

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

SCR 2

4  
5 By: Senators Maloch, E. Williams

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7 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

8 TO ADOPT THE JOINT RULES OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE  
9 OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL  
10 ASSEMBLY.

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12  
13 **Subtitle**

14 TO ADOPT THE JOINT RULES OF THE SENATE  
15 AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
16 NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
20 STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

21  
22 JOINT RULES  
23 OF THE  
24 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
25 AND THE SENATE

26  
27 Joint Session - How Convened

28 Section 1. When, by the Constitution or laws of the state, a joint  
29 meeting of the Senate and House of Representatives is required, they shall  
30 assemble with their clerks on the day and at the hour previously agreed on  
31 for that purpose in the hall of the House of Representatives.

32  
33 Officers of Joint Session

34 Section 2. When the meeting is assembled, the President of the Senate  
35 and Speaker of the House shall preside in conjunction, and the meeting shall  
36 be governed by such standing rules as shall have been adopted for that



1 purpose by the concurrence of both houses. They shall have power to punish  
2 any person, other than a member, for disorderly or contemptuous behavior in  
3 their presence, by fine and imprisonment, in the same manner and to the same  
4 extent as either house may do, for like conduct before it, by the  
5 Constitution and laws of this state.

6 (A) Any member of either house who shall be guilty of  
7 disorderly behavior in the presence of the meeting may be punished by the  
8 house of which he or she is a member, in the same manner as if the offense  
9 had been committed in the presence of that house.

10 (B) The Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House  
11 shall both keep records of the proceedings, to be entered on the Journal of  
12 their respective houses.

#### 13 14 Manner of Presenting Bills, Etc.

15 Section 3. All bills, resolutions, votes and amendments by either  
16 house, to which the concurrence of both is necessary, as well as messages,  
17 shall be presented to the other by the Clerk or Secretary of the house from  
18 which they are sent or by the assistant secretary or assistant clerk.

#### 19 20 Contents of Bills

21 Section 4. No bill or resolution shall be passed by either house  
22 containing more than one subject, which shall be expressed in the title.  
23 House bills and resolutions shall have at least one House sponsor, and Senate  
24 bills and resolutions shall have at least one Senate Sponsor. House bills,  
25 House concurrent resolutions, and House joint resolutions may have Senate  
26 sponsors, and Senate bills, Senate concurrent resolutions, and Senate joint  
27 resolutions may have House sponsors.

#### 28 29 Notice of Bill Rejection

30 Section 5. When a bill or resolution which has passed one house shall  
31 be rejected by the other, notice thereof shall be given to the house in which  
32 the same shall have passed.

#### 33 34 Engrossment of Bills

35 Section 6. After adoption of an amendment on the floor of the Senate,  
36 regardless whether the bill or resolution originated in the House or the

1 Senate, the Senate shall engross the bill or resolution as amended. After  
2 the adoption of the amendment on the floor of the House of Representatives,  
3 regardless whether the bill or resolution originated in the House or the  
4 Senate, the House of Representatives shall engross the bill or resolution as  
5 amended.

6 This rule may be waived by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate or  
7 in his absence the Chairman of Senate Rules Committee, or the Speaker of the  
8 House of Representatives.

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#### Enrollment of Bills

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Section 7. When a bill shall have passed both houses, it shall be  
12 enrolled by the enrolling clerk of the house in which it originated.

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Section 8. All bills must be enrolled and reported to each house by  
15 the committee designated by each house to supervise the enrolling of bills,  
16 within three (3) days after their passage; provided, that if the  
17 reconsideration of any bill is moved, in either house, previous to its  
18 presentation to the Governor, the committee shall hold the same until action  
is taken upon such motion.

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Section 9. No bill, resolution, or memorial shall be sent to the  
21 Governor for his approval, unless the same shall have been clearly and fairly  
enrolled without obliteration or interlineation.

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#### Signing of Bills

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Section 10. After examination and report by the committee responsible  
25 for enrolling bills, each bill shall be signed by the Speaker of the House of  
26 Representatives and by the President of the Senate. Each page of a bill  
27 shall be signed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the right  
28 margin, and shall be signed by the President of the Senate on the left margin  
29 of each page. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President  
30 of the Senate shall manually sign each page of each bill, or may provide, at  
31 their option and under their supervision, for the affixing thereto of their  
32 facsimile signature.

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#### Conference Committee

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Section 11. When either body shall request a conference, and appoint a  
36 committee for that purpose, the other body shall also appoint a committee of

1 equal number to confer, and such conference shall be held at any time and  
2 place agreed upon by the Chairpersons.

