AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

LIE ON TABLE

"Subjects on the Table" consist of business, usually bills and resolutions, placed there by unanimous consent. Once business has been given this status, it is in order to move to proceed to its consideration, even though it has not been referred to a committee for consideration.

Consideration of Measure on Table:

A resolution which has been ordered to lie on the table, which must be done by unanimous consent, does not thereafter automatically go to a committee,[1] nor is it automatically laid before the Senate on a succeeding legislative day as in the case of resolutions going over 1 legislative day under the rule.[2] Where a resolution or bill has been ordered to lie on the table, and subsequently an objection is heard to a unanimous consent request to call it up, it must or may be brought up on motion, as any bill on the Calendar.[3]

A resolution which has been submitted and ordered to lie on the table is not eligible for consideration during the same legislative day except by unanimous consent.[4]

Reference Held in Abeyance:

See also "References to Committees," pp. 1150–1169.

When a bill is ordered to lie on the table before being referred to a committee, reference is held in abeyance.[5]

Bills have been ordered to lie on table by unanimous consent until they could be called up for reference.[6]

---

[1] Dec. 7, 1950, 81–2, *Record*, p. 16246.
[2] *See* July 29, 1940, 76–3, *Record*, p. 9640.
[3] May 26, 1939, 76–1, *Record*, p. 6203; Jan. 8 and 9, 1890, 51–1, *Record*, p. 449; Apr. 8, 1886, 49–1, *Record*, p. 3243; Mar. 3, 1923, 67–4, *Record*, p. 5272; May 14, 1921, 67–1, *Record*, p. 1450; Aug. 4, 1890, 51–1, *Record*, p. 8078; *see also* July 29, 1940, 76–3, *Record*, p. 9640.
[4] *See* Aug. 26 and 29, 1960, 86–2, *Record*, p. 18147.
[5] Feb. 3, 1965, 89–1, *Record*, p. 1937; Feb. 4, 1965, 89–1, *Record*, pp. 2010–11.
[6] Feb. 19, 1965, 89–1, *Record*, pp. 3235–47.

Unanimous Consent Required To Place on Table:

Unanimous consent is required for a bill or resolution to lie on the table instead of being referred, even if submitted out of order.[7]

Veto Message:

The Presiding Officer of the Senate, in 1918, decided that a veto message could not be referred to a committee, but that it must be voted upon or lie upon the table until called up for disposition.[8]

LIE OVER ONE DAY

See "Calendar," pp. 253–267; "Consideration, Question of," pp. 655–682; "Over Under the Rule," pp. 957–967; "Reports," pp. 1176–1201; "Resolutions," pp. 1202–1213; "Suspension of Rules," pp. 1266–1272. For definition of, *see* "Day," pp. 712–715.

LIE OVER UNDER THE RULE

See "Over Under the Rule," pp. 957–967.

LIMITATION ON DEBATE

See "Cloture Procedure," pp. 282–334; "Debate," pp. 716–797; "Unanimous Consent Agreements," pp. 1311–1369.

LIMITATIONS ON APPROPRIATIONS

See "Appropriations," pp. 150–213.

---

[7] June 17, 1954, 83-2, *Journal*, p. 382, *Record*, pp. 8444–45; Feb. 3, 1965, 89-1, *Record*, p. 1937; Feb. 4, 1965, 89-1, *Record*, pp. 2010–11; Feb. 19, 1965, 89-1, *Record*, pp. 3235–47; Apr. 28, 1966, 89-2, *Record*, p. 9298; *see also* June 13, 1950, 81-2, *Record*, p. 8487.
[8] July 11, 1918, 65-2, *Record*, pp. 8966–68.

LIST OF SPEAKERS

See "List of Speakers," p. 757.

MAJORITY VOTE

The Senate operates under "a majority rule" to transact business—a majority of the Senators voting, a quorum being present—with the exceptions set forth in the Constitution and the rules of the Senate. There is no rule providing for consideration of business by a majority vote, but precedents of the Senate have been uniform in that respect. A majority vote is required to consider a resolution to amend a Senate rule.[1] For details *see* under the various topics.

MATTERS NOT IN ORDER IN ABSENCE OF QUORUM

See "Quorum," pp. 1038–1078.

MEETING HOUR OF SENATE

See "Hour of Daily Meetings," pp. 711–712.

MEMORIALS

See "Communications and Messages to the Senate," pp. 430–441.

---

[1] Sept, 16, 1961, 87-1, *Record*, pp. 19857–59.