The Becker Rules of Debate

133rd Ohio General Assembly

Federalism Committee

US Constitution Article V

February 13, 2019

• There shall be no audience participation, cheering, or clapping.
• One person from each side shall participate in the debate.
• Rita Dunaway will be allowed 35 minutes for opening comments.
• Joanna Martin will be allowed 35 minutes for opening comments.
• Only the chairman may comment or ask questions during either 35 minute period.
• No questions or comments shall be made by the debaters, or committee members, unless or until the person is recognized by the chairman to do so.
• The committee members shall have the first opportunity to ask questions.
• The debaters, and members of the committee, may ask each other questions per the chairman’s discretion after being recognized by the chairman to do so.
• The debaters may not question the members of the committee unless it is for the purposes of clarifying a question.
• There shall be no personal attacks.
• There shall be no filibustering.
• Only the chairman may interrupt anyone speaking.
• The chairman may alter or amend these rules at any time.
• The chairman prefers to be addressed as “Mr. Chairman,” “Chairman,” or “Chairman Becker.”
• The vice chairman prefers to be addressed as “Mr. Vice Chairman,” “Vice Chairman,” or “Vice Chairman Stoltzfus.”
• The ranking member prefers to be addressed as “Mr. Ranking Member,” “Ranking Member,” “Ranking Member Miller,” or “Colonel Miller.”
• The members of the committee shall be addressed as “Representative” or “Representative [Last Name].”