

TABLE OF MOST FREQUENTLY USED PARLIAMENTARY MOTIONS

Adapted for use in National Speech & Debate Association Congressional Debate

* Annotated (non-shaded) to show motions used most often.

TYPE	MOTION	PURPOSE	SECOND REQUIRED?	DEBATABLE?	AMENDABLE?	REQUIRED VOTE	MAY INTERRUPT?	
PRIVILEGED	24	Fix time for reassembling	To arrange time of next meeting	YES	YES-T	YES-T	MAJORITY	YES
	23	Adjourn	To dismiss the meeting	YES	NO	YES-T	MAJORITY	NO
	22	Recess	To dismiss the meeting for a specific length of time	YES	YES	YES-T	MAJORITY	NO
	21	Rise to a question of privilege	To make a personal request during debate	NO	NO	NO	DECISION OF THE CHAIR	YES
	20	Call for orders of the day	To force consideration of a postponed motion	NO	NO	NO	DECISION OF THE CHAIR	YES
INCIDENTAL	19	Appeal a decision of the chair	To reverse a decision	YES	NO	NO	MAJORITY	YES
	18	Rise to a point of order or parliamentary procedure	To correct a parliamentary error or ask a question	NO	NO	NO	DECISION OF THE CHAIR	YES
	17	Division of the chamber	To verify a voice vote	NO	NO	NO	DECISION OF THE CHAIR	YES
	16	Object to the consideration of a question	To suppress action	NO	NO	NO	2/3	YES
	15	Divide a motion	To consider its parts separately	YES	NO	YES	MAJORITY	NO
	14	Leave to modify or withdraw a motion	To modify or withdraw a motion	NO	NO	NO	MAJORITY	NO
	13	Suspend the rules	To take action contrary to standing rules	YES	NO	NO	2/3	NO

* Annotated (non-shaded) to show motions used most often.

TYPE	MOTION	PURPOSE	SECOND REQUIRED?	DEBATABLE?	AMENDABLE?	REQUIRED VOTE	MAY INTERRUPT?	
SUBSIDIARY	12	Rescind	To repeal previous action	YES	YES	YES	2/3	NO
	11	Reconsider	To consider a defeated motion again	YES	YES	NO	MAJORITY	NO
	10	Take from the table	To consider tabled motion	YES	NO	NO	MAJORITY	NO
	9	Lay on the table	To defer action	YES	NO	NO	MAJORITY	NO
	8	Previous question	To force an immediate vote	YES	NO	NO	2/3	NO
	7	Limit or extend debate	To modify freedom of debate	YES	YES	YES-T	2/3	NO
	6	Postpone to a certain time	To defer action	YES	YES	YES	MAJORITY	YES
	5	Refer to a committee *	For further study	YES	YES	YES	MAJORITY	YES
	4	Amend an amendment †	To modify an amendment	1/3	YES	NO	MAJORITY	NO
	3	Amend †	To modify a motion	1/3	YES	YES	MAJORITY	NO
MAIN	2	Postpone indefinitely	To suppress action	YES	YES	NO	MAJORITY	NO
	1	Main motion	To introduce a business	YES	YES	YES	MAJORITY	NO

*** NO. 5 SHOULD INCLUDE:**

1. How appointed?
2. The number
3. Report when or to what standing committee

T = TIME

† NOS. 3 AND 4 BY:

1. Adding (inserting)
2. Striking (deleting)
3. Substituting