

**TABLE 6.3** Comparison of the House Special Rule and Senate Unanimous Consent Agreement

House Special Rule	Senate Unanimous Consent Agreement
Specifies time for general debate	May specify time for debating the bill and amendments offered to the bill
Permits or prohibits amendments	Often restricts the offering of nonrelevant amendments
Formulated by Rules Committee in public session	Formulated by party leaders informally in private sessions; also on the Senate floor
Approved by majority vote of the House	Agreed to by unanimous consent of senators
Adoption generally results in immediate floor action on the bill	Adoption is sometimes aimed toward prospective floor action
Covers many aspects of floor procedure, including final passage of legislation	Geared primarily to debate and amendment restrictions and to limits on other debatable motions
Does not specify date and exact time for vote on final passage	May set date and exact time for vote on final passage, which could include a 60-vote adoption requirement
Effect is to waive House rules	Effect is to waive Senate rules