect. 108, see *Initiative of bills*;
- Sect. 129. *id. id. id. id.*;
- Sects. 130 to 132 (private Members' Organic bills), see *Organic Bills...*;
- Sect. 1623 (... of parliamentary groups on Government's proposal to extend state of alarm);
- Sect. 162.5 (vote on said motions, after discussion);
- Sect. 168.1 *in fine*, see *Proposals*;
- Sects. 170 and 171.1 (motions for investiture to the office of Prime Minister). See also *Investiture* and *Prime Minister*;
- Sects. 175 to 178, see *Censure motions*;
- Sect. 184 (motions by groups following an interpellation to Government);
- Sects. 193 to 195 (Part X, Nonlegislative motions.) by parliamentary groups: tabling in writing of

amendments, in any, by groups discussion-voting);

- Sect. 197 (motions for resolution by groups after end of discussion on Government's communicationstabling-discussion-voting);
- Sect. 204.1 (... of nomination for General Judiciary Council and Constitutional Court), see *Appointments, Constitutional Court and General Judiciary Council*.

Motions following an interpellation, see *Moting generally* (Sect. 184);

Motions for closure of debate, see *Closure of debate*.

Motions for resolution, see *Motions generally*.

Motions of a non-legislature purpose, see *Non-legislative motions*.

Motions of censure, see *Censure motions*.

Mutual Provident Associations (for Members), Sect. 9.1.

## N

**Non-admissibility**, see *Admissibility*

**Non-legislative motions** (lit. X, sects. 193 to 195).

- Sect. 193 (to be submitted only by groups);
- Sect. 194 (submission —certification by Bureauamendments by groups only— priority);
- Sect. 195 (procedure for discussion —power of Speaker to join similar motions in one debate).

### **Non-public sittings**

- Sect. 63 (cases where plenary sittings are not held in public);
- Sect. 64 (general rule for committee meetings).
- Sect. 96.2 (minutes of proceedings of...).

Non-Standing committees, see *Ad hoc Committees*.

Notices, see *Notifications below*.

**Notifications** (see also *Communications*):

- Sect. 4.2 (... of constitution of Congress by Speaker to the King, the Senate and the Government);
- Sect. 14.1 (... by Speaker to judicial authorities of full House's decision on any request for waiver of immunity). See also *Judicial authorities*;
- Sect. 19.2 (compulsory... by Members of Congress to Committee on Members' Status of any change in situation described in their statement on disqualifications);
- Sect. 24.1 (... to Bureau of constitution or setting-up of parliamentary groups);
- Sect. 49.4 (... of resolutions of Petitions Committee to petitioners);
- Sect. 52.5 (... to Government of findings of Enquiry Committees, as confirmed or approved by full House);
- Sect. 59, see *Communications*;
- Sect. 70.4 (prior., to Speaker or replacement of a Member by another Member of same group as a speaker in the discussion);

- Sect. 101.3 (... if appropriate, to judicial authorities, of infringements or breaches of order committed by a Member);
  - Sect. 137.2 (... by Speaker to Assembly of Self-governing Community concerned of admission by Bureau of draft Statute of Devolution);
  - Sect. 143.2 (... to Speaker of negative result of joint meeting Constitutional Committee-Delegation of said Assembly);
  - Sect. 144 (... by Government of adoption of Statute of Devolution by referendum, in th'e Selfgoverning Community concerned);
  - Sect. 147.2, *in fine* (... by Speaker of Congress to Speaker of Senate of adoption by Congress of principle of constitutional reform by the required 2/3 majority);
  - Sect. 147.3 (... by Speaker to Prime Minister of adoption of said principle by Senate as well);
  - Sect. 147.4 (... by Speaker to Speaker of Senate of ratification of final constitutional reform bill by newly-elected Congress);
  - Sect. 147.6 (... of final adoption of constitutional reform by Speaker of Congress to Prime Minister);
  - Sect. 152, see *Communications*;
  - Sect. 159, see *Communications*;
  - Sect. 161.3, see *Communications*;
  - Sect. 162.5, see *Communications*;
  - Sect. 164.3, see *Communications*;
  - Sect. 166.1, see *Communications, and Cooperation agreements between Self-governing Communities*;
  - Sect. 166.2, see *Communications and Selfgoverning Communities*;
  - Sect. 166.3, 1st paragr., see *Communications and Self-governing Communities*;
  - Sect. 166.3, 2nd paragr., see *Communications, Joint Committees and Speaker of Senate*;
  - Sect. 168.2, see *Communications and Harmonization Acts*;
  - Sect. 169.3, 1st paragr. (... by Speaker to President of Supreme Court of full House's decision to impeach a member of the Cabinet);
  - Sect. 171.6 (... by Speaker to the King of the grant of confidence to the candidate for the office of Prime Minister) see also *Investiture, Prime Minister and Speaker*;
  - Sect. 176.1 (... by Bureau to Prime Minister and to group spokesmen of the tabling, of censure motion). See also *Bureau, Censure motions and Prime Minister*;
  - Sect. 174.6 (... by Speaker to the King and to Prime Minister of result of vote of confidence);
  - Sect. 176 (... by Bureau of Congress to Prime Minister and to groups' spokesmen of the tabling of a censure motion);
  - Sect. 181.2 see *Interpellations*;
  - Sect. 190.2, *in fine* see *Questions to Government*;
- Nullity of election or, as the case may be, of proclamation of a candidate, see *Annulment...*

## O

Oath (of allegiance to Constitution), see *Constitutional oath*.

Objections of Members or groups to Government's use of legislative delegations, Sect. 153.2 and 3.

Offences, see *Crimes*.

Office of Secretary-General (Head Clerk), Sect. 92.1 (See also *Register of...*).

### Officers of Congress:

- Sect. Sect. 60.3 (determination of posts and duties of each...); 4th Final Provision (reference of this matter to Statute of Personnel of the *Cortes Generales*).

Officers of *Cortes Generales* as a whole, see *Statute of Personnel of Cortes Generales*.

### Official Gazette (of State) («Boletín Oficial del Estado»)

- Sect. 151.1, *in fine* (publication of Decree-Laws);
- Sect. 151.6 (compulsory publication of full Houses's decision to ratify or repeal a Decree-Law);
- Sect. 164.3..., *in fine* (publication of declaration of state of siege);
- 1st Final Prov., 2nd subparagraph. (publication of these Rules of Procedure).

### Official Parliamentary Bulletin:

- Sect. 52.5 (publication therein of conclusions of Plenum after report by Enquiry Committee);
- Sect. 52.6 (publication as well, at the request of the parliamentary group concerned, of rejected dissenting opinions).

- Sect. 95.1.<sup>o</sup> (definition);
- Sect. 97.1 (contents);
- Sect. 109 (publication of all bills in... by order of the Bureau);
- Sect. 110.1.1.0 paragr. (opening of term for tabling amendments as from said publication);
- Sect. 141.2 (publication in... of joint report and dissenting opinions on draft Statutes of Devolution, Sect. 151. Constit);
- Sect. 152 (publication therein of the Government's notice of the execution of legislative delegations).
- 1st Final Provision (publication of Standing Orders).

Opening sitting of Congress, Sect. 5.

Opinions of Members, see *Freedom of speech*.

### Oral presentation of amendments:

- Sect. 112.1 and 2 (... to principle or to whole text of the bill in the general discussion);
- Sect. 114 (of... to particular sections in the committee debate);
- Sect. 117 (... on the floor of the House of... not accepted at the committee stage);
- Sect. 118.2.1.<sup>o</sup> (power of Speaker to fix order of discussion of...);
- Sect. 195.1 (... to non-legislative motions).

### Order:

- Sect. 32.1 (Speaker's power and duty to ensure... of debates and discussions);
- Sect. 69 to 77 (Part IV, Chapter IV,

«Debates»), general rules for conduction of debates;

- Sects. 105 to 107 (Part IV, Chapter VIII, Division 3), order in premises of Congress.

Ordinary legislative procedure, see *Common...*

Ordinary vote, Sects. 82 and 84.

Organic bills (Sects. 130 to 132, Part V, Chapter III, Division 1).

Organization of debates, see *Order of debates and Speaker*.

#### **Overall majority:**

- Sect. 37.1.2nd subparagr. (... required at first round of election of Speaker of the House);
- Sect. 38 (... required also to elect new Speaker in case of vacancy during life of Congress);
- Sect. 41 (... required as well at first round of election of committee chairmen);
- Sect. 61.1 (... required for Congress' decision to hold extraordinary sessions);
- Sect. 63.III (... required for Congress' decision to hold non-public sittings);
- Sect. 78.1 (attendance of... required for adoption of decisions by Plenum and committees);
- Sect. 122.1 (... required for ratification of text of a bill amended or vetoed by Senate, as initially passed by Congress);
- Sect. 131.2, 1st subparagr., and 3 (... required to pass Organic Bills and Organic private Members 'bills);

- Sect. 132.1 (... for ratification by Congress of its own text and overrule Senate's veto on an Organic bill or Organic private Member's bill);
- Sect. 146.4 (obtention of... in Senate for a single constitutional amendment bill, Sect. 167 Constit);
- Sect. 158, *in fine* (... for final decision of Congress on differences between both Houses regarding bills on international treaties);
- Sect. 166.3, *in fine* (... for final adoption of a decision on agreement between Self-governing Communities);
- Sect. 171.5 (... required in the first round for election of Prime Minister);
- Sect. 177.5 (... for adoption of a censure motion).

## P

Parliamentary courtesy, Sect. 16.

