

TABLE 7.1 Selected Bicameral Differences in the Amendment Process

House	Senate
Measures read for amendment section by section or title by title	Measures open to amendment at any point, unless a unanimous consent agreement states otherwise
Strict germaneness rule	No general germaneness rule
Amendment rights of members commonly limited by the Rules Committee	Unlimited freedom for senators to offer amendments, unless unanimous consent agreement stipulates otherwise
Third-degree amendments prohibited	Third-degree amendments prohibited but can still be offered by unanimous consent
Five-minute rule for discussing amendments	No debate limit for amendments unless imposed by a unanimous consent agreement
Points of order against amendments must be raised after an amendment is read but before debate on it has begun	Points of order against amendments can often be raised at any time
Representatives have no right, in the Committee of the Whole, to modify or withdraw amendments on their own authority	Senators have the right to modify or withdraw their amendments unless action (such as a call for a vote on the amendment) has been taken on it by the Senate