

Section 3.14. **Immunity.**

Words used by a member of the General Assembly in any of its proceedings, including the proceedings of any committees and subcommittees, shall be absolutely privileged, and a member shall not be liable therefor in any civil action or criminal prosecution.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Section 3.15. **Sessions.**

The General Assembly may provide by law for an organizational session prior to the convening of the regular session. The General Assembly shall convene in regular session on the third Wednesday of January of each year, unless otherwise prescribed by law, and may continue in session for a period not longer than ninety days; provided that by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of each house a regular session may be extended for a period not longer than thirty days, and that by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the members of each house a regular session may be extended a second time for a period not longer than thirty days. The governor may convene a special session of the General Assembly at any time and shall convene a special session upon the written request of three-fifths of all the members of each house. The governor may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the Senate by proclamation, stating the purpose for which he has convened it. The presiding officer of the Senate and the presiding officer of the House of Delegates, acting concurrently, may convene a special session of the General Assembly at any time.

Section 3.16. **Organization.**

Each house shall be the judge of the qualifications and selection of its members, as prescribed by this Constitution and the laws of this State. Each house shall elect its officers and determine its rules of procedure, and may permit its committees and subcommittees to meet between sessions of the General Assembly. Each house, by the affirmative vote of a majority of all its members, may compel the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of records and papers either before the house as a whole or before any of its committees and subcommittees,