#### **Parliamentary groups:**

- Sect. 23 to 28 (general provisions) (Part III);
- Sect. 31.2 (disagreement with Board over certification of parliamentary papers and documents and observance of parliamentary formalities for them);
- Sect. 39.1 (constitution of Board of Spokesmen by their respective spokesman);
- Sect. 39.3 2nd paragr. (right to appoint another representative to Board of Spokesmen, without right of vote);
- Sect. 40.1 (appointment of members

- of committees within number fixed by Bureau for each group);
- Sect. 40.2 (right to appoint substitutes at committees);
  - Sect. 47 (Rules Committee);
  - Sect. 48.1 (one representative per group at the Members' Status Committee);
  - Sect. 52.1 (right of any two... to request setting-up of an Enquiry Committee);
  - Sect. 52.6 (publication of dissenting conclusions of minority groups with report of Enquiry Committee);
  - Sect. 53 (right of any two... to request the setting-up of other nonstanding committees);
  - Sect. 54 (right of any two... to request the convening of PlenuPn);
  - Sect. 55.1 (arrangement of seats of Members according to their membership of groups);
  - Sect. 56.1 and 2 (proportional representation of... in Permanent Deputation);
  - Sect. 62.2.1<sup>o</sup>, (right of any two groups to request decision of full House on the holding of sittings other than on regular working days);
  - Sect. 63.3 (right of any two... to request a decision of full Congress that sitting shall not be held in public);
  - Sect. 64 (right of any two... to request a decision by the full House that sitting be held with closed doors);
  - Sect. 67.4 (right of... to request of Board of Spokesmen inclusion in the agenda of a matter for which parliamentary formalities have not yet been fulfilled);
  - Sect. 68.1 (right of any two... to ask full House to make a decision on alterations in the agenda);
  - Sect. 68.2 (same possibility for committee meetings);
  - Sect. 70.4 (right of... to replace their own speakers by a member of the same...);
  - Sect. 71.3 (allusions by Members affecting the decorum r dignity of a...). See also *Personal allusions*;
  - Sect. 73.2 see *Speaker, Speaking time and Speeches*;
  - Sect. 74.2 (speaking time for each... in debate). See also *Speaking time*;
  - Sect. 76, 2nd phrase (right of any... to ask Speaker of Congress to decide, together with Bureau, on the closure of debate). see also *Closure of debate*;
  - Sect. 85.1 (right of any two... to demand that vote be held either by roll-call or in secret).
  - Sect. 88.2 (draws or ties voting in committees). See also *Ties*;
  - Sect. 89.1 (explanation of vote by each...).
  - Sect. 89.3 (special cases where no explanation of vote is accepted);
  - Sect. 93.1 (right of any two... to ask Bureau to decide on application of urgency procedure to a particular matter);
  - Sect. 110.1 (right to amend bills);
  - Sect. 110.2, 3rd paragr. (right of every... to speak in debate on suspension of a Member);

- Sect. 110.3 (only... have the right to submit amendments to principle or to whole text of bill);
- Sect. 117 (communication by each... to Speaker of amendments submitted to committee but not accepted);
- Sect. 126.2.<sup>o</sup> (right of... to table private Members bills);
- Sect. 126.5, *in fine* (presentation of such bills in Plenum);
- Sect. 139.1, *in fine* (all... to be represented in subcommittee of Constitutional Committee entrusted with examination of a draft Statute of Devolution);
- Sect. 153.2 (right of any groups to submit objections to use made by Government of a legislative delegation);
- Sect. 156.2 (right of... to make proposals to public bills on international treaties);
- Sect. 157.1 (right of any two... to ask the House to refer an international treaty to the Constitutional Court);
- Sect. 162.3 (right of... to submit proposals on extension of state of alarm);
- Sect. 168.1 *in fine* (right of any two... to ask the House to decide on a debate for the need of harmonization Acts between legal statutes of Self-governing Communities);
- Sect. 171.3 (all..., entitled to have the floor in the investiture debate);
- Sect. 171.4 (all..., entitled to rejoinder to the candidate's speech);
- Sect. 176.1, *in fine* (spokesmen of all..., to be notified by Bureau of any censure motion);
- Sect. 177.2 (all... entitled to take part in the debate of censure motion);
- Sect. 180 (right of... to interpellate the Government and its members);
- Sect. 182.2 (interpellations of certain... to be given priority) See also *Priority*;
- Sect. 182.3 right of a... to defer its interpellation to next session);
- Sect. 184.2, 1st paragr. (right of the... having made the interpellation to submit a motion for resolution on the day following debate in the full House);
- Sect. 188.2, *in fine* (allotment of speaking time to each... for oral questions). See also *Oral questions* and *Speaking time*;
- Sect. 193 (right of... to submit non-legislative motions);
- Sect. 194.1 (right of... to opt for their motions to be discussed by full House or in committee);
- Sect. 194.2 (right of... to table amendments to non-legislative motions);
- Sect. 195.1 (right of... to take part in the debate of any such motion);
- Sect. 197.1 (right of... submit motions for resolution to Bureau following debate on a communication by Government);
- Sect. 200.1, *in fine* (right of each... to explain its position in debate of annual report or any extraordinary report by Defender of the People);

- Sect. 200.2 (right of... to ask the Defender or the People to intervene for clarification of facts, events, decisions or behaviours that have taken place in administrative agencies);
- Sect. 202.2 (right of... to put questions to members of Government at informative sittings);
- Sect. 203.1, 2nd paragr. (right of... to ask Bureau to summon Government members to full House or to a committee in order to give information a particular matter);
- Sect. 203.2 (right of all... to put their view after oral presentation by the Government of the information request). See also *Informative sitting, Speaking time and Speeches*;
- Sect. 204.2 (right of each... to propose or nominate a maximum for 4 members of General Judiciary Council and 4 members of Constitutional Court). See also *Speaking time and Speeches*.

*Parliamentary privileges, Sects. 10 to 14 (Part I, Chapter 2).*

#### **Penalties for breach of Members' duties:**

- Sects. 99 to 101 (Part IV, Chapter VIII, Division 1, «Penalties...»);
- Sect. 104.1 (exclusion of a Member for the remainder of sitting after three calls to order by Speaker);
- Sect. 104.2 (possibility to apply penalty contemplated in Sect. 101 to a Member who refuses to leave the Assembly Hall);
- Sect. 106 (suspension of Member

guilty of disturbance and power of the full House to impose additional penalties).

#### **Pension contributions:**

- Sect. 9.1 (of Members of Congress);
- Sect. 9.3 (of civil servants on extended leave as a result of their election as Members).

#### **Permanent Deputation:**

- Sect. 56 to 59 (Part III, Chapter 5, («Permanent Deputation»);
- Sect. 95.2.0 (entitled to a specific section in the Journal of Debates);
- Sect. 96.1 (publication of full contents of its meetings in said Journal);
- Sect. 151.1 (discussion and vote of Decree-Laws, when Congress is not assembled);
- Sect. 151.4 (power to discuss as ordinary, bills Decree-Laws promulgated between two Parliaments);
- Sect. 165.2 (powers regarding states of alarm, emergency nad siege).

Permission of Congress, see *Leave of Congress*.

Personal allusions, Sect. 71.

Petitions Committee, Sects. 46.2.iii) and 49.

Plans submitted by Government, sect. 198 (Part XI, Chapter 2).

#### **Plenary sitting:**

- Sect. 14 (decision on waiver of immunity);
- Sect. 19.2 discussion of (report and proposals of Committee on Members' Status on disqualification of an individual Member).
- Sect. 31.1.6.<sup>o</sup> (fixing of the timing of

- the full House's activities by the Bureau);
- Sect. 34 (countersigning of minutes of proceedings by Secretaries of the House);
  - Sect. 36 (election of Bureau);
  - Sect. 38 (election of new Members of Bureau in case of vacancy);
  - Sect. 50.1 (power to set up other Standing Committees than those of Sect. 46);
  - Sect. 52.1 (setting-up of Enquiry Committees);
  - Sect. 52.4 (debate on the conclusions of such Committees);
  - Sect. 54 (convening of...);
  - Sect. 59 (reception, immediately after general election, of report of the Permanent Deputation of former House);
  - Sect. 63 (sitting to be held in public-exceptions);
  - Sect. 65 (minutes of sittings);
  - Sect. 66 (right of senators to attend non-secret sittings),
  - Sect. 67 and 68 (agenda);
  - Sect. 69 (distribution of reports and Other documents 48 hours at least in advance);
  - Sects. 70 to 77 (rules on debates);
  - Sects. 78 to 89 (voting procedure);
  - Sect. 96.1 (full verbatim report of proceedings in the Journal of Debates);
  - Sect. 96.2 (minutes of secret sittings);
  - Sects. 99, 101, 102, 103 and 104 (parliamentary discipline);
  - Sect. 112 (general discussion of bills);
  - Sects. 117 to 119 (debate of bills after consideration thereof in committee);
  - Sect. 122 (procedure when Senate has vetoed a bill passed by Congress);
  - Sect. 126.4 and 5 (debate on the taking into consideration of private Members' bills);
  - Sect. 127 (debate on the taking into consideration of bills tabled by Self-governing Communities or by popular initiative);
  - Sect. 129 (withdrawal of a private Member's bill by its promoter);
  - Sect. 131.2 (vote on ordinary bills and Organic Bills);
  - Sect. 132 (vote on the same in case of veto or amendments by Senate);
  - Sect. 134.1 (general discussion of Finance Bill);
  - Sect. 134.4 (final debate of said Bill);
  - Sect. 135 (debate on Budgets of public agencies that must be passed by the *Cortes Generales*);
  - Sect. 144 (vote on ratification of draft Statutes of Devolution already adopted by referendum);
  - Sect. 146.1 and 2 (debate and vote on bills for partial amendment of Constitution);
  - Sect. 147 (debate and vote on bills for constitutional revision under Sect. 168 CONSTIT.);
  - Sect. 148.1 (tacit delegation to committees of examination and vote on bills and private Members' bills-exceptions);

