



Maryland Student Legislature

Opening Ceremonies

(The SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY shall be in the center chair of the dais, and the LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR shall be seated on the SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY'S right. In order from the right to left, the SECRETARY OF STATE, the ATTORNEY GENERAL and the COMPTROLLER shall be seated in the front of the chamber at the Clerk's Desk.)

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: The body shall come to order. *(The LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR shall rap the gavel.)* The General Assembly of the Maryland Student Legislature is convened in a Joint Session for the purpose of opening ceremonies for the ___ [annual year] Annual Session. On behalf of the Council of State, I would like to welcome the members present from across the great and Sovereign State of Maryland.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: We shall now call the roll of delegations. Each delegation chairperson or his or her designate shall announce the number currently in attendance.

(The LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR calls the roll for each delegation that registered for Annual Session alphabetically.)

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: *(consults with the SECRETARY OF STATE and calculates quorum)* The Secretary of State has recorded _____ members present. Quorum for Joint Session is hereby set as _____, which is 1/2 plus 1 of members present. At this time does anyone else wish to record their presence?

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: The chair would note that the Governor and Attorney General, though not listed among their delegations, are both in attendance.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: At this time having performed my duties under the Standing Rules of Order I shall turn control over to the Speaker of the Assembly. *(Following this the LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR shall turn control of the chair to the SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY and then shall return to their seat the SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY'S right.)*

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: At this time members shall rise as Governor _____ [last name] enters the chamber. *(GOVERNOR enters and proceeds to the dais. The GOVERNOR shall shake hands with the members of the Council of State shaking hands with the SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY last and then remain standing to the SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY'S left.)*

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: Members shall remain standing as _____ [name] from _____ [college or university] offers the invocation. *(At this time the person offering the invocation should rise and come to the dais, the SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY should step to the right. The following language shall be used unless the person offering the invocation provides other wording.)*

INDIVIDUAL OFFERING INVOCATION: Please rise and bow with me. O, God, make us able to learn today and to better our understanding of the world around us. Grant that we enjoy our time together and store away memories to last us through the rest of our lives. Bless us all this day, we humbly ask. Amen.

(Members should remain standing.)

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: Members shall remain standing as _____ [name] from _____ [college or university] shall lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

(At this time the person offering the pledge should come to the dais, the SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY should step to the right. Pledge of Allegiance.)

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: Thank you _____ [persons who offered the invocation and pledge of allegiance].

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: Members shall now be seated. *(Members shall now take their seats. GOVERNOR shall remain standing.)*

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: We shall now hear remarks from Governor _____ [last name].

(The SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY takes their seat. The GOVERNOR addresses the body. Following the GOVERNOR'S address the GOVERNOR shall return control of the chair to the SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY and shall take the seat on the SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY'S left.)

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: Thank you Honorable Governor for those remarks.

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: Pursuant to the Constitution the Clerk of the House shall be Secretary of State _____ [last name].

At this time, the chair wishes to appoint (**Note: change appoint to announce if already appointed**) _____ [name] to serve (**Note: if changed to announce remove to serve**) as Sergeant of Arms.

Pursuant to the Constitution the Parliamentarian shall be Attorney General _____ [last name].

Pursuant to the Constitution, the Speaker may appoint a Speaker pro tempore and at this time, I wish to appoint (**Note: change appoint to announce if already appointed**) _____ to serve (**Note: if changed to announce change to serve to as serving**) in that capacity.

The Attorney General has asked me to announce at this time the appointment of (**Note: remove announce the appointment of if already appointed**) _____ to serve (**Note: if the appointment of is removed change to serve to as serving**) as parliamentarian of the Senate.

The Secretary of State has asked me to announce at this time the appointment of (**Note: remove announce the appointment of if already appointed**) _____ to serve (**Note: if the appointment of is removed change to serve to as serving**) as clerk of the Senate.

We will now move into normal consideration of business before the body. Are there any petitions, memorials, other papers or distinguished guests for presentation, disposition, or recognition?

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: Yes Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize that _____, the Chairman of the Maryland Student Legislature Board of Directors is present, along with Directors _____. *(Only if applicable.)*

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: Thank you Honorable Lieutenant Governor. Are there any Acts for Introduction? The Secretary of State is recognized.

SECRETARY OF STATE: Yes Mr. Speaker, (*announces the acts for introduction*).

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: Are there any further Acts for introduction?

Seeing none, are there any Joint Resolutions for introduction? The Secretary of State is recognized.

SECRETARY OF STATE: Yes Mr. Speaker, (*announces the joint resolutions for introduction*).

Seeing none, are there any Constitutional Amendments or Simple Resolutions for introduction? The Secretary of State is recognized.

SECRETARY OF STATE: Yes Mr. Speaker, (*announces the Constitutional Amendments or Simple Resolutions for introduction*).

There being no reports of committees or third reading calendars to be considered. The awards committee selection shall be the next item of business.

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: The Lieutenant Governor has appointed the following members from the Senate _____ [names] and I have appointed the following members from the House [names] to serve as members of the Awards Committee.

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: Without objection these members shall serve as the members of the awards committee. (*Note: If objection, then proceed to any points or motions.*) (*SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY shall rap the gavel.*)

Is there any other business before the General Assembly?

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: Seeing none we shall stand adjourned shortly. The body shall rise as the Governor exits the chamber.

(The GOVERNOR shall exit the chamber.)

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY: We shall stand adjourned for the purpose of _____
(*SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY shall rap the gavel.*)