

1 **State of Arkansas**  
2 **78th General Assembly**  
3 **Regular Session, 1991**  
4 **By: Representative Mahony**

**H.C.R.**

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7 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

8 TO ALLOW A MAXIMUM OF FIVE (5) BILLS OF THE HOUSE OF  
9 REPRESENTATIVES AND FIVE (5) BILLS OF THE SENATE TO BE  
10 INTRODUCED USING A MARKED-UP VERSION AS THE OFFICIAL BILL  
11 AND TO PROVIDE THAT AMENDMENTS TO THE BILLS SHALL CONTINUE  
12 TO REFLECT THE CHANGES TO PRESENT LAW.

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14 WHEREAS, the Joint Rules of the House of Representative and Senate  
15 provide for the introduction of an official bill and a "marked-up" copy of the  
16 bill if it amends present law; and

17 WHEREAS, the marked-up copy shows language being added to the present  
18 law by underlining the text and shows language to be deleted from the present  
19 law by striking through the text; and

20 WHEREAS, the marked-up copy helps the members of the General Assembly  
21 and the public to quickly identify the changes being made by the legislation  
22 and lessens the chance that important changes will go unnoticed; and

23 WHEREAS, the benefits of the mark-up are lost as soon as amendments to  
24 the legislation are made because the mark-up is not updated; and

25 WHEREAS, allowing the marked-up copy to be introduced as the official  
26 bill and updating the marked-up copy as amendments are added would help  
27 promote open government, help the members of the General Assembly to keep up  
28 with changes proposed in the law and reduce the amount of printing required  
29 since there would not be a need to introduce an "official bill" and a separate  
30 marked-up copy; and

31 WHEREAS, a limited number of bills should be allowed to be introduced  
32 with the marked-up copy being the official bill for the purpose of allowing  
33 the members of the General Assembly to evaluate the benefits of such a system  
34 and to determine whether the use of marked-up copies as the official bill  
35 should be adopted in the future,

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NOW THEREFORE,  
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVENTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Rules of the Senate, and the Joint Rules of the House of Representatives and Senate which concern the introduction, amendment and engrossment of bills be suspended to:

(1) allow, beginning on February 20, 1991, the introduction of a maximum of five (5) bills in the House of Representatives and five (5) bills in the Senate which have the official bill in marked-up form showing language added to the present law by an underline and language deleted by strike through;

(2) provide that amendments to these bills will be made in a manner which allows the bills to continue to show the changes to be made to existing law in marked-up form; and

(3) provide that the engrossed version of the bill shall: (A) continue to show language being deleted from existing law by a strike through symbol; (B) continue to show language being added to existing law by underlining the text; and (C) show language to be added to the law by an amendment by both underline and italics.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that by February 15, 1991 the staff of the House of Representatives and the Senate shall establish procedures applicable to the amendment and engrossment of the marked-up bills allowed under this resolution. The procedures shall be established in a manner which will keep the bills in a form which will continue to show the changes to be made in present law and which will show changes made by amendment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an official bill shall be introduced in marked-up form only if the sponsor requests the official bill to be introduced in marked-up form and the bill amends the Arkansas Code.