- Sect. 149.1 (full House to revoke or withdraw such delegation);
- Sect. 150 (single-reading procedure for bills or private Members' bills);
- Sect. 151 (debate on ratification or annulment of a Decree-Law);
- Sect. 153.4 (debate under certain conditions of report of the appropriate committee on the exercise by Government of a legislative delegation);
- Sect. 156 (discussion and vote of bills authorizing Government to sign international treaties);
- Sect. 157.1 (power to request Constitutional Court to give an opinion on certain clauses of a draft treaty);
- Sect. 158 (vote of report of the Joint Committee, in case of divergence between Senate and Congress about an international treaty);
- Sect. 161.2 (discussion of the Prime Minister' message about a consultative referendum);
- Sect. 162.4 and 5 (discussion and vote of Government's proposal to extend the state of alarm);
- Sect. 163.1 (discussion and vote of bill declaring state of emergency);
- Sect. 164.1 (applicability of Sect. 162 to debate and vote on state of siege);
- Sect. 165.1 (duty to proceed to an immediate discussion, on the three cases contemplated in Sects. 162, 163 and 164);
- Sect. 166.1, *in fine* (final decision on the same subject in case of disagreement with Senate);
- Sect. 168.1 (discussion and vote on need for the State to issue a Harmonization Act for statutes of Self-governing Communities);
- Sect. 169 (secret sitting to decide on impeachment of members of Government);
- Sects. 170 to 172 (debate on investiture of Prime Minister);
- Sect. 174 (question of confidence);
- Sects. 176 and 177 (debate on censure notions);
- Sects. 182 to 184 (debate on interpellations to Government and motions arising therefrom);
- Sect. 188 (questions to be answered on the floor of the House);
- Sect. 191 (Question-time);
- Sect. 194.3 (applicability of Sect. 182.2 for inclusion in the agenda of non-legislative motions);
- Sect. 195 (discussion of said motions);
- Sect. 196 (messages or notifications of Government);
- Sect. 197 (motions for resolution following debate on governmental communications);
- Sect. 200.1 (reports of the Defender of the People);
- Sect. 203 (informative sittings);
- Sect. 204 (appointment of 4 members of General Judiciary Council and 4 members of Constitutional Court);
- Sect. 205 (appointment of other personalities who must be designated by a special majority in Congress);
- Sect. 206 (appointment of persons

not included in the foregoing sections).

Plenum, see *Plenary sitting* above.

Policies of the Government (interpellations on...), see *Government's policies*.

Political formations right to set themselves up as, a parliamentary group, Sect. 23.

Political groups, see *Parliamentary groups*.

**Postponement:**

- Sect. 78.2, 1st paragr. (... of vote for 2 hours when there is no *quorum*);
- Sect. 188.4 (Government may request... of reply to a question).

**Powers of Speaker**, see *Speaker of Congress* (Sects. 32, 54, 67.1, 70.1, 70.3, 70.6, 71, 77,97.2,98.3, 100, 102, 103, 104.1 and 3, 105,106,107,118.2, 134.3, 192.1, 195.2 and 203.3).

**Preamble (of a bill):**

- Sect. 110.5, *in fine* (can be amended on the same basis as each section of the bill);
- Sect. 114.2 (amendments thereto are to be discussed in committee after deliberation of all sections of bill, where committee decides to append Statement of Motives as Preamble of the future Act).

Prerogatives of Parliament, see *Parliamentary privileges*.

President of the Council of Ministers, see *Prime Minister* below.

President of the Supreme Court, Sect. 169.3.

Presidents of Self-governing Communities, Sect. 166.3, 1st phrase.

Presumptions, see *Tacit decisions*.

**Prime Minister:**

- Sect. 85.2 (vote by public roll-call for his or her investiture);
- Sect. 147.3 (is to be notified by Speaker of Congress of adoption by Senate of constitutional reform bill by a two-third majority);
- Sect. 147.6 (... is to receive notice by said Speaker of final adoption of constitutional reform by newlyelected Cones);
- Sect. 161.1 (submission of a proposal for consultative referendum to the King);
- Sect. 161.2 (message to Congress on this matter);
- Sect. 161.3 (... is to receive notification of Congress' decision on referendum);
- Sect. 164.3 (... is to receive notification of the House's decision to proclaim the state of siege);
- Sect. 170.6, *in fine* (notification of Speaker to King required for appointment of invested candidate as Primer Minister);
- Sect. 173 (power to put the question of confidence to Congress);
- Sect. 174.3 (right to take part in the discussion there on);
- Sect. 174.6 (... is to be notified of results of debate by Speaker of Congress);
- Sect. 175.2 (need for any censure motion to include the name of an alternative candidate to the position of...);
- Sect. 176 (duty o Bureau to notify

him every censure motion tabled against the Government);

- Sect. 178 (must receive notification by Speaker of Congress of the adoption of such a motion).

#### **Priorities:**

- Sect. 67.3 (right of Government to request... for a particular matter on the floor of the House);
- Sect. 75.4 (... of the Mixed Group for general rounds of discussion);
- Sect. 112.3 (... at the moment of voting, for amendments to principle of a bill requesting the return of bill to Government);
- Sect. 133.2 (... of Finance Bill over any other business);
- Sect. 182.2.2nd phrase(... criteria for discussion of interpellations);
- Sect. 188.2 (... criteria for oral questions on the floor of the House);
- Sect. 194.3 (application of Sect. 182.2 to non-legislative motions);
- Sect. 197.3, *in fine* (... for voting, to motions for resolution implying total rejection of the Government's communication).

#### **Private Members' bills:**

- Sect. 89.2 (explanation of vote);
- Sect. 124 (Preamble and other conditions required for tabling thereof);
- Sect. 125 (... originated in Senate);
- Sect. 126 (... originated in Congress-Original procedure);
- Sect. 129 (right of promoter or sponsor to withdraw them before debate on the taking into consideration);

- Sect. 130.1 (Organic...: certification as such by Bureau);
- Sect. 131 (Organic...: procedure);
- Sect. 132 (Organic...: procedure in Specific case of veto or amendments by Senate);
- Sect. 146 (... for constitutional amendment or constitutional reform);
- Sect. 148 (... can also be delegated to committees on a full jurisdiction basis);
- Sect. 149 (revocation of said delegation by Plenum);
- Sect. 149.2 (full jurisdiction of committees does not apply to... vetoed or amended by full Senate);
- Sect. 180 (applicability to... of single-reading procedure).

Procedural laws (requests of waiver of a Member's immunity), Sect. 13.1 in fine.

Procedure for adoption of Budget, see *Budgetary procedure*.

Procedure of urgency, see *Urgency procedure*.

Professional activities of Members of Congress, see *Members' income earning activities* (Statement of...).

Programmes of the Government, see *Plans submitted by Government* above and also *Government's programmes*.

#### **Proposals (generally):**

- Sect. 48.2 (... of Members' Status Committee to full House on any matter affecting status of Members);
- Sect. 50.1 (... of Bureau to the House for the setting-up of Standing Committees other than those listed in Sect. 46);

- Sect. 52.1 (... to full Congress for the setting-up of an Enquiry Committee);
- Sect. 63.2.<sup>o</sup> (... of the Members' Status Committee never to be discussed in public by full House);
- Sect. 88.1, *in fine* (... are deemed tacitly rejected in case of tie or draw in the vote);
- Sect. 101.2 (... on suspension of a Member for disciplinary reasons);
- Sect. 106, 2nd paragr. (... of Bureau to full Congress for extension or aggravation of the suspension imposed on a Member);
- Sect. 126.1.<sup>o</sup> and 2.<sup>o</sup> (private Members' bills may be tabled on either of one Member with the signature of 14 another Members, or one group);
- Sect. 127 (bills proposed by Self-governing Communities or by popular initiative);
- Sect. 146 (... for constitutional amendment or reform by Members or Groups to be tabled upon same conditions as ordinary private Members' bills);
- Sect. 149.1.2nd and 3rd paragr. (... to revoke initial delegation to a committee of full jurisdiction on a particular bill);
- Sect. 150.1 (... to handle a bill in one single reading);
- Sect. 156.2 and 3 (... by Members or by groups to bills on international treaties);
- Sect. 162.3 and 5 (right of groups to submit on Government's request for extension of state of alarm);
- Sect. 164.1 and 2 (... by Government or by groups for proclamation of state of siege);
- Sect. 168.1, *in fine* (... to discuss the need for a Harmonization Act on statutes of Self-governing Communities);
- Sect. 170 and 171.1 (... of a candidate to the Office of Prime Minister). See also *Investiture*;
- Sect. 173 and 174 (... of question of confidence by Government). See also *Question of confidence*;
- Sect. 175.2 (... see *Censure motions*);
- Sect. 176.2 (... see *Censure motions*);
- Sect. 184, ... see *Motions* (of Members or groups following interpellations);
- Sect. 193 to 195 (Part X), «Proposals of a non legislative nature», see *Non-legislative motions*;
- Sect. 197 (... of resolution tabled by groups following conclusion of discussion of Government's communications);
- Sect. 204.1 and 2 (... for nomination of 4 candidates to General Judicial Council and another 4 to Constitutional Court).
- Sect. 205 (... for nomination of persons other than those referred to in Sect. 204, and whose appointment requires a special majority);
- Sect. 206 (... of Bureau for appointment of other persons by Congress on a single-majority basis).

Provincial Councils (Diputaciones Provinciales), Sect. 49.2.iii).

Provisional Rules of Procedure, Final Repealing Prov. and 1st Transit. Prov. 2.

**Provisional Speaker:**

— Sect. 2 (eldest-age Speaker for the initial sitting);

— Sect. 3<sup>o</sup>, 1 (opening thereof by...).

**Public Administration:**

— Sect. 7.1 (right of Members of Congress to request information, reports and documents);

— Sect. 200.2 (right of Members to request intervention of Defender of the People).

Public Administration's Status Committee, Sect. 46.1, XI.

Public bills, see *Bills* (tabled by Government).

Public gallery, Sect. 107.

Public sittings, Sect. 63, (general provisions and exceptions).

Publication of parliamentary acts, papers and documents, see *Official Parliamentary Bulletin* and also *Journal of Debates*.

Publications of Congress, Sects. 95 to 87 (See also *Official Parliamentary Bulletin*).

**Publicity:**

— Sect. 63 (general rule of... for plenary sittings). See also *Plenary sittings* and *public sittings*;

— Sect. 64.1 (no..., in principle, for committee meetings);

— Sect. 96.1 (reproduction of all incidents, speeches and decisions in the *Journal of Debates*). See also *Journal of Debates*;

— Sect. 98.1 and 2 (duty of Bureau to give information to mass-media and to facilitate their task). See also *Information* and *mass-media*.