#### 3 4 Suspension of Joint Rules

5 Section 12. No joint rules shall be dispensed with but by a concurrent  
6 vote of two-thirds (2/3) of each house, and if either house shall violate a  
7 joint rule, the question of order may be raised in the other house, and  
8 decided in the same manner as in case of a violation of the rules of such  
9 house.

#### 10 11 Appropriation Bills

12 Section 13. The general appropriation bill, and all appropriation  
13 bills recommended "do pass" by the Joint Budget Committee, shall be  
14 privileged bills advanced upon the calendar, and take precedence over all  
15 other bills at any time after the reading of the Journal. It shall be in  
16 order, by the direction of the appropriate committee, to move that the House  
17 or Senate (as the case may be) resolve itself into the committee of the whole  
18 house for the purpose of considering the general appropriation bill, and no  
19 dilatory motion shall be entertained by the presiding officer.

#### 20 21 Deadline for the Introduction of Bills

22 Section 14. (A) An "appropriation bill" means a bill by the General  
23 Assembly that authorizes the expenditure of moneys if moneys are available.

24 (B)(1) No appropriation bill shall be filed for  
25 introduction in either the House of Representatives or the Senate later than  
26 the fiftieth (50th) day of a regular session except upon consent of two-  
27 thirds (2/3) of the members elected to each house; and, no other bill shall  
28 be filed for introduction in either the House of Representatives or the  
29 Senate later than the fifty-fifth (55th) day of a regular session, except  
30 upon consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to each house. When  
31 the filing deadline for any bills or resolutions ends on Saturday or Sunday,  
32 the deadline is hereby extended until the close of business the following  
33 Monday.

34 (2) Any proposed legislation affecting any publicly supported  
35 retirement system or pension plan to be considered by the General Assembly at  
36 a regular session shall be introduced in the General Assembly during the

1 first fifteen (15) calendar days of a regular session.

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

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

10 (2) For a fiscal session, a non-appropriation bill shall not be  
11 filed for introduction until identical resolutions authorizing the  
12 introduction of the non-appropriation bill have been approved by an  
13 affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to each house.

14 (3) The identical resolutions authorizing the introduction of a  
15 non-appropriation bill in a fiscal session shall not be filed for  
16 introduction in either the House of Representatives or the Senate later than  
17 the first (1<sup>st</sup>) day of a fiscal session.

18 (4) A non-appropriation bill shall not be filed for introduction  
19 in either the House of Representatives or the Senate later than the fifteenth  
20 (15th) day of a fiscal session.

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

24 (E) A bill affecting any publicly supported retirement  
25 system or systems shall not be introduced or considered at any special  
26 session of the General Assembly unless the introduction and consideration of  
27 the bill is first approved by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the full  
28 membership of each house of the General Assembly.

29 (F) If the General Assembly recesses for longer than three  
30 (3) consecutive days during the first fifteen (15) days of a regular session,  
31 the fifteen-day introduction deadline shall be extended for a time period  
32 equal to the recess.

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34 Introduction of Health Care Legislation

35 Section 15. (A) Any proposed legislation affecting the licensure of  
36 any profession, occupation, or class of health care providers not currently

1 licensed, or expanding the scope of practice of any profession, occupation,  
2 or class of health care providers to be considered by the General Assembly at  
3 a regular biennial session shall be introduced in the General Assembly during  
4 the first fifteen (15) calendar days of a regular biennial session.

5 (B) No such bill shall be introduced after the fifteenth  
6 (15th) day of a regular biennial session unless its introduction is first  
7 approved by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the full membership of each house  
8 of the General Assembly.

9 (C) The Senate and the House, and committees of the Senate  
10 and House, shall take no action on any such bill for an additional fifteen  
11 (15) calendar days after the fifteen (15) calendar day deadline for  
12 introduction of such bills has passed.

#### 13 14 Method of Preparing Bills

##### 15 and Resolutions - Automated Bill Preparation System

16 Section 16. (A) No bill or resolution, as defined herein, shall be  
17 accepted for introduction by clerks of the Senate or of the House of  
18 Representatives unless such bill or resolution has been prepared for  
19 introduction by an automated bill preparation system developed by the Bureau  
20 of Legislative Research.

