

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

HR 1035

4
5
6
7

By: Representatives Gates, Rushing, Petty, Barker, Bentley, Brown, Della Rosa, Ladyman, J. Mayberry,
Penzo, Rye, B. Smith

HOUSE RESOLUTION

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

13
14

Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF
16 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-SECOND
17 GENERAL ASSEMBLY.
18

19
20

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

23

24 SECTION 1. Rule 54(a) of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-
25 Second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as
26 follows:

27 54.(a) STANDING COMMITTEES

28 54.(a)(1) ~~The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall select~~
29 ~~from each of the four (4) House District Caucuses five (5) members for each~~
30 ~~“A” standing committee and five (5) members for each “B” standing committee.~~

31 54.(a)(2) Each standing committee shall consist of twenty (20)
32 members. Each member of the House shall serve on two (2) standing
33 committees, one (1) of which shall be a Class “A” committee and one (1) of
34 which shall be a Class “B” committee. Members of the standing committees
35 shall be selected as follows:

36 (A)(i) The makeup of the standing committees shall reflect as



1 close as possible the majority party to minority party ratio present in the
2 House of Representatives at the time of the committee selection; for example,
3 if the ratio in the House of Representatives is seventy-five percent (75%)
4 majority party to twenty-five percent (25%) minority party, the standing
5 committees shall have the same ratio of majority party to minority party. As
6 such, the standing committees shall be composed of at least eleven (11)
7 members of the majority party, and the minority party shall have no more than
8 nine (9) members on any standing committee.

9 (ii) Prior to the committee selection process by the
10 members, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall notify the House
11 Majority Leader and the House Minority Leader of the number of positions each
12 political party caucus will have to fill on the standing committees, keeping
13 as close as possible to the percentages of political party representation
14 within the House of Representatives.

15 (iii) A member-elect elected as a representative of a non-
16 major political party may determine which political party he or she wishes to
17 caucus with for the purpose of committee selection.

18 (B)(i) The most senior member of the House of Representatives
19 shall select first and shall choose a position on a Class "A" standing
20 committee. The next-senior member shall then choose a position on a Class
21 "A" standing committee. The seniority rotation procedure shall continue
22 until the member with the least seniority makes his or her selection.

23 (ii) After the member with the least seniority makes his
24 or her Class "A" standing committee selection, the most senior member shall
25 select his or her Class "B" standing committee. The seniority rotation shall
26 continue until the member with the least seniority selects his or her Class
27 "B" standing committee.

28 (iii) A member may not select a position on a standing
29 committee for which all positions allotted by the Speaker to his or her
30 political party caucus have been filled, but should select a standing
31 committee with remaining slots available that are allotted to his or her
32 political party affiliation.

33 (C) Standing committee membership shall be confirmed at the same
34 time that representatives are administered the oath of office.

35 54.(a)(2) From within each standing committee there shall be created
36 three (3) permanent subcommittees consisting of eight (8) members. Each

1 member of the House shall serve on two (2) permanent subcommittees, one (1)
2 from a Class "A" standing committee and one (1) from a Class "B" standing
3 committee. The Speaker and the chairperson of each standing committee shall
4 jointly appoint from the membership of the standing committee six (6) persons
5 for each permanent subcommittee available, provided further the chairperson
6 and vice chairperson of each standing committee shall be ex-officio, voting
7 members of each permanent subcommittee created from within their standing
8 committee. The permanent subcommittees of the standing committees may meet
9 after having first obtained prior approval of the standing committee
10 chairperson.

11 54.(a)(3) There shall be no transfers from one standing committee to
12 another or from one permanent subcommittee to another during the biennium
13 following initial biennial appointment and or confirmation. After selection
14 of standing committee members and permanent subcommittee members, a vacancy
15 occurring on a standing committee or permanent subcommittee during the
16 biennium because of the death, resignation, impeachment, etc., of a member,
17 shall be temporarily filled by the Speaker of the House assigning the newly
18 elected member, for the remainder of the biennium, to the "A" and "B"
19 standing committees, and the permanent subcommittees previously held by their
20 predecessor. The newly elected member does not automatically assume a
21 chairmanship or vice-chairmanship, which vacancies shall be filled in the
22 same manner as the original appointment.