Q

Qualified majority, see *Special majority requirements*.

Question of confidence, Sects. 173 and 174 (Part VIII, Chapter II).

Question time, Sect. 191 (two hours per week);

Questions to Government (or to its members) in general, Sects. 185 to 190 (Part IX, Chapter II, Questions) and Sects. 191-192 (Chapter III, «Common» provisions for questions and interpellations).

— Sect. 185 (right of every Member of Congress to submit questions to Cabinet and to any of its members);

— Sect. 186.1 (... to be submitted in writing to Bureau).

— Sect. 186.2 (no admission of... involving only a personal interest or a strictly legal consultation);

— Sect. 186.3 (Bureau to examine and check questions).

— Sect. 187 (types of questions written answer general tacit assumption, unless otherwise requested);

— Sect. 188 (questions for oral reply in plenary sitting);

— Sect. 189 (... for oral reply in committees);

— Sect. 190 (... for written reply —may be converted into oral questions to be

answered in committee in certain cases);

- Sect. 191 (question-time);
- Sect. 192.1 (joining for simultaneous debate of questions on the same or interrelated matters). See also *Speaker*;
- Sect. 192.2 (declaration by Bureau of non admissibility of... or interpellations); See also *Bureau*;
- Sect. 202.2 (questions at informative sittings);
- Sect. 203.3 (grant of an exceptional round of... at informative sittings held on a particular business);
- 5th Final Provision (oral... in committee with written answer on matters pertaining to Spanish Radio and Television Authority);

*Quorum*, Sect. 78

## R

Radio and Television Authority (questions pertaining, to...), See *Questions*, 5th Final Prov.

**Rapporteurs**, see **Reporting subcommittee**.

### **Ratification:**

- Sect. 122.1 (... by Congress of bills vetoed by Senate);
- Sect. 132, 1.<sup>o</sup> and 2.<sup>o</sup> (... by Congress of Organic Bills or organic private Member's bills amended or vetoed by Senate);
- Sect. 144 (... by Congress of draft Statutes of Devolution made under Sect. 151.2 Constit.);

- Sect. 147.4 (... by newly-elected Cones Generates of a constitutional reform bill adopted in principle by former Parliament, Sect. 168 Constit.);

- Sect. 151 (... of Decree-Laws);

### **Reading out (texts or scripts):**

- Sect. 3.1 (... of Royal Summoning Decree by one of the Secretaries at constitutive meeting of Congress);
- Sect. 72.2 (general provision: right of Members to request to... of rules or documents, subject to Speaker's decision);
- Sect. 86, see *Roll-call Vote*;
- Sect. 171.1 (... of nomination of candidate to the office of Prime Minister prior to investiture debate);

Recall, see *Revocation of a committees full legislative jurisdiction*.

Recording of sound or image, see *Sound and image recordings*.

### **Rectification:**

- Sect. 73.1 (right of every speaker to rectify);
- Sect. 142.1, *in fine* (... in joint committee made up of Constitutional Committee and Delegation of the Assembly of Self-governing Community concerned).
- Sect. 177.2 *in fine* (right of all speakers to... for 10 minutes at debate on censure motion);
- Sect. 183.2 (... of a member of the Cabinet to an interpellation);
- Repeals in bills, Sect. 110.5 (amendments).
- Reductions in revenue, See *Amend-*

ments, *Seets. 111, 162.2 in fine* and 133.4.

Referendum, see *Consultative referendum*.

Reform of Constitution (Sect. 158 Constit.), see *Constitutional reform*.

Register at Office of the Secretary General, Sect. 92.1.

#### **Rejoinders:**

- Sect. 171.4 (right of each parliamentary group to a 10-minute... to the reply of nominated candidate at the investiture debate);
- Sect. 183.1 1st. paragr. in fine (right of interpellant to a 5-minute... to Cabinet's reply);
- Sect. 188.3, 2nd paragr. (right of questioning Member to a... after Government's reply).

#### **Repeal:**

- Sect. 151, see *Annulment of Decree-Laws*.

Repeals Provision (... of provisional Rules of Procedure of October 13, 1977).

#### **Reply:**

- Sect. 71.1 and 2 (... to personal allusions). See also *Personal Allusions*;
- Sect. 73.1 (general provision);
- Sect. 171.4 (right of proposed candidate for Prime Minister question to reply, either individually or generally, to parliamentary groups);
- Sect. 174.3 (same right of Prime Minister in the debate on a confidence question);
- Sect. 177.2 *in fine* (right of... of all participants in the debate on censure motion).

— Sect. 183.1 (... of Government to interpellations);

— Sect. 188.1 and 3 (oral... to questions in Plenum);

— Sect. 189.2 (oral... to questions in committees);

— Sect. 190.1 (written..., within 20 days to questions);

— Sect. 196.2 (right of members of Cabinet to... to questions, if any, after a communication by Government).

— Sect. 198.2 (same right implicitly granted to Government in discussion of its plans and programmes);

— Sect. 202.2, *in fine* (right of members of Cabinet to... to questions or comments by Members at informative sittings);

— Sect. 203.2, *in fine* (same right at informative sittings devoted to a specific matter or business).

#### **Reporting sub-committee (Ponencia):**

- Sect. 111.2 (duty of... to notify to Government any amendment to a bill implying increase in expenditure or reductions in budgeted revenue);
- Sect. 113.1 (general provision on appointment of...);
- Sect. 130.2, 2nd paragr. (... may be consulted by Bureau of Congress prior to classification of a bill as an Organic Statute);
- Sect. 139.1 (appointment of a... by Constitutional Committee to examine and report on a draft Statute of Devolution).
- Sect. 139.2 (appointment of another...)

her... by Delegation of the Assembly of Self-governing Community concerned);

- Sect. 140 (joint..., made up of said subcommittees to attempt to reach agreement on draft Statute);
- Sect. 141.2 (final report of joint... to be sent to a joint meeting of Constitutional Committee and Delegation of Assembly of relevant Self-governing Community).

#### Reports:

- Sect. 45 (drafting of... of committees and reporting subcommittees);
- Sect. 111.2 (allusion to... of committee); see *Reporting subcommittees* above.
- Sect. 113.1 (general provision);
- Sect. 114 (discussion of the... in the committee);
- Sect. 116 (sending of report, once discussed and adopted, to the Speaker of Congress);
- Sect. 118.1 (presentation of... on the floor of the House by one of the committee's members);
- Sect. 119 (new..., of committee if bill is sent back by the full House for technical improvements);
- Sect. 141 (... of both groups or subcommittees in charge of draft Statute of Devolution).
- Sect. 142 (discussion of said report in a joint meeting of Constitutional Committee and the Delegation of the relevant Assembly);
- Sect. 166.1 (... of Constitutional

Committee on cooperation agreements between Self-governing Communities);

- Sect. 199.1 (annual... of Auditing Commission);
- Sect. 199.2 (right of Speaker to request reports on a particular matter from Auditing Commission);
- Sect. 200.1 (annual or extraordinary... of the Defender of the People);
- Sect. 201 (procedure for other... that must be submitted to the *Cortes Generales* or to Congress).

#### Representation of Congress:

- Sect. 30 (corporate or collective... thereof, vested in Bureay);
- Sect. 32.1 (individual..., vested in Speaker).

Representatives of the Government, see *Government*.

Representatives of parliamentary groups, see *Parliamentary groups*.

Reservations to a bill authorizing an international treaty, Sect. 155.2, *in fine*, and 156.2.2.<sup>o</sup> and 3,1.<sup>o</sup> and 2.<sup>o</sup>

Resignation of Members, Sect. 22.

Revision of Constitution, see *Constitutional revision* (more precisely *Constitutional amendments*, Sect. 167 Constit., and *Constitutional reform*, Sect. 168 Constit.).

- Revocation of a committee's full legislative jurisdiction, Sect. 149.
- Rights of Members of Congress, Sects. 6 to 9 (Part I, Chapter I, «Rights of Members of Congress»), see also *Members of congress*, and *Speeches*.

### **Rules Committee (Committee on Standing Orders).**

- Rules of Procedure (of former Congress);
- Sect. 46.2.i) (list of standing...);
  - Sect. 47 (composition);
  - 3rd Final Provision (present... apply to all points not contemplated by Rules of the *Cortes Generales* regarding joint sitting or mixed committees);
  - 5th Final Prov. (present... apply to oral questions in committee with written answer, relating to Spanish Radio-Television Authority).

## S

Salary of Members of Congress, see *Allowance of Members*.

Seats (arrangement of... in Assembly Hall), Sect. 55.1 and 2.

### **Secret sittings:**

- Sect. 64.3 (... of Members' Status Committee and of Enquiry Committees);
- Sect. 96.2 (minutes of...);
- Sect. 169.1 (... for impeachment of members of the Cabinet).

### **Secret vote:**

- Sect. 85.1, conditions required therefor);
- Sect. 87 (can be effected by electronic devices or by ballot papers);
- Sect. 169.2 paragr. (impeachment of members of the Cabinet).

### **Secretaries of Congress:**

- Sect. 2 (youngest age provisional... at constitutive sitting);

- Sect. 30.2 (Bureau to consist of 4...);
- Sect. 34 (functions of...);
- Sect. 37.2, *in fine* (mode of election of... by Plenum);
- Sect. 39.3 (attendance of one of the... to meetings of the Board of Spokesmen);
- Sect. 41 (2 Secretaries in each committee);
- Sect. 48.1 (... of Members' Status Committee must be a representative of the third largest parliamentary group);
- Sect. 56.3(2 secretaries in Permanent Deputation);
- Sect. 65.2(... are to sign minutes of plenary sitting and of committee meetings);
- Sect. 77 (... must temporarily leave their seat if they wish to take part in debate).

Secretaries of State (questions in committee), Sect. 189.2, *in fine*.

Secretary-General of Congress, see *Head Clerk and also Office of the Secretary General*.

