

**23. Expenditure of Legislative Council Funds.**

(a)(1) **Special Expenses.** Any expenditure of Legislative Council funds for special expenses by a committee or task force of the General Assembly shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of the committee or task force wishing to expend the funds prior to expenditure of the funds.

(2)(A) For purposes of the rule, “special expenses” means any expenses incurred other than payment of mileage and per diem to members of the General Assembly for attendance at the meeting of the committee or task force, and includes without limitation witnesses fees, interpreter fees, and court reporter expenses.

(B) “Special expenses” does not include expenditure of funds in relation to the hiring of consultant.

(3) Any committee or task force voting to incur special expenses shall provide monthly reports to the Policy - Making Subcommittee of the Legislative Council regarding authorization and payment of the special expenses.

(b)(1) **Consultant Contracts.** Upon completing its process for selecting a consultant, a subcommittee of the Legislative Council or committee or task force of the General Assembly, desiring to hire a consultant to assist with a study of the subcommittee, committee, or task force, shall authorize the Bureau of Legislative Research to enter the contract with the chosen consultant and recommend approval of the contract to the Policy-Making Subcommittee of the Legislative Council during the interim, or the Executive Subcommittee of Legislative Council during a legislative session, by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the subcommittee, committee, or task force.

(2) The Policy-Making Subcommittee, or the Executive Subcommittee if during a legislative session, shall conduct a review of the proposed contract and make a recommendation to the Legislative Council regarding authorization of the Bureau of Legislative Research to enter the contract.

(3) Upon approval of the contract by the Legislative Council, the Bureau of Legislative Research may execute the approved contract and the selected consultant may begin work for the subcommittee, committee, or task force.