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

29
30 SECTION 2. Rule 54(b) of the Rules of House of Representatives of the
31 Ninety-Second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as
32 follows:

33 54.(b) SELECT COMMITTEES

34 54.(b)(1) With the exception of the House Budget Committee, The the
35 Speaker shall appoint all members and all alternates on all House select
36 committees and all Joint Select Committees. The Speaker shall appoint ex-

1 officio members in accordance with the law.

2 54.(b)(2)(A) Selection of positions on the House Budget Committee
 3 shall occur following the Class "A" standing committee and Class "B" standing
 4 committee selections and in conjunction with selection of members of the
 5 Legislative Council and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

6 (B) The most senior member of the House of Representatives
 7 shall select first and shall choose a position on the House Budget Committee,
 8 the Legislative Council, or the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee. The
 9 seniority rotation procedure shall continue until the member with the least
 10 seniority makes his or her selection or until all positions on the House
 11 Budget Committee, the Legislative Council, or the Legislative Joint Auditing
 12 Committee are filled.

13 (C) Alternate positions for the House Budget Committee,
 14 the Legislative Council, and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall
 15 be selected in the same manner as for regular members, with those not serving
 16 as primary members on the House Budget Committee, the Legislative Council, or
 17 the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee going from most senior to least
 18 senior to choose a committee on which to serve as an alternate.

19 54.(b)(~~2~~)(3) The House Budget Committee shall consist of ~~six (6)~~
 20 ~~twenty-four (24)~~ members of the House of Representatives and ~~two (2)~~
 21 ~~eight (8)~~ alternates selected by the Speaker from each caucus district the
 22 political party caucuses as follows:

23 (A) The makeup of the House Budget Committee shall reflect as
 24 closely as possible the majority party to minority party ratio present in the
 25 House of Representatives at the time of the committee selection; for example,
 26 if the ratio in the House of Representatives is seventy-five percent (75%)
 27 majority party to twenty-five percent (25%) minority party, the House Budget
 28 Committee shall have the same ratio of majority party to minority party. As
 29 such, the House Budget Committee shall be composed of at least thirteen (13)
 30 members of the majority party, and the minority party shall have no more than
 31 eleven (11) members on the committee.

32 (B) A member-elect elected as a representative of a non-major
 33 political party may determine which political party he or she wishes to
 34 caucus with for the purpose of committee selection.

35 (C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall notify the
 36 House Majority Leader and the House Minority Leader of the number of

1 positions each political party caucus will have to fill on the committee,
2 keeping as close as possible to the percentages of party representation
3 within the House of Representatives.

4 ~~At the time the alternates are selected, one (1) shall be designated as first~~
5 ~~alternate and the other as second alternate.~~

6 (D) The term of office of the members shall be from January 1 of
7 odd-numbered years through December 31 of the following even-numbered year.
8 Vacancies in either a member or alternate member position shall be filled in
9 the same manner as the initial member or alternate member position was
10 filled.

11 54.(b)(3) No member of the House of Representatives shall serve on
12 more than one (1) select committee. The Legislative Council, the Legislative
13 Joint Auditing Committee, the House Budget Committee, the House Committee on
14 the Journal; Engrossed and Enrolled Bills, and the House Management Committee
15 are excluded therefrom.

16
17 SECTION 3. 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 80. Legislative Council.

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

26 (1) The makeup of the House members selected to serve on the
27 Legislative Council shall reflect as close as possible the majority party to
28 minority party ratio present in the House of Representatives at the time of
29 the committee selection; for example, if the ratio in the House of
30 Representatives is seventy-five percent (75%) majority party to twenty-five
31 percent (25%) minority party, the non-ex officio House members of the
32 Legislative Council shall have the same ratio of majority party to minority
33 party. As such, the non-ex officio House membership of the Legislative
34 Council shall be composed of at least eleven (11) members of the majority
35 party, and the minority party shall have no more than nine (9) members on the
36 Legislative Council; and

1 (2) A member-elect elected as a representative of a non-major
 2 political party may determine which political party he or she wishes to
 3 caucus with for the purpose of committee selection.

4 (3) Prior to the committee selection process, the Speaker of the
 5 House of Representatives shall notify the House Majority Leader and the House
 6 Minority Leader of the number of positions each political party caucus will
 7 have to fill on the committee, keeping as close as possible to the
 8 percentages of party representation within the House of Representatives.