### **Sections of bills:**

- Sect. 110.2 (amendments to...);
- Sect. 510.5 (discussion in committee to proceed... by);
- Sect. 118.2.1 (Speaker of Congress to arrange discussion of committee's report to full House... by... or by subjects or amendments);
- Sect. 134.2 (discussion of Finance Bill in committee to proceed... by... of appropriations schedule);

Security, see *Security services below*.

Security services of Congress, Sect. 107.2.

**Senate:**

- Sect. 4.2 (... is to be notified of Congress' constitution);
- Sect. 49.3.<sup>o</sup> (one of possible destinations of petitions received and examined by the Congress Petitions Committee);
- Sect. 108 (power to initiate bills);
- Sect. 120 (every bill passed by Congress must be sent to...);
- Sect. 121 (compulsory return to Congress of bills vetoed or amended by...);
- Sect. 122 (procedure for lifting of the... 's veto in Congress);
- Sect. 123 (conditions for inclusion in final text of.. 's amendments);
- Sect. 125 (no taking into consideration by Congress required for private Members' bills already taken into consideration by...);
- Sect. 132 (procedure in Congress for organic bills or private Members' bills vetoed or amended by...);
- Sect. 146.3 (equally-mixed Committee for constitutional amendment or reform bills);
- Sect. 147.3 (adoption by a twothird majority of constitutional reform bills, Sect. 168 CONSTIT.);
- Sect. 147.5 (referral to... of constitutional bill ratified by newlyelected Congress with s two-third majority);
- Sect. 149.2, *in fine* (exception to the rule of full jurisdiction of committees in Congress for bills or private Mem-

bers' bills vetoed or amended by... in plenary sitting);

- Sect. 150.3, 1st phrase (reference to... of legal texts passed in a single reading);
- Sect. 158 (procedure for solution of disagreements between Congress and... on bills concerning international treaties);
- Sect. 166.2 (notification by to Congress on cooperation agreements between Self-governing Communities);
- Sect. 166.3 (later procedure depending on agreement or disagreement between... and Congress).

Senators, Sect. 66 (... may attend plenary sittings and Committee meetings unless held in secret).

**Sessions:**

- Sect. 61.1 (ordinary...);
- Sect. 61.2 and 3 (extraordinary...);
- Sect. 179 (no signatory of a defeated censure motion can sign another during same...);
- Sect. 189.3 (at the end of a..., pending questions to Government to be treated as questions to be answered in writing before newt... begins).

Siege, see *State of...*

**Single majority:**

- Sect. 79.1 (general rule: ... sufficient for adoption o decisions);
- Sect. 122.2 (... sufficient, two months after first vote, to overcome Senate's veto to a bill passed by Congress);
- Sect. 123 (... sufficient for incorpora-

tion into bill of amendments proposed by Senate);

- Sect. 174.5 (... sufficient to rant confidence to Primer Minister in office);
- Sect. 206 (procedure for appointment by... of Congress of persons not falling under Sects. 204 and 205).

Single reading of bills, Sect. 150 (Part V, Chapter III? «Special legislative procedures», Division 6).

Sittings (generally), Sects. 62 to 66 (Part IV, Chapter I, Sittings).

Social and Employment Policies Committee, Sect. 46.1.x).

Social security benefits (for Members of Congress), Sect. 9.2.

Sound or image recordings (require prior authorization by Speaker), Sect. 98.3.

### **Speaker of Congress:**

- Sect. 2, see *Provisional Speaker*;
- Sect. 3.1. see *Provisional Speaker*;
- Sect. 4.1 (election of Speaker and taking of oath thereupon);
- Sect. 4.2 (notice thereof to King, Senate and Government);
- Sect. 7.2 (Members' requests from administrative agencies to be addressed to him);
- Sect. 12 (adoption of measures in case of arrest of a Member);
- Sect. 13.1 (reference of any request for waiver of immunity to Committee Members' Status);
- Sect. 14 (notification to judicial authorities of the House's decision on the matter);
- Sect. 30.2 (... is member of the Bureau);

- Sect. 30.3 (conducts and coordinates Bureau' activities);
- Sect. 32.1 (functions and powers);
- Sect. 33 (replacement by Deputy Speakers in case of vacancy, absence or incapacity);
- Sect. 34 (authorization of signature by Secretaries of minutes of plenary sittings, Bureau meetings and meetings of the Board of Spokesmen, as well as of necessary certifications);
- Sect. 35.1 (summoning of Bureau);
- Sect. 35.3 (proposal of Head Clerk's appointment to Bureau);
- Sect. 37.1 (election of...);
- Sect. 38 (preceding Sect. applies to election of new... during parliamentary term);
- Sect. 39.1 (presides Board of Spokesmen);
- Sect. 42.2 (power to convene and preside any committee);
- Sect. 44 (any request of Committees to Government or to any authority or civil servants must be addressed to him);
- Sect. 47 (chairs the Rules Committee);
- Sect. 49.2 (any petition already examined by the Committee on Petitions and sent to other authorities or bodies must be addressed through him);
- Sect. 52.3 (power to lay down specific rules of procedure for Enquiry Committees);
- Sect. 54 (convening of Plenum);
- Sect. 55.3 (only persons expressly

- authorized by... have access to Assembly Hall);
- Sect. 56.1 (chairman of Permanent Deputation);
  - Sect. 56.4 (convening of said Deputation);
  - Sect. 61.3 (convening of extraordinary sittings in cases contemplated in said provision);
  - Sect. 65.2 (certifies signature of minutes of plenary sittings by Secretaries);
  - Sect. 67.1 (decision on agenda);
  - Sect. 67.2 (consent of... necessary for the fixing of the agenda of committees by respective bureau);
  - Sect. 68.1 (power to propose to the House modification of the agenda);
  - Sect. 70.1 (power to give and withdraw the floor in plenary sittings);
  - Sect. 70.3 (cases where... may interrupt Members);
  - Sect. 70.4 (prior communication to... necessary for replacement of a Member by another Member of same group in the debate);
  - Sect. 70.5 (no limit to powers of... for conducting debate, notwithstanding right of members of Government to speak whenever they so wish);
  - Sect. 71.1 (power to grant the floor to Members wishing to reply to a personal allusion);
  - Sect. 71.3 (same power regarding parliamentary groups);
  - Sect. 72.1.2.<sup>o</sup>, *in fine* (power to refuse reading out of texts);
  - Sect. 73.2 (power to conduct discussion and votes);
  - Sect. 75.1 (prior notification to... required for Mixed Parliamentary Group to be able to speak through only one Member);
  - Sect. 75.3 (power to give the floor, if he sees fit, to all members of said Group);
  - Sect. 76 (closure of debate);
  - Sect. 77 (power to take part in discussion provided he leaves the Chair for the time being);
  - Sect. 80 (no power to give the floor to anybody while voting is in progress);
  - Sect. 81 (power to fix hour of voting in advance);
  - Sect. 83 (tacit assent to the House to proposals announced by...);
  - Sect. 84.1.<sup>o</sup> (duty to cause votes to be counted in dubious cases after a vote by sitting and standing);
  - Sect. 87.1.2.<sup>o</sup> (power to decide to holding of a secret ballot);
  - Sect. 88.1 1st phrase (power to suspend sitting in case of tie after 2 hours);
  - Sect. 89.2, *in fine* (power to extend up to 10 minutes the speaking time of each group for explanations of vote on bills or international treaties);
  - Sect. 96.2, 1st phrase (minutes of secret sittings);
  - Sect. 97.2 (power to order a mechanical reproduction of certain documents for urgency reasons, pending publication thereof in the Official Bulletin of *Cortes*);
  - Sect. 98.3 (express authorization of... required for any sound or image

- record of sittings or meetings of the House of any division thereof);
- Sect. 100 (power to exclude a Member for one or two sittings or to have him expelled on the spot);
  - Sect. 102.2 (power to withdraw the floor from speaker after having called him three times to return to the point);
  - Sect. 103 (call for order to be observed);
  - Sect. 104.1 (power to exclude for the remainder of sitting any speaker who has already been called to order three times);
  - Sect. 104.2 (powers of... in case where speaker in question refuses to leave the Assembly Hall);
  - Sect. 104.3 (call upon speaker to withdraw abusive or offensive words);
  - Sect. 105 (right and duty to see to the maintenance of order within Congress premises);
  - Sect. 106 (power and duty to suspend any Member who has caused disturbances within said premises);
  - Sect. 107 (maintenance of order in the public gallery);
  - Sect. 111.2 (list drawn up by *rappor-teurs* of amendments implying increase of expenditure or reduction in revenue to be addressed to...);
  - Sect. 112.1 (amendments to principle or to whole text of a governmental bill to be notified to... by chairman of committee);
  - Sect. 112.3 (vote on said amendments);
  - Sect. 113.4 (notice to Prime Minister of adoption of such an amendment);
  - Sect. 117 (compulsory notification to... by parliamentary groups of dissenting opinions and amendments which those groups want to defend in the floor of the House);
  - Sect. 118.2 (organization of debates and votes in plenary sittings);
  - Sect. 118.3 (power to admit certain amendments devised to correct technical, terminological or grammatical errors);
  - Sect. 120 (... is to send text or bill adopted by Congress to Speaker of Senate);
  - Sect. 126.5 1st phrase (... is to ask the House if it takes into consideration a private Member's bill);
  - Sect. 131.2 2nd phrase (prior announcement by... of vote on the floor of the House of Organic Bills);
  - Sect. 134.4 (conduction of debates and votes for the Finance Bill);
  - Sect. 137.2 (calling upon relevant Assembly to appoint delegation provided for in Sect. 151.2.2.<sup>o</sup>, Const.);
  - Sect. 147.2 (notification to Speaker of Senate of the passing of the constitutional amendment bill by the two-third majority required by Constitution);
  - Sect. 147.3 (notifies Prime Minister that the bill has also secured a two-third majority in Senate);
  - Sect. 147.4 (same communication to Speaker of Senate when the newly elected Cones have adopted the

