

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019

HR 1041

4
5 By: Representative Dotson

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7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO AMEND THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
9 THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY; TO AMEND THE
10 RULES REGARDING SELECTION OF MEMBERS FOR HOUSE
11 COMMITTEES.

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14 **Subtitle**

15 TO AMEND THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF
16 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-SECOND
17 GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

22
23 SECTION 1. Rule 54 of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Second
24 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as follows:

25 54.(a)(1) Each standing committee shall consist of twenty (20) members.
26 Each member of the House of Representatives shall serve on two (2) standing
27 committees, one (1) of which shall be a Class "A" committee and one (1) of
28 which shall be a Class "B" committee. ~~The Speaker of the House of~~
29 ~~Representatives shall select from each of the four (4) House District~~
30 ~~Caucuses five (5) members for each "A" standing committee and five (5)~~
31 ~~members for each "B" standing committee~~ Members of the standing committees
32 shall be selected as follows:

33 (A) The makeup of the standing committees shall reflect as
34 closely as possible the majority party and minority party representation in
35 the House of Representatives at the time of the committee selection. As
36 such, there shall be no more than nine (9) members of the minority party on



1 any standing committee.

2 (B) The most senior member of the House of Representatives
3 shall select first and shall choose a position on a Class "A" standing
4 committee. The next senior member shall then choose a position on a Class
5 "A" standing committee. The seniority rotation procedure shall continue
6 until the member with the least seniority makes his or her selection. After
7 the member with the least seniority makes his or her selection, the most
8 senior member shall select his or her position on a Class "B" standing
9 committee. The seniority rotation shall continue until the member with the
10 least seniority selects his or her position on a Class "B" standing
11 committee.

12 (C) A member may trade a committee membership with another
13 member only within the forty-eight (48) hours immediately following the
14 committee selection process. A trade of committee membership shall be
15 submitted by the members requesting to trade to and approved by a majority of
16 the following three (3) people: the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
17 the House Majority Party Leader, and the House Minority Party Leader.

18 (D) The committee selection process in the House of Representatives, which
19 shall include selection of membership for Class "A" and Class "B" standing
20 committees, Joint Select Committees, the Legislative Council, and the
21 Legislative Joint Auditing Committee, shall take place on the first Friday
22 following the November General Election fifteen (15) minutes following the
23 seat selection process.

24 54.(a)(2) Standing committee membership shall be confirmed at the same
25 time that members are administered the oath of office.

26 ~~54.(a)(2)(a)(3) Each standing committee shall consist of twenty (20)~~
27 ~~members. Each member of the House shall serve on two (2) standing committees,~~
28 ~~one (1) of which shall be a Class "A" committee and one (1) of which shall be~~
29 ~~a Class "B" committee. From within each standing committee there shall be~~
30 ~~created three (3) permanent subcommittees consisting of eight (8) members.~~
31 ~~Each member of the House of Representatives shall serve on two (2) permanent~~
32 ~~subcommittees, one (1) from a Class "A" standing committee and one (1) from a~~
33 ~~Class "B" standing committee. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and~~
34 ~~the chairperson of each standing committee shall jointly appoint from the~~
35 ~~membership of the standing committee six (6) persons for each permanent~~
36 ~~subcommittee available, provided further the chairperson and vice chairperson~~

1 of each standing committee shall be ex-officio, voting members of each
 2 permanent subcommittee created from within their standing committee. The
 3 permanent subcommittees of the standing committees may meet after having
 4 first obtained prior approval of the standing committee chairperson.

5 ~~54.(a)(3)~~(a)(4) There shall be no transfers from one standing
 6 committee to another or from one permanent subcommittee to another during the
 7 biennium following initial biennial appointment ~~and or confirmation or~~
 8 confirmation, or both. After selection of standing committee members and
 9 permanent subcommittee members, a vacancy occurring on a standing committee
 10 or permanent subcommittee during the biennium because of the death,
 11 resignation, impeachment, etc., of a member, shall be temporarily filled by
 12 the Speaker of the House of Representatives assigning the newly elected
 13 member, for the remainder of the biennium, to the Class "A" and Class "B"
 14 standing committees, and the permanent subcommittees previously held by their
 15 predecessor. At the end of the biennium, the positions held on the Class "A"
 16 and Class "B" standing committees and the permanent subcommittees shall be
 17 declared vacant and shall be available for choosing in accordance with the
 18 Rules of the House of Representatives. The newly elected member does not
 19 automatically assume a chairmanship or vice-chairmanship, which vacancies
 20 shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

21 ~~54.(a)(4)~~(a)(5) A non-returning member of the House of Representatives
 22 who has been assigned an office or other premises shall vacate the office or
 23 other premises by December 15 following the General Election in the even-
 24 numbered years; and, by the same date, a returning member shall be prepared
 25 to vacate his or her assigned office or premises at the direction of the
 26 Speaker.

