

and pass all accounts of the State, relating either to the collection or expenditure of the revenue, and appoint auditors to state and adjust the same. They may call for all public or official papers and records, and send for persons whom they may judge necessary, in the course of their inquiries, concerning affairs relating to the public interest, and may direct all office bonds which shall be made payable to the State to be sued for any breach thereof; and with the view to the more certain prevention or correction of the abuses in the expenditures of the money of the State, the General Assembly shall create, at every session thereof, a joint standing committee of the Senate and House of Delegates, who shall have power to send for persons and examine them on oath and call for public or official papers and records; and whose duty it shall be to examine and report upon all contracts made for printing, stationery, and purchases for the public offices and the library, and all expenditures therein, and upon all matters of alleged abuse in expenditures, to which their attention may be called by resolution of either House of the General Assembly.

SEC. 25. Neither House shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days at any one time, nor adjourn to any other place than that in which the House shall be sitting, without the concurrent vote of two-thirds of the members present.

SEC. 26. The House of Delegates shall have the sole power of impeachment in all cases; but a majority of all the members elected must concur in the impeachment. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate, and when sitting for that purpose the Senators shall be on oath or affirmation to do justice according to the law and the evidence; but no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of all the Senators elected.

SEC. 27. Any bill may originate in either House of the General Assembly and be altered, amended or rejected by the other, but no bill shall originate in either House during the last ten days of the session, unless two-thirds of the members elected thereto shall so determine by yeas and nays; nor shall any bill become a law until it be read on three different days of the session in each House, unless two-thirds of the members elected to the House where such bill is pending shall so determine by yeas and nays, and no bill shall be read a third time until it shall have been actually engrossed or printed for a third reading.¹

¹ Thus amended by Chapter 497, Acts of 1912, ratified by the people November 4, 1913.