- principle of constitutional reform decided upon by the last ones);
- Sect. 147.6 (notification to Prime Minister of final adoption of constitutional reform);
  - Sect. 151.4 (... asks the House, once the Decree-Law has been ratified, whether any parliamentary group wishes this to be discussed as an ordinary bill);
  - Sect. 161.3 (notification to Prime Minister of Congress' decision following Government's message about a consultative referendum);
  - Sect. 162.1 (notification of Prime Minister to... of proclamation of state of alarm);
  - Sect. 164.3 (notification to Prime Minister of the House's resolution on the state of siege proposed by the Government);
  - Sect. 166.3 (notifications by... regarding decision of the House on agreements between Selfgoverning Communities);
  - Sect. 168.2 (notification to Speaker of Senate of the House's decision on the need for an Act of Harmonization of statutes of Selfgoverning Communities);
  - Sect. 169.1 (convening of a secret sitting of the full House to debate any request of impeachment);
  - Sect. 169.3 (notification to President of Supreme Court of decision to impeach);
  - Sect. 170 (convening of Plenum after reception of candidature to the position of Prime Minister);
  - Sect. 171.3 (mandatory interruption of sitting by... after candidate's speech);
  - Sect. 171.5 (fixing of voting time after debate);
  - Sect. 271.6 (notification to King of investiture of candidate);
  - Sect. 172 (submits to the King's signature the Decree for dissolution of the Cortes and calling of new general election after two months of unsuccessful investiture votes);
  - Sect. 177.3 (power to decide on joint discussion of all censure motions);
  - Sect. 177.4 (vote thereon at time fixed by...);
  - Sect. 178 (notifies immediately King and Prime Minister of the adoption of a censure motion);
  - Sect. 190.2 (duty of..., in case of failure of Government to reply, to have the question included in the agenda of next meeting of the appropriate committee);
  - Sect. 192.1 (power to join and have simultaneously debated question and interpellations included in the agenda of the same sitting and concerning identical or similar subjects);
  - Sect. 195.2 (same faculty for non-legislative motions or proposals);
  - Sect. 199.2 (power to request documents or reports from Auditing Commission on a given matter);
  - Sect. 200 (request through him or her to Defender of the People for clarification or investigation of activities, decisions or behaviour of administrative agencies);

- Sect. 203.3 (power to open an exceptional round of questions or request for clarification at informative sittings);
- Sect. 204.4 (power to interrupt vote for appointment of 4 members of General Judiciary Council and 4 members of Constitutional Court).

#### **Speaker of Senate:**

- Sect. 120, *in fine* (... is to receive notification by Speaker of Congress of the latter's decision to approve the principle of constitutional revision under Sect. 168.1, Const.);
- Sect. 174.2 (... is to receive notification by Speaker of Congress of the latter's decision to approve the principle of constitutional revision under Sect. 168.1, Const.);
- Sect. 147.4 (... is to receive notification of newly-elected Congress' decision to ratify the favourable resolution on constitutional revision taken by the former *Cortes*).
- Sect. 168.2 (must be notified of Congress' decision on Harmonization bills by Speaker of Congress).

#### **Speaking time:**

- Sect. 73.1 (general rule for reply or rectification: 5 minutes);
- Sect. 73.2 (power of Speaker to extend or reduce it);
- Sect. 74.1 (general rule: maximum of 10 minutes);
- Sect. 74.2 (15 minutes for the «general debate» and 10 minutes thereafter for each group);
- Sect. 115.2 (fixing by chairman of the

- committee, in agreement with its bureau, for discussion of each bill);
- Sect. 118.1 (15 minutes in plenary sitting for Government and 15 for each *rapporteur* and of the reporting committee in the discussion of bills);
- Sect. 118.2.2.<sup>o</sup> (to be determined by Speaker for other speeches);
- Sect. 142.1 (15 minutes for the presentation of each text in the Joint or Mixed Committee provided for in Sect. 151.2.2.<sup>o</sup>, Const.);
- Sect. 151.2 (application to discussion of Decree-Laws of rules on general discussion of bills);
- Sect. 169.2, 1st paragr. (application of same rules to debate on impeachment of members of Government);
- Sect. 171.2 (investiture debate: no time-limit for candidate);
- Sect. 171.3 (30 minutes for each group);
- Sect. 174.3 (application of fore-going rules to debate on question of confidence);
- Sect. 177.1 (censure motion: no time-limit for promoter nor for alternative candidate proposed by the motion);
- Sect. 177.2 (30 minutes for each group);
- Sect. 177.2, *in fine* (10 minutes for a round of rejoinders or rectification to each group);
- Sect. 183.1 (interpellations; 10 minutes for interpellant, 10 minutes for Government's reply and 5 minutes for rejoinders);

- Sect. 183.2(5 minutes for each of the other groups);
  - Sect. 184.3 (motions following interpellations: application thereto of rules on non-legislative motions, see Sect. 195);
  - Sect. 188.3 (oral questions in Plenum: fixing by Speaker, with a 5-minute limit for question and reply totally);
  - Sect. 189.2 (oral questions in committees: 10 minutes for the first 5 for rejoinders);
  - Sect. 195 (non-legislative motions: fixation by Speaker);
  - Sect. 196.1 (Government's messages or communications: no limit for Government; 15 minutes thereafter for each group);
  - Sect. 196.2, *in fine* (10 minutes for each rejoinder);
  - Sect. 197 (motions for resolution following debate on communication: 5 minutes each);
  - Sect. 198.3 (discussion of plans or programmes of Government: application of foregoing rules);
  - Sect. 200.1, 2nd phrase (Defender of the People's reports: no limit for the Defender, 15 minutes thereafter for each group);
  - Sect. 201 (other reports to be submitted to Congress: applicability of rules for Government's communications);
  - Sect. 202.2 (informative sittings: 45 minutes at most for all Members and groups together);
  - Sect. 203.2 (informative sittings on a particular business: no limit for Government, 10 minutes for each group thereafter);
  - Sect. 203.3 (exceptional grant of a round of questions or clarifications: total time to be fixed by Speaker).
- Special legislative procedures:**
- Sects. 130 to 132 (Organic Bills and private Members' Bills);
  - Sects. 133 to 135 (Finance Bill);
  - Sects. 136 to 144 (Statutes of Devolution);
  - Sect. 145 (amendment of said Statutes);
  - Sects. 146 and 147 (constitutional amendments and constitutional revision respectively);
  - Sects. 148 and 149 (full legislative jurisdiction of committees);
  - Sect. 150 (single reading for bills).
- Special majority requirements:**
- Sect. 79.1 (explicit reservation to general rule of single majority of votes laid down by same provision);
  - Sect. 146.2 (... of three-fifths of Members required for adoption of a single constitutional amendments bill);
  - Sect. 146.3 (... also required for adoption of text drafter by equally-mixed Committee SenateCongress on said bills);
  - Sect. 146.4 (... of-two thirds sufficient for final adoption by Congress if majority provided in preceding subsection has not been obtained);

- Sect. 147.2 (... of two-thirds of Members required for adoption in principle of certain constitutional reforms under Sect. 168 Constit.);
- Sect. 147.3 (Royal Assent to Constitutional reform to be given if bill has also been passed in Senate by a two-third majority);
- Sect. 147.5 (... required in newlyelected Congress for final adoption of constitutional reform bill);
- Sect. 204.5 (... required in first round for appointment of 4 members of General Judiciary Council and 4 members of Constitutional Court);
- Sect. 205 (... required, on the same basis as preceding section, for appointments of other persons to be made by a special majority of Congress).

### Speeches:

- Sect. 70 (general provision);
- Sect. 71.1 and 2 (personal allusions to other Members);
- Sect. 71.3 (allusions to a group);
- Sect. 73.1 (right to reply or to rectification);
- Sect. 74.1 (general provision: one for, one against);
- Sect. 75.2 (general debate: one for each group);
- Sect. 75.2 (in certain conditions, 3 turns sometimes for the Mixed Group and 2 turns in other circumstances);
- Sect. 76 (closure of debate: one for, one against);
- Sect. 112.2 (discussion of amend-

- ments to principle or to the whole text: 1 turn for, 1 against);
- Sect. 114.1 (discussion of bills in committee: 1 for the promoter of each amendment, 1 for members of committee after fixing of total time by chairman);
- Sect. 118.1 (discussion by full House of committee's report on the bill: 1 for the Government, 1 for the committee's rapporteur and 1 for each group);
- Sect. 126.4 (debate on the taking into consideration of a private Members'bill: rules on general discussion of bills also apply here);
- Sect. 131.1 (ordinary legislative procedure also applies to Organic bills and Organic private Members' bills);
- Sect. 134.1 (Finance Bill: said procedure also applies);
- Sect. 135 (Budgets of administrative agencies: ordinary legislative procedure applicable);
- Sect. 142.1 (Joint Committee for examination of a draft Statute of Devolution under Sect. 151.2 Constit: 1 for each of the texts proposed);
- Sect. 148.2 (bills considered by committees with full legislative jurisdiction: applicability of ordinary legislative procedure);
- Sect. 150.2 (single-reading procedure: applicability of rules on general debate, Sect. 1127);
- Sect. 151.2 (debate ratification or annulment of Decree-Laws: 1 for Government, and then ordinary procedure rules apply);

- Sect. 156.1 (applicability of ordinary legislative procedure to debates on international treaties);
- Sect. 161.1 *in fine* (rules on general discussion also apply to debates on extension of the state of alarm);
- Sect. 163.1 (same rule for the state of emergency);
- Sect. 164.1 (same rule for the state of siege);
- Sect. 166.2 *in fine* (same rule for discussion of report of Constitutional Committee on cooperation agreements between Selfgoverning Communities);
- Sect. 168.1.1st phrase, *in fine* (same procedure for discussion of necessity of a Harmonization Act);
- Sect. 159.2.1st phrase (same procedure for debate on impeachment);
- Sect. 171.2, 3 and 4 see *Speaking time*;
- Sect. 174.3 (debate on question of confidence: same procedure as for investiture);
- Sect. 177.1 and 2 (debate of censure motions). See *Censure motion*);
- Sect. 183.1 See *Interpellations*.
- Sect. 188.3 (questions to Government);
- Sect. 189.2 (same procedure for oral questions in committee);
- Sect. 195.1 (non-legislative motions);
- Sect. 196.1 (Government's messages or communications);
- Sect. 197 (motions following Government's communicational);
- Sect. 198.2 (discussion of plans or

programmes submitted by the Government);

- Sect. 199.1 (discussion or annual report of Auditing Commission);
- Sect. 200.1 (Defender of the People's reports);
- Sect. 201 (provisions of Sect. 197 also applicable to discussion of other reports than must be submitted to the Cortes or to Congress);
- Sect. 202.2 (informative sittings);
- Sect. 203.3 (exceptionally, round of questions or requests for clarification with number of speakers to be determined by Speaker)..