27 54.(b) SELECT COMMITTEES

28 54.(b)(1) The Speaker shall appoint all members and all alternates on
 29 all House select committees and all Joint Select Committees, except the Joint
 30 or House Budget Committee. Members of the House Budget Committee, the
 31 Legislative Council, and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall be
 32 selected as follows:

33 (A) The most senior member of the House of Representatives
 34 shall select first and shall choose a position on one (1) of the House Budget
 35 Committee, the Legislative Council, or the Legislative Joint Auditing
 36 Committee. The next senior member shall then choose a position on the House

1 Budget Committee, the Legislative Council, or the Legislative Joint Auditing
2 Committee. The seniority rotation procedure shall continue until the member
3 with the least seniority makes his or her selection or until all spots on the
4 House Budget Committee, Legislative Council, or Legislative Joint Auditing
5 Committee are filled.

6 (B) Alternate positions for the House Budget Committee,
7 the Legislative Council, and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall
8 be selected in the same manner as for regular members, with those not serving
9 as primary members on the House Budget Committee, the Legislative Council, or
10 the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee going from most senior to least
11 senior to choose a committee on which to serve as an alternate;

12 (C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
13 appoint ex-officio members in accordance with the law.

14 54.(b)(2) The House Budget Committee shall consist of six (6) members
15 of the House of Representatives and two (2) alternates ~~selected by the~~
16 ~~Speaker~~ from each caucus district, in accordance with Arkansas Code § 10-3-
17 502. At the time the alternates are selected, one (1) shall be designated as
18 first alternate and the other as second alternate. The term of office of the
19 members shall be from January 1 of odd-numbered years through December 31 of
20 the following even-numbered year. Vacancies in either a member or alternate
21 member position shall be filled in the same manner as the initial member or
22 alternate member position was filled. House Budget Committee membership shall
23 be confirmed at the same time that members are administered the oath of
24 office.

25 54.(b)(3) No member of the House of Representatives shall serve on more
26 than one (1) select committee. The Legislative Council, the Legislative Joint
27 Auditing Committee, the House Budget Committee, the House Committee on the
28 Journal; Engrossed and Enrolled Bills, and the House Management Committee are
29 excluded therefrom.

30 54.(c)(1) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint a
31 chairperson and a vice chairperson of each standing committee and each select
32 committee who shall serve at the pleasure of the Speaker. The Speaker, in
33 consultation with the chairperson of each standing committee, shall appoint
34 from the membership of each permanent subcommittee, a chairperson and vice
35 chairperson,—provided however that the vice chairperson of the standing
36 committee may be the chairperson of a permanent subcommittee. No member of

1 the House of Representatives, with the exception of each House standing
 2 committee vice chairperson, shall be chairperson or vice chairperson of more
 3 than one (1) standing committee, select committee, or permanent subcommittee.

4 54.(c)(2) The rules or proceedings of the House of Representatives
 5 shall be observed in all select committees, standing committees, and
 6 subcommittees of the House of Representatives so far as they may be
 7 applicable.

8 54.(c)(3) The House Committee on the Journal; Engrossed and Enrolled
 9 Bills shall serve as the supervisory committee over the preparation of the
 10 Journal and engrossing and enrolling of bills.

11 54.(c)(4) After the membership of a standing committee, a joint
 12 committee, or a permanent subcommittee is established, no member shall be
 13 removed from any standing committee or any permanent subcommittee during the
 14 biennium for which he or she was selected. ~~All select committee appointees~~
 15 ~~selected by the Speaker serve at his or her discretion.~~

16
 17 SECTION 2. Rule 80 of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the
 18 Ninety-Second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as
 19 follows:

20 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL; LEGISLATIVE JOINT AUDITING COMMITTEE

21 80. Legislative Council.

