

1 State of Arkansas  
2 87th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2009

As Engrossed: S3/19/09

SCR 10

4  
5 By: Senator Whitaker  
6 By: Representative Maloch

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9 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

10 TO AMEND THE JOINT RULES OF THE HOUSE OF  
11 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-  
12 SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ESTABLISH DEADLINES  
13 FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS  
14 DURING A FISCAL SESSION; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE  
15 PREFILING OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS BEFORE A  
16 FISCAL SESSION.

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18 **Subtitle**

19 TO AMEND THE JOINT RULES TO ESTABLISH  
20 DEADLINES FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF BILLS  
21 AND RESOLUTIONS DURING A FISCAL SESSION  
22 AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE PREFILING OF  
23 BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS BEFORE A FISCAL  
24 SESSION.

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27 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
28 STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

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30 *SECTION 1. Section 16 of the Joint Rules of the House of*  
31 *Representatives and Senate is amended to read as follows:*

32 *Deadline for the Introduction of Bills*

33 *Section 16. (A) An "appropriation bill" means a bill by the General*  
34 *Assembly that authorizes the expenditure of moneys if moneys are available.*

35 *(B)(1) No appropriation bill shall be filed for introduction in*  
36 *either the House of Representatives or the Senate later than the fiftieth*



1 (50th) day of a regular session except upon consent of two-thirds (2/3) of  
2 the members elected to each house; and, no other bill shall be filed for  
3 introduction in either the House of Representatives or the Senate later than  
4 the fifty-fifth (55th) day of a regular session, except upon consent of two-  
5 thirds (2/3) of the members elected to each house. When the filing deadline  
6 for any bills or resolutions ends on Saturday or Sunday, the deadline is  
7 hereby extended until the close of business the following Monday.

8 ~~(B)~~(2) Any proposed legislation affecting any publicly supported  
9 retirement system or pension plan to be considered by the General Assembly at  
10 a regular session shall be introduced in the General Assembly during the  
11 first fifteen (15) calendar days of a regular ~~biennial~~ session.

12 ~~(C)~~(3) No such bill shall be introduced after the fifteenth  
13 (15th) day of a regular ~~biennial~~ session unless its introduction is first  
14 approved by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the full membership of each house  
15 of the General Assembly.

16 (C)(1) No appropriation bill shall be filed for introduction in either  
17 the House of Representatives or the Senate later than the fifteenth (15th)  
18 day of a fiscal session except upon consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the  
19 members elected to each house.

20 (2) For a fiscal session, a non-appropriation bill shall not be  
21 filed for introduction until a concurrent resolution authorizing the  
22 introduction of the bill has been approved by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of  
23 the members elected to each house and the concurrent resolution becomes  
24 effective.

25 (3) A concurrent resolution authorizing the introduction of a  
26 non-appropriation bill in a fiscal session shall not be filed for  
27 introduction in either the House of Representatives or the Senate later than  
28 the first (1st) day of a fiscal session.

29 (4) A non-appropriation bill shall not be filed for introduction  
30 in either the House of Representatives or the Senate later than the fifteenth  
31 (15th) day of a fiscal session.

32 (D) When the filing deadline for any bills or resolutions ends on  
33 Saturday or Sunday, the deadline is extended until the close of business the  
34 following Monday.

35 ~~(D)~~(E) A bill affecting any publicly supported retirement system or  
36 systems shall not be introduced or considered at any special session of the

1 General Assembly unless the introduction and consideration of the bill is  
2 first approved by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the full membership of each  
3 house of the General Assembly. (Arkansas Code § 10-2-115).

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5 SECTION 2. Section 18(E)(7) of the Joint Rules of the House of  
6 Representatives and the Senate is amended to read as follows:

7 (7) It shall be the duty of the Chairman of the Joint Budget Committee  
8 to have a schedule prepared which reflects the amounts approved by the Joint  
9 Budget Committee for each category for each fund within the Revenue  
10 Stabilization Law to provide funding for the ~~biennial~~ budget enacted by the  
11 General Assembly and a schedule reflecting the proposed distribution of  
12 General Improvement funds. The schedule reflecting the allocation of funds in  
13 the Revenue Stabilization Law ~~and~~ for the next fiscal year shall be submitted  
14 to each body of the Arkansas General Assembly at least three (3) days prior  
15 to the day at which the same is to be considered for final passage. The  
16 schedule reflecting the allocation of funds in the General Improvement Fund  
17 Distribution Law for the next biennium shall be submitted to each body of the  
18 Arkansas General Assembly at least three (3) days prior to the day at which  
19 the same is to be considered for final passage.

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21 SECTION 3. Section 21 of the Joint Rules of the House of  
22 Representatives and Senate is amended to read as follows:

23 Joint Committee on Constitutional Amendments

24 Section 21. The Joint Committee on Constitutional Amendments shall  
25 consist of the members of the Senate Committee on State Agencies and  
26 Governmental Affairs and the members of the House Committee on State Agencies  
27 and Governmental Affairs. No proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
28 recommended to either house of the General Assembly except upon the  
29 affirmative vote of a majority of the Senate members of the Joint Committee  
30 on Constitutional Amendments and an affirmative vote of a majority of the  
31 House members of the Joint Committee on Constitutional Amendments. No  
32 resolution proposing a constitutional amendment shall be filed in either the  
33 House of Representatives or the Senate after the thirty-first (31st) day of  
34 each regular session of the General Assembly. All resolutions proposing  
35 constitutional amendments shall be referred to the Joint Committee on  
36 Constitutional Amendments. Other resolutions proposing constitutional

1 amendments shall not be reported to or considered by either house of the  
2 General Assembly until the original recommendations of the Joint Committee on  
3 Constitutional Amendments are disposed of by both Houses. A resolution  
4 proposing a constitutional amendment may be considered only during a regular  
5 session.

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7 SECTION 4. That Section 25 of the Joint Rules of the House of  
8 Representatives and Senate is amended to read as follows:

9 Prefiling of Bills and Resolutions

10 Section 25. (A) Beginning on November 15th of each year preceding a  
11 regular session of the General Assembly, each holdover member of the Senate  
12 who will be serving at the next following regular session of the General  
13 Assembly, and each member-elect of the General Assembly, as soon as the  
14 members-elect of the next General Assembly are certified to the Secretary of  
15 State, shall be permitted to prefile bills and resolutions for such regular  
16 session with the Chief Clerk of the House and the Secretary of the Senate.  
17 (Arkansas Code § 10-2-112).

18 (B)(1) Beginning on the second Monday of January of each year of a  
19 fiscal session of the General Assembly, each member of the House of  
20 Representatives and the Senate may prefile appropriation bills and  
21 resolutions for the fiscal session with the Chief Clerk of the House and the  
22 Secretary of the Senate.

23 (2) A non-appropriation bill may not be pre-filed prior to a  
24 fiscal session due to the requirement in Amendment 86 of the Constitution of  
25 Arkansas that a concurrent resolution be approved by a vote of two-thirds  
26 (2/3) of the members elected to each house before either body may consider a  
27 non-appropriation bill.

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29 /s/ Whitaker  
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