#### **Spokesmen of parliamentary groups:**

- Sect. 24.2 (compulsory notification of their names to Bureau);
- Sect. 39 (Board of Spokesmen, general provision);
- Sect. 67.4, see *Board of Spokesmen*;
- Sect. 73.2, see *Board of Spokesmen*;
- Sect. 76 (right of any... to request from Speaker the closure of the debate);
- Sect. 110.1 (signature of amendments to principle or to whole text to of bill tabled by group);
- Sect. 118.2, see *Board of Spokesmen*;
- Sect. 126.1.2.<sup>o</sup> (signature of... required for the tabling of a private Members'bill of the respective group);
- Sect. 130.1, see *Board of Spokesmen*;
- Sect. 149.12nd phrase, see *Board of Spokesmen*;

- Sect. 150.1.1, see *Board of Spokesmen*;
  - Sect. 174.2, see *Board of Spokesmen*;
  - Sect. 176.1 *in fine* (notification to... of every censure motion);
  - Sect. 177.3 see *Board of Spokesmen*;
  - 188.2, 2nd phrase, see *Board of Spokesmen*;
  - 192.2, see *Board of Spokesmen*;
  - 203.1, see *Board of Spokesmen*;
  - 203.3, see *Board of Spokesmen*;
  - 206, see *Board of Spokesmen*;
- Standing Committees, Sects, 46 to 50 (Part III, Chapter III, Division 2);

**Standing Orders (Rules of procedure):**

- Sect. 32.2 (application, enforcement and interpretation thereof by Speaker);
- Sect. 47, see *Committee on Standing Orders*;
- Sect. 72.1.1st phrase (right of every Member to demand at any moment effective enforcement and observance of...);
- Sect. 73.1 (no limitation by other provisions of these Rules of the Speaker's to conduct debates and voting);
- Sect. 81 (vote at a fixed time whenever present Rules so provide);
- Sect. 85.1 (public voting of secret voting, whichever is provided for in the present...);
- Sect. 91.1 (power of Bureau to extend or to reduce terms and deadlines laid down by present...);
- 1st Final Provision (date of entry);

- 2nd Final Provision (amendment procedure);
- 3rd Final Provision (present... apply to all points not contemplated by Rules of the *Cortes Generales* regarding joint sittings or mixed committees);
- 5th Final Prov. (present... apply to oral questions in committee with written answer, relating to Spanish Radio-Television Authority).

**State's Budget:**

- Sect. 111 (amendments to any bill that entail increase of expenditure or decrease in budgeted revenue);
- Sect. 133 and 134 (procedure of discussion and vote of Finance Bill).

State's Gazette, see *Official Gazette*.

State of alarm, Sect. 162 (see also *States of alarm, emergency and siege generally* below).

State of emergency, Sect. 163 (see also *State of alarm,... and siege generally* below).

State of siege, Sect. 164 (see also *States of alarm, emergency and... generally* below).

Statement of Motives of a bill, see *Preamble (of a bill)*.

**Statements:**

- Sect. 18 (... by Members before a Notary Public of their assets and income-earning activities);
- Sect. 159.2 (right of Government to attach a... to draft international treaties which must be authorized by *Cortes*);
- Sect. 173 (general policy.., by Go-

vernment to obtain the House's vote of confidence).

States of alarm, emergency and siege generally, Sect. 165.

#### **Status of Members:**

- Sects. 6 to 22 (Part I);
- Sect. 46.2.2.<sup>o</sup> (see *Members' Status Committee*);
- Sect. 48 (see *Members' Status Committee*);
- 101.2 (see *Members' Status Committee*).

Statute of personnel of the *Cortes Generales*, 4th Final Prov.

#### **Statutes of Devolution:**

- Sect. 136 (ordinary procedure, under Sects. 143, 144 and 146 and 1 st Trans. Prov. CONSTIT.);
- Sects. 137 to 144 (special procedure under Sect. 151 CONSTIT.);
- Sect. 145 (reform or amendment thereof).

Stockbreeding, see *Agriculture, Stockbreeding and Fisheries Committee*.

Subsidy to parliamentary groups, Sect 28.

Substitution, see *Replacements*.

#### **Suspension of a Member:**

- Sect. 21 (list of cases of...);
- Sect. 101 (disciplinary measure: cases and procedure);
- Sect. 106 (... for having caused disturbances in the premises).

Suspension of legislative proceeding regarding international treaties, Sect. 157.2.

#### **Suspension of sitting:**

- Sect. 171.3 (investiture debate);

- Sect. 1743 (same rule applies to debate of question of confidence);
- Sect. 177.2 (debate of censure motions);
- Sect. 202.2 (informative sittings);

## T

#### **Tacit decisions:**

- Sect. 14.2 (... rejection by Congress of court's petition for a waiver of a Member's immunity if the House fails to pronounce thereon within 60 calendar days);
- Sect. 19.3, *in fine* (... assumption that a Member who has failed to opt between his seat and an incompatible post of office has relinquished his parliamentary mandate);
- Sects. 82.i) and especially 83 (voting by... to the Speaker's proposal);
- Sect. 111.3, *in fine* (... consent of Government if it fails to file a written answer on amendments implying increase of expenditure or reductions in budgeted revenue);
- Sect. 126.3 (... of Government to examination by Congress of a private Member's bill);
- Sect. 127 (same rule for bills tabled by Self-governing Communities or by people's initiative);
- Sect. 148 (... grant of full legislative jurisdiction to committees, unless Congress decides otherwise);
- Sect. 153.2 (... ratification of articulated or consolidated texts enacted by

Government as delegated legislation).

Taking into consideration of private Members' bills, Sect. 125 to 129 (See also *Private Members' bills*).

Temporary exclusion of a Member for the rest of the sitting, see *Penalties for breach of Members' duties* (Sects. 100 and 104.1).

Termination (causes of...) of a Member's parliamentary mandate, Sec. 22.

**Terms** (deadlines and time-limits):

- Sect. 5 (... of 15 days for solemn opening of Parliament's term);
- Sect. 7.2 (maximum... of 30 days for transmission of information, papers or documents by administrative agencies to Member who has requested them);
- Sect. 13.1 (... of 5 days for reference of requests for waiver of a Member's immunity by Speaker to Member's Status Committee);
- Sect. 13.2 (... of 30 days for Members' Status Committee to conclude its proceedings and report);
- Sect. 14.1 (... of 8 days for decision by full House on the request, for Speaker to notify judicial authorities);
- Sect. 14 (... of 60 calendar days after which, failing an explicit decision by Congress, the request for waiver of immunity is deemed to be rejected);
- Sect. 18.2 (... of 2 months of full acquisition of status of Member of Congress for making statement on assets and income-earning or lucrative activities);
- Sect. 19.2 (... of 20 days from full acquisition of status of Member for Committee on Members' Status to submit to full House proposals on disqualification of a Member whose situation has changed in relation to initial statement);
- Sect. 19.3 (... of 8 days for Member to opt between seat and office or position incompatible with parliamentary status);
- Sect. 20.2 (... of 3 plenary sittings for Members effectively to enjoy their rights and privileges);
- Sect. 24.1 (... of 5 days from constitutive meeting of Congress for the setting-up of parliamentary groups);
- Sect. 26 (... of 5 days from acquisition of Member status for Members who have acquired such status on a later date to the constituent meeting of Congress to join one of the parliamentary groups);
- Sect. 27.1 (... of the first 5 days of session for a Member to move or to change from one group to another);
- Sect. 43.3 (general... of 2 months for committees to conclude consideration of any business);
- Sect. 46.3 (... 10 days after constitution of Congress for committees to be constituted);
- Sect. 69 (... of 45 hours, at least, before sitting of full House or committee meeting, for prior distribution of documents papers and reports);
- Sect. 90 (general rule for computation of...);

- Sect. 91 (extension or reduction of... by Bureau, no more than half in principle);
- Sect. 94 (reduction of normal.., to half their length for urgency reasons);
- Sect. 109 (Bureau to appoint term during which amendments can be tabled to bills); See also *Sect. 110* below;
- Sect. 110.1 (... of 15 days to tabling of amendments to bills by Members and by groups);
- Sect. 111.3 (... of 15 days to Government to reply to reference of amendments to a bill implying increase in expenditure or reductions in budgeted revenue);
- Sect. 112.5, *in fine* (appointment of new... for the tabling of amendments, only to individual sections of the bill, in case of adoption by full Congress of amendment proposing alternative text);
- Sect. 113. 1, *in fine*(... of 15 days for reporting sub-committee, to make their report on bill and amendments, thereto);
- Sect. 113.2 (Bureau empowered to extend said term, if it sees fit);
- Sect. 117(... of 48 hours from date of completion of report, for groups-to notify to Bureau any dissenting opinions and amendments not accepted by committee);
- Sect. 119.1st paragr., *in fine* (... of one month for committee to make necessary linguistic or editorial improvements in text of bill passed by full House);
- Sect. 122.2 (... 2 months to elapse for a bill vetoed or amended by Senate and adopted again by Congress in its original form, but not with overall majority of Members thereof, to be put to the vote again in Congress);
- Sect. 126.3 (... of 30 days for Government to reach decision on the admissibility of amendments to a private Member's bill which might involve an increase in expenditure or a reduction in revenue);
- Sect. 126.5, 2nd paragraph (opening, after its consideration by the House, of a... for receipt of amendments to private Members' bill);
- Sect. 131.2, *in fine*, (... for the making of a new report by the committee in the case of Organic bills or private Member's bills not adopted as such by the House);
- Sect. 137.1 (... for the presentation of reasons for disagreement with a draft Statute of Devolution);
- Sect. 138 (computation of the 2 month..., provided for by art. 151.2 2nd Constit., in relation with the 6 th Temporary Provision).
- Sect. 140.2, 1st. subparagraph (a month... for report by the group or joint committee of provided for in art. 151.2. 2nd Constit.);
- Sect. 141.1 (necessity of expiry of said deadline for sending the report to Constitutional Committee and regional Assembly's Delegation involved);