22 80.(a) ~~(1) The Speaker shall select from each of the four (4) House~~
 23 ~~District Caucuses five (5) members to serve on the Legislative Council. The~~
 24 House of Representatives shall select twenty (20) members to serve on the
 25 Legislative Council, consisting of five (5) members from each of the four (4)
 26 House District Caucuses, in the manner set forth in Rule 54.(b) of these
 27 rules.

28 80.(a)(2) The Speaker shall select one (1) of their number as
 29 Legislative Council co-chair and one (1) of their number as Legislative
 30 Council co-vice-chair. No more than two (2) members selected from each House
 31 district caucus shall reside within the same county. The term of office of
 32 the members shall be from January 1 of odd-numbered years to December 31 of
 33 the following even-numbered year. Legislative Council membership shall be
 34 confirmed at the same time that members are administered the oath of office.

35 80.(b) In order that there may be no House vacancies on the Legislative
 36 Council at any time, at the time of selection of the House of Representatives

1 members to the Legislative Council, there shall be selected from each ~~Caucus~~
 2 District House caucus district in the same manner as is set forth in Rule
 3 54.(b) of these rules, a first alternate and a second alternate for each
 4 member selected from that House caucus district. In the event that any House
 5 of Representatives member or House of Representatives alternate of the
 6 Legislative Council resigns from the Legislative Council, is disqualified
 7 from serving on the Legislative Council, dies, or for any other reason there
 8 becomes a permanent vacancy in a House of Representatives position on the
 9 Legislative Council, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall select
 10 from the same House caucus district a replacement member or alternate to
 11 serve the remainder of the term. When a vacancy occurs in a House of
 12 Representatives member position on the Legislative Council or a House of
 13 Representatives alternate position on the Legislative Council, that person's
 14 alternate shall serve until the Speaker selects a replacement. The Speaker of
 15 the House of Representatives shall notify the Legislative Council chairperson
 16 of all changes in membership on the Legislative Council.

17 80.(c) Ex-officio members shall be selected in accordance with ~~A.C.A.~~
 18 Arkansas Code § 10-3-301.

19
 20 SECTION 3. Rule 81 of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the
 21 Ninety-Second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as
 22 follows:

23 81. Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

24 ~~81.(a) The Speaker shall select from each of the four (4) House~~
 25 ~~District Caucuses five (5) members to serve on the Legislative Joint Auditing~~
 26 ~~Committee. The Speaker~~ The House of Representatives shall select twenty (20)
 27 members to serve on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee, consisting of
 28 five (5) members from each of the four (4) House district caucuses, in the
 29 manner set forth in Rule 54.(b) of these rules. Following the selections,
 30 the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall select one (1) of their
 31 number as Legislative Joint Auditing Committee co-chair and one (1) of their
 32 number as Legislative Joint Auditing Committee co-vice-chair. No more than
 33 two (2) members shall reside within the same county. The term of office of
 34 the members shall be from January 1 of odd-numbered years to December 31 of
 35 the following even-numbered year. Legislative Joint Auditing Committee
 36 membership shall be confirmed at the same time that members are administered

1 the oath of office.

2 81.(b) In order that there may be no House vacancies on the Legislative
3 Joint Auditing Committee at any time, at the time of selection of the House
4 of Representatives members to the Committee there shall be selected, from
5 each Caucus District in the same manner as is set forth in Rule 54.(b) of
6 these rules, a first alternate and a second alternate for each member
7 selected from that District. In the event that any House of Representatives
8 member or House of Representatives alternate of the Legislative Joint
9 Auditing Committee resigns from the Committee, is disqualified from serving
10 on the Committee, dies, or for any other reason there becomes a permanent
11 vacancy in a House position on the Committee, the Speaker of the House of
12 Representatives shall select from the same caucus district a replacement
13 member or alternate to serve the remainder of the term. When a vacancy occurs
14 in a House of Representatives member position on the Committee or a House of
15 Representatives alternate position on the Committee, that person's alternate
16 shall serve until the Speaker selects a replacement. The Speaker of the House
17 of Representatives shall notify the Committee chairperson of all changes in
18 membership on the Committee.

19 81.(c) Ex-officio members shall be selected in accordance with ~~A.C.A.~~
20 ~~10-3-403 thru 10-3-404~~ Arkansas Code §§ 10-3-403 and 10-3-404.

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