9 (4) The Speaker shall select one (1) of their number as
 10 Legislative Council co-chair and one (1) of their number as Legislative
 11 Council co-vice-chair. ~~No more than two (2) members selected from each caucus~~
 12 shall reside within the same county.

13 (5) The term of office of the members shall be from January 1 of
 14 odd-numbered years to December 31 of the following even-numbered year.

15 80.(b) ~~In order that there may be no House vacancies on the~~
 16 ~~Legislative Council at any time, at the time of selection of the House~~
 17 ~~members to the Council there shall be selected from each Caucus District a~~
 18 ~~first alternate and a second alternate for each member selected from that~~
 19 ~~district.~~ In the event that any House member or House alternate of the
 20 Legislative Council resigns from the Legislative Council, is disqualified
 21 from serving on the Legislative Council, dies, or for any other reason there
 22 becomes a permanent vacancy in a House position on the Legislative Council,
 23 the Speaker of the House shall select from the same political party caucus
 24 ~~district~~ a replacement member or alternate to serve the remainder of the
 25 term. When a vacancy occurs in a House member position on the Legislative
 26 Council or a House alternate position on the Legislative Council, that
 27 person's alternate shall serve until the Speaker selects a replacement. The
 28 Speaker shall notify the Legislative Council chairperson of all changes in
 29 membership on the Legislative Council.

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

32
 33 SECTION 4. Rule 81 of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the
 34 Ninety-Second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as
 35 follows:

36 81. Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

1 ~~81.(a) The Speaker shall select from each of the four (4) House~~
2 ~~District Caucuses five (5) members to serve on the Legislative Joint Auditing~~
3 ~~Committee. The House of Representatives shall select twenty (20) members to~~
4 ~~serve on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee in the same manner as is~~
5 ~~set forth in Rule 54.(b) of these rules:~~

6 (1) The makeup of the House members selected to serve on the
7 Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall reflect as closely as possible the
8 majority party to minority party ratio present in the House of
9 Representatives at the time of the committee selection; for example, if the
10 ratio in the House of Representatives is seventy-five percent (75%) majority
11 party to twenty-five percent (25%) minority party, the non-ex officio House
12 members of the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall have the same ratio
13 of majority party to minority party. As such, the non-ex officio House
14 membership of the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall be composed of
15 at least eleven (11) members of the majority party, and the minority party
16 shall have no more than nine (9) members on the Legislative Joint Auditing;
17 and

18 (2) A member-elect elected as a representative of a non-major
19 political party may determine which political party he or she wishes to
20 caucus with for the purpose of Legislative Joint Auditing Committee
21 selection.

22 (3) Prior to the committee selection process, the Speaker of the
23 House of Representatives shall notify the House Majority Leader and the House
24 Minority Leader of the number of positions each political party caucus will
25 have to fill on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee, keeping as close as
26 possible to the percentages of party representation within the House of
27 Representatives.

28 (4) The Speaker shall select one (1) of their number as
29 Legislative Joint Auditing Committee co-chair and one (1) of their number as
30 Legislative Joint Auditing Committee co-vice-chair.

31 (5) No more than two (2) members shall reside within the same
32 county.

33 (6) The term of office of the members shall be from January 1 of
34 odd-numbered years to December 31 of the following even-numbered year.

35 ~~81.(b) In order that there may be no House vacancies on the~~
36 ~~Legislative Joint Auditing Committee at any time, at the time of selection of~~

1 ~~the House members to the Committee there shall be selected from each Caucus~~
2 ~~District a first alternate and a second alternate for each member selected~~
3 ~~from that District.~~ In the event that any House member or House alternate of
4 the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee resigns from the Legislative Joint
5 Auditing Committee, is disqualified from serving on the Legislative Joint
6 Auditing Committee, dies, or for any other reason there becomes a permanent
7 vacancy in a House position on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee, the
8 Speaker shall select from the same political party caucus ~~district~~ a
9 replacement member or alternate to serve the remainder of the term. When a
10 vacancy occurs in a House member position on the Legislative Joint Auditing
11 Committee or a House alternate position on the Legislative Joint Auditing
12 Committee, that person's alternate shall serve until the Speaker selects a
13 replacement. The Speaker shall notify the Committee chairperson of all
14 changes in membership on the Committee.

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

17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36