

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: H3/16/17

HR 1045

4
5 By: Representative Gates

6
7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

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

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14 **Subtitle**

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

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19
20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

22
23 *SECTION 1. Rule 54(a) of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-*
24 *First General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as*
25 *follows:*

26 *54.(a) STANDING COMMITTEES*

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

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

35 *(A) The makeup of the standing committees shall reflect as close*
36 *as possible the majority party to minority party ratio present in the House*



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

8 (B) Members-elect of each of the two (2) major political parties,
9 Republican and Democrat, shall caucus on the Friday following the General
10 Election to determine the members-elect from the caucus that will serve on
11 each standing committee.

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

15 (D) Prior to the caucus meetings, the Speaker of the House of
16 Representatives shall notify each caucus of the number of positions the
17 caucus will have to fill on the standing committees, keeping as close as
18 possible to the percentages of party representation within the House of
19 Representatives.

20 (E) Standing committee membership shall be confirmed at the same
21 time that representatives are administered the oath of office.

22 54.(a)(2) From within each standing committee there shall be created
23 three (3) permanent subcommittees consisting of eight (8) members. Each
24 member of the House of Representatives shall serve on two (2) permanent
25 subcommittees, one (1) from a Class "A" standing committee and one (1) from a
26 Class "B" standing committee. The Speaker of the House of Representatives
27 and the chairperson of each standing committee shall jointly appoint from the
28 membership of the standing committee six (6) persons for each permanent
29 subcommittee available, provided further the chairperson and vice chairperson
30 of each standing committee shall be ex-officio, voting members of each
31 permanent subcommittee created from within their standing committee. The
32 permanent subcommittees of the standing committees may meet after having
33 first obtained prior approval of the standing committee chairperson.

34 54.(a)(3) There shall be no transfers from one standing committee to
35 another or from one permanent subcommittee to another during the biennium
36 following initial biennial appointment and or confirmation. After selection

1 of standing committee members and permanent subcommittee members, a vacancy
2 occurring on a standing committee or permanent subcommittee during the
3 biennium because of the death, resignation, impeachment, etc., of a member,
4 shall be temporarily filled by the Speaker of the House of Representatives
5 assigning the newly elected member, for the remainder of the biennium, to the
6 "A" and "B" standing committees, and the permanent subcommittees previously
7 held by their predecessor. The newly elected member does not automatically
8 assume a chairmanship or vice-chairmanship, which vacancies shall be filled
9 in the same manner as the original appointment.

10 54.(a)(4) Members of the House of Representatives who have been
11 assigned an office or other premises shall vacate the office or other
12 premises by December 15 following the General Election in the even-numbered
13 years.

14
15 SECTION 2. Rule 54(b)(2) of the Rules of House of Representatives of
16 the Ninety-First General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read
17 as follows:

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

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

31 (B) At the time that the members-elect of each of the two major
32 political parties caucus to determine the members-elect from the caucus that
33 will serve on each standing committee, the caucuses shall also select the
34 members that will serve on the House Budget Committee as members and first
35 and second alternates.

36 (C) A member-elect elected as a representative of a non-major

1 political party may determine which political party he or she wishes to
2 caucus with for the purpose of committee selection.

3 (D) Prior to the caucus meetings, the Speaker of the House of
4 Representatives shall notify each caucus of the number of positions the
5 caucus will have to fill on the committee, keeping as close as possible to
6 the percentages of party representation within the House of Representatives.
7 ~~At the time the alternates are selected, one (1) shall be designated as first~~
8 ~~alternate and the other as second alternate.~~

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

14
15 SECTION 3. Rule 80 of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the
16 Ninety-First General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as
17 follows:

18 80. Legislative Council.

19 ~~80.(a) The Speaker shall select from each of the four (4) House~~
20 ~~District Caucuses five (5) members to serve on the Legislative Council. The~~
21 House of Representatives shall select twenty (20) members to serve on the
22 Legislative Council in the following manner:

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

34 (2) At the time that the members-elect of each of the two major
35 political parties caucus to determine the members-elect from the caucus that
36 will serve on each standing committee, the caucuses shall also select the

1 members that will serve on the Legislative Council as members and first and
2 second alternates.

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

6 (4) Prior to the caucus meetings, the Speaker of the House of
7 Representatives shall notify each caucus of the number of positions the
8 caucus will have to fill on the committee, keeping as close as possible to
9 the percentages of party representation within the House of Representatives.

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

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

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

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

34
35 SECTION 4. Rule 81 of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the
36 Ninety-First General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 81. Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

3 ~~81.(a) The Speaker shall select from each of the four (4) House~~
4 ~~District Caucuses five (5) members to serve on the Legislative Joint Auditing~~
5 ~~Committee. The House of Representatives shall select twenty (20) members to~~
6 ~~serve on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee in the following manner:~~

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

18 (2) At the time that the members-elect of each of the two major
19 political parties caucus to determine the members-elect from the caucus that
20 will serve on each standing committee, the caucuses shall also select the
21 members that will serve on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee as
22 members and first and second alternates.

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

26 (4) Prior to the caucus meetings, the Speaker of the House of
27 Representatives shall notify each caucus of the number of positions the
28 caucus will have to fill on the committee, keeping as close as possible to
29 the percentages of party representation within the House of Representatives.

30 (5) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall select
31 one (1) of their number as Legislative Joint Auditing Committee co-chair and
32 one (1) of their number as Legislative Joint Auditing Committee co-vice-
33 chair.

34 (6) No more than two (2) members shall reside within the same
35 county.

36 (7) The term of office of the members shall be from January 1 of

1 odd-numbered years to December 31 of the following even-numbered year.

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

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

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22 /s/Gates
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