

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999

HR 1020

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5 By: Representative Milligan
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8 HOUSE RESOLUTION

9 "FOR A STUDY OF THE FEASIBILITY OF LIMITING THE NUMBER
10 OF BILLS, EXCLUDING APPROPRIATION BILLS, WHICH EACH
11 MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND/OR THE
12 SENATE MAY INTRODUCE DURING A REGULAR BIENNIAL SESSION
13 OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. "

14 Subtitle

15 "FOR A STUDY OF THE FEASIBILITY OF
16 LIMITING THE NUMBER OF BILLS, EXCLUDING
17 APPROPRIATION BILLS, WHICH EACH MEMBER
18 OF THE HOUSE AND/OR THE SENATE MAY
19 INTRODUCE DURING A REGULAR BIENNIAL
20 SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. "

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24 WHEREAS, during each of the past several regular sessions of the
25 Arkansas General Assembly, approximately two thousand bills have been
26 introduced; and

27 WHEREAS, the complexity of legislation which must be dealt with by the
28 General Assembly has increased significantly over the past several years; and

29 WHEREAS, term limits has resulted and will continue to result in fewer
30 experienced members serving in the House of Representatives and the Senate;
31 and

32 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Constitution provides that the General Assembly
33 shall meet in regular session only once each two years and that such sessions
34 shall not exceed sixty days in length unless extended by a vote of two-thirds
35 of the membership of each house of the General Assembly; and

36 WHEREAS, as the number and complexity of bills increase, it becomes

more and more difficult for the members of the House and Senate to adequately analyze and intelligently vote on the bills; and

WHEREAS, several states have imposed limits on the number of bills on which a member of the House of Representatives and/or members of the Senate may serve as primary sponsor; and

WHEREAS, it appears that the time has come for a study to determine the feasibility of limiting the number of bills which each member may introduce at regular biennial sessions of the Arkansas General Assembly,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

The appropriate interim committee or committees of the Arkansas General Assembly are hereby requested to make a study of the rules and laws of other states which limit the number of bills on which a member may serve as primary sponsor during each regular session as well as the experience in those states which have adopted such rules or laws, for the purpose of determining the feasibility of limiting the number of bills, excluding appropriation bills, which members may introduce at regular biennial sessions of the Arkansas General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee or committees conducting the study are requested to report findings and recommendations and any proposed rules or legislation to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate on or before July 1, 2000.