21 (1) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall establish and  
22 operate, in cooperation with the appropriate officials of the House of  
23 Representatives and the Senate, an automated bill preparation system in which  
24 all bills and resolutions, as defined herein, shall be prepared for  
25 introduction. Such system shall be designed in a manner which will permit  
26 either or both houses of the General Assembly to install compatible and  
27 interconnecting electronic equipment for the preparation of bills and  
28 resolutions in the same format as prepared by the Bureau of Legislative  
29 Research for introduction in either house of the General Assembly.

30 (2) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall provide the  
31 Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives  
32 access by electronic medium to the central bill files in which bills and  
33 resolutions recorded in the automated bill preparation system are stored, to  
34 enable the engrossing rooms of the respective houses to have ready access  
35 thereto for enrollment of engrossed amendments adopted to such bills and  
36 resolutions.

1 (3) As used herein:

2 (a) "resolutions" shall mean all resolutions prepared for  
3 introduction which require the concurrence of both houses of the General  
4 Assembly for the adoption thereof, and shall include resolutions prepared for  
5 consideration by only the house in which introduced;

6 (b) "automated bill preparation system" shall mean an  
7 automated system using word processors, computers, or other electronic  
8 devices for the typing and preparation of bills and resolutions (as defined  
9 herein) for introduction by members of the General Assembly in either the  
10 Senate or the House of Representatives, and shall include the following  
11 features:

12 (i) a separate identification number, to be placed  
13 upon each page of the original and each copy thereof prepared for  
14 introduction in the General Assembly;

15 (ii) a method of electronically recording the  
16 contents of each bill and resolution for ready access for retrieval and  
17 engrossment purposes;

18 (iii) security features to protect the automated  
19 bill preparation files from access by unauthorized persons, and to maintain  
20 the integrity and confidentiality of drafts of bills and resolutions prepared  
21 by the Bureau of Legislative Research for members of the General Assembly  
22 which have not been filed for introduction; and

23 (iv) such other features as deemed to be necessary  
24 and advisable by the Bureau of Legislative Research after consulting with the  
25 appropriate officials of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

26 (B) All bills and resolutions introduced in the House and  
27 Senate shall be prepared on 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper. The number of copies of  
28 bills and resolutions to be prepared for introduction shall be specified by  
29 the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of  
30 Representatives. One (1) copy shall be placed in the manuscript cover  
31 provided for the official copy of bills or resolutions and one (1) copy shall  
32 be placed in the manuscript cover provided for the duplicate copy, with any  
33 additional copies attached thereto in the manner prescribed by the respective  
34 houses. In addition, copies of the caption on each bill or resolution shall  
35 be prepared and attached thereto at the time of introduction.

36 (C) Upon the introduction of each bill and resolution, the

1 appropriate clerks of the respective houses shall cause the original signed  
2 copy thereof (which is contained in the official bill or resolution  
3 manuscript cover) to be identified as the official copy by perforation or  
4 stamping on the left margin of each page thereof the words "HOUSE ORIGINAL"  
5 to be placed on each official original copy of House bills and resolutions,  
6 and the words "SENATE ORIGINAL" to be placed on the left margin of each  
7 official original copy of Senate bills and resolutions. Whenever any bill or  
8 resolution is amended, the engrossed page or pages thereof shall be  
9 perforated in the same manner as the original introduced copy. Only the  
10 original signed copy of a bill or resolution and engrossed pages thereof  
11 shall be perforated or stamped as provided herein.

12 (D) If any person shall unlawfully perforate any  
13 fraudulent or counterfeit copy of any bill or resolution for the purpose of  
14 intentionally inserting in any bill or resolution any page or provision  
15 thereof for the purpose of altering the bill or resolution as introduced,  
16 such person shall be in contempt of the House or Senate, or both House and  
17 Senate, and shall be punished accordingly. If any person shall make any  
18 alteration, change or erasure in any original copy of a bill or resolution as  
19 originally introduced, except upon direction of the House or Senate, or both  
20 House and Senate, or upon direction of the appropriate committees on  
21 engrossed or enrolled bills, such person shall be in contempt of the House or  
22 Senate, or both of them and shall be punished accordingly. In addition, such  
23 person shall be subject to such fine and imprisonment as may be imposed by  
24 the laws of this State for fraud.

25 (E)(1) Only bills and amendments to bills which meet the  
26 requirements of this subsection (E) may be introduced into the Senate or the  
27 House of Representatives.

