



# *Louisiana Housing Corporation*

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: LHC Board of Directors  
From: Lloyd "Buddy" Spillers, Chairman  
Date: September 8, 2017  
Re: **Proposed Special Rules Governing Discussion of Agenda Items**

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As the Louisiana Housing Corporation works towards improving housing opportunities in Louisiana, it is important that the Board of Directors conducts meetings in a democratic, orderly, and expeditious manner.

The LHC bylaws state we are governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (RONR), which relate to the orderly transaction of business in meetings and enable the smooth functioning of the assembly. These rules also serve to facilitate meaningful discussions and group decision-making.

RONR state that special rules of order may be adopted by a governing body, including rules related to the length or number of speeches permitted by each member of the body. In that spirit, I propose that we institute the following special rules of order related to discussion of agenda items. These rules will ensure that everyone has an opportunity to participate and share ideas in an orderly manner.

- Each board member will have a maximum of five (5) minutes to comment on each agenda item presented to the Board.
- Each board member will have an opportunity to respond to any opposing comments for no more than three (3) minutes.
- Each member has the right to speak twice on the same agenda item, but cannot make a second speech on the same question as long as any member who has not spoken on that question desires to take the floor.
- A member who has spoken twice on a particular question on the same day has exhausted his or her right to debate the question for that day.
- A member cannot interrupt a speaker who has the floor.
- Discussion must be confined to the merits of the pending question.

You may recall that a version of these special rules was sent to you via e-mail in November 2016. However, RONR suggests that special rules of order be adopted by the body through a resolution. As such, these proposed rules will be brought to the body for adoption at our next regular board meeting. A draft of the resolution adopting the rules has been enclosed for your consideration.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the LHC. I look forward to your receiving your feedback.