- Sect. 142.3 (possibility of setting new... for the group of *rapporteurs* to reach agreement in case of divergences between Constitutional Committee and said Delegation);
- Sect. 151.1, 1st. paragraph (30 day... from promulgation date for the discussion and vote on ratification or repeal of Decree Laws);
- Sect. 153.2 (one month... for the tabling of objections against provisions enacted by Government within the context of a legislative delegation);
- Sect. 153.3 (Bureau of Congress empowered set a new... for relevant committee to report on objections raised by Members to statutes enacted by Government as delegated legislation);
- Sect. 155.3, 1st. paragraph (90 days... for Government's request to Congress on the granting of authorization to sign an international treaty under art. 94.1 Constit.);
- Sect. 155.4 (... of 60 days for Congress to decide on said request);
- Sect. 162.2 (extension of the 15 days... of the state of alarm under art. 116.2 Constit.);
- Sect. 162.3 (2 hours at least, before the sitting of the House, for submission of proposals by groups on petition for extension of the state of alarm);
- Sect. 171.5 (term of 48 hours to elapse, after first unsuccessful investiture vote, for Congress to be able to take a new vote);
- Sect. 172.2 (... of 2 months for Congress to invest a Prime Minister, starting from date of first vote);
- Sect. 174.4, 2nd subparagraph (vote on question of confidence);
- Sect. 176.2(2 days... for receipt of alternative motions to the motion of censure);
- Sect. 177.4 (vote on motions of censure);
- Sect. 179 (the rest of the session to lapse for signatories of a rejected motion of censure to be able to sign another);
- Sect. 182.1 (lapse of 15 days after publication of an interpellation for the latter to be put in the agenda);
- Sect. 184.2, 1st paragr. (tabling of motions by interpellant group, and of any amendments to motion);
- Sect. 184.2, 1st. paragraph (one day... for the tabling of motions by the group who made the interpellation);
- Sect. 188.1, *in fine* (minimum of 48 hours and maximum of 7 days notice for the tabling of oral questions);
- Sect. 189.1 (7 days ... in advance for questions involving an oral answer in committee to be put in the agenda);
- Sect. 189.3, *in fine*(... until start of next session to answer pending questions in writing);
- Sect. 190.1 (... for Government to send written reply to question);
- Sect. 194.2 (... for tabling amendments to non-legislative motions);
- Sect. 197.1 (... 30 minutes after dis-

cussion of Government's communications, for parliamentary groups to lodge draft resolutions with Bureau of the House);

- Sect. 198.2, 2nd paragr. (... of 3 days for groups to submit motions for resolution to plans or programmes of the Government);
- 2nd. Transit. Provision (application of provisional Rules of Procedure of 1977 to legislative proceedings for which the... for tabling of documents expired before date of entry of present Standing Orders);
- 3rd. Trans. Prov. (... of 15 days for adaptation of committees to new Rules of Procedure);

Texts drawn up in articles, see *Legislative delegations*.

#### **Ties** (in voting):

- Sect. 37.3 (in elections of members of Bureau of the House);
- Sect. 38 (applicability of rules on said elections to elections for filling vacancies in Bureau);
- Sect. 88 (general procedure in case of...);
- Sect. 204.6 (... in appointments of 4 members of General Judiciary Council and 4 members of Constitutional Court);
- Sect. 205 (preceding rules to apply also to other appointments by single majority of Congress);

Time-limits, see *Terms* above.

Transitional Provisions in bills, Sect. 110.5 (to be treated as sections for amendment purposes).

Treaties, see *Terms* above.

Treaties, see *International treaties*.

Turns to speak, see *Speeches*.

## U

Under-Secretaries (of State), Sect. 189.2.

#### **Urgency procedure:**

- Sects. 93 and 94 (declaration of... and effects thereof), Title IV, Chapter 6);
- Sect. 151.4.3rd phrase (applies to examination of ratified DecreeLaws as ordinary bills).

Use of right to speak, see *Speeches*.

## V

#### **Vacancies:**

- Sect. 33 (of Speaker);
- Sect. 38 (... in Bureau during parliamentary term).

**Verbatim** report of proceedings (in Journal of Debates), Sect. 96.1.

#### **Veto:**

- Sect. 121 (... by Senate of a bill passed by Congress);
- Sect. 122 (procedure to be followed in Congress after Senate's...);
- Sect. 132 (procedure in Congress in case of Senate's... to an organic bill or private Members' bill);
- Sect. 149.2 (Senate's... in plenary sitting removes full legislative jurisdiction, from reporting committee of Congress);

**Vice-chairmen of committees:**

- Sect. 41 (general provision);
- Sect. 48.1.2nd phrase (one of the... of Members' Status Committee is to represent 2nd strongest group in the House);

Vice-Presidents of Congress, see *Deputy Speakers*.

**Vote:**

- Sect. 61.1 (right of Members to... in the Plenum and in committees);
- Sect. 34 (check of... by Secretaries of Congress);
- Sects. 78 to 89 («Votes», Part IV, Chapter 4);
- Sect. 112.3 (... in amendments to principle after general discussion of bill);
- Sect. 118.2.1.<sup>o</sup> (... of the committee's report in the Plenum);
- Sect. 122 (... in plenary sitting of bills that have been vetoed by Senate);
- Sect. 123 (... in full Congress of amendments by Senate);
- Sect. 131.2 (... in plenary sitting on an Organic Bill or private Members' bill as a whole);
- Sect. 131.3 (... in plenary sitting, in case of a new report by the committee on said Organic Bill or private members' bill);
- Sect. 132.1.<sup>o</sup> (... in plenary sitting of Organic bills or organic private Members' bills vetoed by Senate);
- Sect. 132.2.<sup>o</sup>(... on text as amended by Senate);
- Sect. 134.3 (... on Finance Bill);
- Sect. 140.2.2nd phrase (separate...

by each group of *rappoteurs* on draft Statute on Devolution, Sect. 151.2 CONSTIT.);

- Sect. 142.2 (separate... in Constitutional Committee and in the Legislative Assembly's Delegation on the different reports and dissenting opinions);
- Sect. 143.1 (... total or global..., again separately, by Constitutional Committee and by Delegation);
- Sect. 144(... ratification..., of draft Statute by full Congress);
- Sect. 146.2 (final..., in plenary sitting on a single bill of constitutional amendments);
- Sect. 146.2 (... on the report of the equally-Mixed Committee contemplated in Sect. 167.1 CONSTIT.); Sect. 147.2 (... on a constitutional reform bill under Sect. 168 CONS\_ TIT.);
- Sect. 147.5 (... ratification..., of constitutional reform by newlyelected Congress);
- Sect. 148.1, *in fine* (no final..., in Plenum for bills examined by committees with full legislative jurisdiction);
- Sect. 149.1, *in fine* (... in plenary sitting on revocation or recall of a committee's full legislative jurisdiction);
- Sect. 150.2, *in fine* (one... only by the full House in single reading procedure);
- Sect. 151.1 and 3 (... on ratification or annulment of a Decree-Law);
- Sect. 158 (... by both Houses of compromise text on an international treaty);
- Sect. 163.5 (... on extension of state of alarm);

- Sect. 166.3, 2nd phrase (... of both Houses on text proposed by Mixed Conciliation Committee on an agreement between Selfgoverning Communities);
- Sect 169.2, *in fine* (... secret..., in plenary sitting on impeachment of members of Government);
- Sect. 171.5 (investiture...);
- Sect. 174.4 and 5 (... on question of confidence);
- Sect. 184.2 (... on motions following interpellations);
- Sect. 195.1, *in fine* (... on nonlegislative motions);
- Sect. 197.3, *in fine* (... of motions or proposals tabled after Government's communications);
- Sect. 204.4.5 and 6 (... for appointment of 4 members of General Judiciary Council and another 4 of Constitutional Court);
- Sect. 205 (applicability of Sect, 204 to appointment of other persons who must be appointed by *Cortes Generales* or by Congress);

Vote by ballot papers, see *Secret vote*.

Vote by electronic device, see *Electronic voting*.

Vote by ordinary procedure, see *Ordinary voting*.

Vote by standing up or sitting down, Sect. 84.1.<sup>o</sup>

Vote by public roll-call, see *Roll-call* (public) vote.

Vote by tacit assent, see *Tacit assent*.

## W

Waiver of immunity (Petition of courts for...), Dects. 12 to 14.

Weapons (no carrying of... in Parliament's premises), Sect. 101.1.ii).

### **Weighted vote:**

- Sect. 65.4 (decisions by Board of Spokesmen);
- Sect. 88.2 (application of principle of... in certain circumstances in case of tie in committee votes);

### **Withdrawal of bills:**

- Sect. 128 (by Government of their own bills);
- Sect. 129 (... of non-governmental bills).

Withdrawal of the floor, see *Withdrawal by Speaker...* below.

### **Withdrawal (by Speaker) of a Member's right to speak:**

- Sect. 70.6 (when time allocated to Member has run out and he has been twice called by Speaker to stop speaking);
- Sect. 71.1 (for overstepping the limits of right to reply to a personal allusion).

## Y

Youngest (provisional) Secretaries of Congress (constituent sitting), Sect. 2, 2nd subparagraph.