28 (2) Except as provided in subsections (E)(5), (6) and (8), all  
29 bills and amendments to bills shall reflect the changes proposed in the  
30 existing law by:

31 (a) over striking all language of the existing law which  
32 is proposed to be deleted; and

33 (b) underlining all new language proposed to be added to  
34 the existing law. At the top of the first page of the bill shall appear  
35 language substantially similar to the following: "Stricken language would be  
36 deleted from present law. Underlined language would be added to present



1 law.”

2 (3) Except as provided in subsections (E)(5), (6) and (8), all  
3 resolutions proposing amendments to the Arkansas Constitution and amendments  
4 to resolutions shall reflect the changes proposed in the existing  
5 Constitution by:

6 (a) over striking all language of the existing  
7 Constitution which is proposed to be deleted; and

8 (b) underlining all new language proposed to be added to  
9 the existing Constitution. At the top of the first page of the bill shall  
10 appear language substantially similar to the following: “Stricken language  
11 would be deleted from the present Constitution. Underlined language would be  
12 added to present Constitution.”

13 (4) Except as provided in subsections (E)(5), (6) and (8), all  
14 resolutions proposing changes in the rules of the Senate or House or the  
15 joint rules of the Senate and House shall reflect the changes proposed in the  
16 existing rule by:

17 (a) over striking all language of the existing rule which  
18 is proposed to be deleted; and

19 (b) underlining all new language proposed to be added to  
20 the existing rule. At the top of the first page of the resolution shall  
21 appear language substantially similar to the following: “Stricken language  
22 would be deleted from present rule. Underlined language would be added to  
23 present rule.”

24 (5) This subsection (E) may be waived by the President Pro  
25 Tempore of the Senate or in his absence, the Chairman of the Senate Rules  
26 Committee, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

27 (6) Markups are not required of the following:

28 (a) appropriation sections, state agencies regular salary  
29 sections, and state agencies extra help sections contained within a bill if  
30 the sections do not specifically amend existing law;

31 (b) sections which allocate funds within the Revenue  
32 Stabilization Law or within the General Improvement Fund Distribution Law;  
33 and

34 (c) sections which amend Arkansas Code §§ 21-5-208(b) and  
35 21-5-209(e).

36 (7) It shall be the duty of the Chairman of the Joint Budget

1 Committee to have a schedule prepared which reflects the amounts approved by  
2 the Joint Budget Committee for each category for each fund within the Revenue  
3 Stabilization Law to provide funding for the budget enacted by the General  
4 Assembly and a schedule reflecting the proposed distribution of General  
5 Improvement funds. The schedule reflecting the allocation of funds in the  
6 Revenue Stabilization Law for the next fiscal year shall be submitted during  
7 a regular session or fiscal session to each body of the Arkansas General  
8 Assembly at least three (3) calendar days prior to the day at which the same  
9 is to be considered for final passage. The schedule reflecting the  
10 allocation of funds in the General Improvement Fund Distribution Law for the  
11 next biennium shall be submitted during a regular session to each body of the  
12 Arkansas General Assembly at least three (3) calendar days prior to the day  
13 at which the same is to be considered for final passage.

14 (8) Markups are not required on sections that are substantially  
15 the same as the following boiler-plate sections:

16  
17 "SECTION. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds  
18 authorized by this Act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency  
19 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and  
20 the restrictions of the State Purchasing Law, the General Accounting and  
21 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary  
22 Procedures and Restrictions Act, the Higher Education Expenditure  
23 Restrictions Act, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by the  
24 Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be  
25 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

26  
27 SECTION. EMPLOYMENT OF ATTORNEYS. None of the funds appropriated in  
28 this Act for Maintenance and General Operation shall be expended in payment  
29 for services of attorneys, unless the agency shall first make a request in  
30 writing to the Attorney General of the State of Arkansas to provide the  
31 required legal services. The Attorney General's Office shall provide the  
32 required legal services, or, if the Attorney General's Office shall determine  
33 that sufficient personnel are not available to provide the requested legal  
34 services, the Attorney General shall certify the same to the agency and may  
35 authorize the agency to employ legal counsel and to expend monies  
36 appropriated for Maintenance and General Operations thereof, if:

1           (1) The Attorney General determines, and certifies in writing,  
2 that such agency needs the advice or assistance of legal counsel, and

3           (2) The Attorney General consents in writing to the employment  
4 of the legal counsel to be retained by the agency.

