

## **Suspension of a Member from Attending Proceedings of the House of Representatives**

In Thailand, the matter of suspension of a member from attending proceedings of the House of Representatives is not obviously stipulated in the Rules of Procedure of the House. It is rather so called, "asking a member to temporarily leave the sitting".

At the sitting, the Rules clearly state that members must debate within the scope of or related to the issue under deliberation. Such debate must not be superfluous, complicated, repetitive or overlapping with those of other persons. An unnecessary reading of any documents or showing any materials to the sitting are prohibited.

In addition, a debater shall not make impolite gesture or remarks, insinuate or make sarcastic statement against any persons. While a member is speaking, any other members may wish to protest that there has been a violation of the Rules by standing up and make a show of hand. The Presiding Officer must give him an opportunity to explain, and then decide whether those particular Rules have or have not been violated as protested. The decision of the Presiding Officer shall deem final. In case the member violates the Rules, the Presiding Officer has the power to warn, prohibit, order the withdrawal of words, forbid him to speak on the specific topics or issues being deliberated or order statement of apology in the sitting. If the Presiding Officer gives a signal by the fall of the gavel or standing, any member who is speaking must stop and sit down immediately. He may request that member to leave from the sitting with or without time duration.

If the member is asked to leave the sitting without time limit, he will only be allowed to be back in the sitting based on the discretion of the Presiding Officer. However, the Presiding Officer may permit that member to be back to the sitting when the quorum or vote casting is needed.