5           Such certification shall be required with respect to each  
6 instance of the employment of special legal counsel, or shall be required  
7 annually with respect to legal counsel employed on a retainer basis. A copy  
8 of such certification shall be entered in the official minutes of the agency,  
9 and shall be retained in the fiscal records of the agency for audit purposes.  
10

11           SECTION. DISBURSEMENT CONTROLS. (A) No contract may be awarded nor  
12 obligations otherwise incurred in relation to the project or projects  
13 described herein in excess of the State Treasury funds actually available  
14 therefore as provided by law. Provided, however, that institutions and  
15 agencies listed herein shall have the authority to accept and use grants and  
16 donations including Federal funds, and to use its unobligated cash income or  
17 funds, or both available to it, for the purpose of supplementing the State  
18 Treasury funds for financing the entire costs of the project or projects  
19 enumerated herein. Provided further, that the appropriations and funds  
20 otherwise provided by the General Assembly for Maintenance and General  
21 Operations of the agency or institutions receiving appropriation herein shall  
22 not be used for any of the purposes as appropriated in this Act.

23           (B) The restrictions of any applicable provisions of the  
24 State Purchasing Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law,  
25 the Revenue Stabilization Law and any other applicable fiscal control laws of  
26 this State and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and  
27 Administration, as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in  
28 disbursement of any funds provided by this Act unless specifically provided  
29 otherwise by law.  
30

31           SECTION. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General Assembly  
32 that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations contained  
33 in this Act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for which this Act  
34 was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive Recommendations  
35 and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget manuals prepared by  
36 the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or summarized oral

1 testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative Council or  
2 Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and  
3 adoption.  
4

5 Section 17. (A) Once a Senate bill has passed the House of  
6 Representatives and returned to the Senate, it may not be subsequently  
7 amended in the Senate unless the House expunges the vote by which it passed  
8 the bill and any amendments to the bill and the Senate expunges the vote by  
9 which the bill was passed and places the bill on second reading.

10 (B) Once a House bill has passed the Senate and has been  
11 returned to the House, it may not be subsequently amended in the House unless  
12 the Senate expunges the vote by which it passed the bill and any amendments  
13 to the bill and the House expunges the vote by which the bill was passed and  
14 places the bill on second reading.  
15

#### 16 Submission of Bills to Governor

17 Section 18. Whenever any Senate bill shall be approved by the House of  
18 Representatives and enrolled by the Senate, the Secretary of the Senate or  
19 one of his or her authorized agents shall without delay, deliver the same to  
20 the Governor or his or her designated representative and take receipt  
21 thereof, which receipt shall be returned to the Senate and entered in the  
22 Journal. Whenever any House bill shall be approved by the Senate and  
23 enrolled by the House, the Chief Clerk of the House or one of his or her  
24 authorized agents shall, without delay, deliver the same to the Governor or  
25 his or her designated representative and take receipt thereof, which receipt  
26 shall be returned to the House and entered in the Journal. In the event the  
27 Governor, or his or her designated representative, shall refuse to accept  
28 delivery of any such bill, the Secretary of the Senate, or the Chief Clerk of  
29 the House, or their designated agents, as the case may be, shall forthwith  
30 serve the same by handing the bill to either the Governor or to any employee  
31 of the Governor's office, and shall return a certificate to the Senate or the  
32 House as the case may be, of the date and time of such delivery and of the  
33 name of the person to whom delivered and such certificate shall be entered in  
34 the Journal of the Senate or the Journal of the House, as the case may be,  
35 and shall constitute proof of delivery of said bill to the Governor in  
36 determining the period of time in which the Governor has to sign the same or

1 return it to the Senate or the House with his veto as provided in the  
2 Constitution of the State of Arkansas.

3  
4 ~~Joint Committee on~~ Constitutional Amendments

5 Section 19.(A)(1) ~~The Joint Committee on Constitutional Amendments~~  
6 ~~shall consist of the members of the Senate Committee on State Agencies and~~  
7 ~~Governmental Affairs and the members of the House Committee on State Agencies~~  
8 ~~and Governmental Affairs. No proposed constitutional amendment shall be~~  
9 ~~recommended to either house of the General Assembly except upon the~~  
10 ~~affirmative vote of a majority of the Senate members of the Joint Committee~~  
11 ~~on Constitutional Amendments and an affirmative vote of a majority of the~~  
12 ~~House members of the Joint Committee on Constitutional Amendments. No~~  
13 ~~resolution proposing a constitutional amendment shall be filed in either the~~  
14 ~~House of Representatives or the Senate after the thirty-first (31st) day of~~  
15 ~~each regular session of the General Assembly. All resolutions proposing~~  
16 ~~constitutional amendments shall be referred to the Joint Committee on~~  
17 ~~Constitutional Amendments. Other resolutions proposing constitutional~~  
18 ~~amendments shall not be reported to or considered by either house of the~~  
19 ~~General Assembly until the original recommendations of the Joint Committee on~~  
20 ~~Constitutional Amendments are disposed of by both Houses. A resolution~~  
21 ~~proposing a constitutional amendment may be considered only during a regular~~  
22 ~~session. The Joint Committee on Constitutional Amendments shall meet on the~~  
23 ~~first (1<sup>st</sup>) Tuesday after the thirty first (31<sup>st</sup>) day of each regular session~~  
24 ~~of the General Assembly to establish a meeting calendar and meet regularly~~  
25 ~~thereafter. The Senate may, according to its rules, recommend one (1)~~  
26 ~~proposed constitutional amendment for consideration and vote by the House of~~  
27 ~~Representatives and the Senate.~~

28 (2) If the Senate-proposed constitutional amendment does not  
29 receive an affirmative vote of the majority of House of Representatives, the  
30 Senate may, according to its rules, recommend additional proposed  
31 constitutional amendments to the House of Representatives one (1) at a time  
32 until the House of Representatives affirms by a majority vote the Senate-  
33 proposed constitutional amendment.

34 (B)(1) The House of Representatives may, according to its rules,  
35 recommend one (1) proposed constitutional amendment for consideration and  
36 vote by the House of Representatives and the Senate.

1           (2) If the House of Representatives-proposed constitutional  
2 amendment does not receive an affirmative vote of the majority of Senate, the  
3 House of Representatives may, according to its rules, recommend additional  
4 proposed constitutional amendments to the Senate one (1) at a time until the  
5 Senate affirms by a majority vote the House of Representatives-proposed  
6 constitutional amendment.

7           (C) A third (3<sup>rd</sup>) proposed constitutional amendment shall not be  
8 considered or voted upon by the General Assembly until identical resolutions  
9 authorizing the consideration of the proposed constitutional amendment have  
10 been approved by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members  
11 elected to each house.

12           (D) A resolution proposing a constitutional amendment shall not be  
13 filed in either the House of Representatives or the Senate after the thirty-  
14 first (31st) day of each regular session of the General Assembly.

15           (E) A resolution proposing a constitutional amendment shall be  
16 considered only during a regular session.

#### 17

#### 18                           Joint Meetings of Senate and House Committees

19           Section 20. The standing and select Committees of the Senate and the  
20 House of Representatives are authorized to hold joint meetings upon the call  
21 of the Chairpersons of the two committees involved or by one-half (1/2) or  
22 more of the members of both committees involved.

#### 23

#### 24                           Correction of Obvious Errors

25           Section 21. The Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the  
26 House are authorized, subject to approval by the appropriate designated  
27 committee, to correct obvious errors occurring in documents originating in  
28 the House and the Senate respectively, provided that each such correction is  
29 noted on the bill jacket and is documented by a "correction note" at the end  
30 of the official daily journal for the date on which the correction was made.

#### 31

#### 32                           Assigning Bill and Resolution Numbers

33           Section 22. In assigning numbers to bills and resolutions introduced  
34 in the Senate and House of Representatives, Senate bills and resolutions  
35 shall be numbered commencing with the figure 1, and House bills and  
36 resolutions shall be assigned numbers commencing with the figure 1001.

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Pre-filing of Bills and Resolutions

Section 23. (A) Beginning on November 15th of each year preceding a regular session of the General Assembly, each holdover member of the Senate who will be serving at the next following regular session of the General Assembly, and each member-elect of the General Assembly, as soon as the members-elect of the next General Assembly are certified to the Secretary of State, shall be permitted to prefile bills and resolutions for such regular session with the Chief Clerk of the House and the Secretary of the Senate.

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

(2) A non-appropriation bill may not be pre-filed prior to a fiscal session due to the requirements of Article 5, § 5 of the Constitution of Arkansas.

Interim Committee Meetings

Section 24. (A) Interim committees shall not meet beginning January 1 immediately prior to a regular legislative session, without the prior approval of:

(1) The current Speaker of the House of Representatives and the current President Pro Tempore of the Senate for joint interim committees;

(2) The current Speaker of the House of Representatives for interim committees of the House of Representatives; or

(3) The current President Pro Tempore of the Senate for interim committees of the Senate.

(B)(1) Interim committees, including the Legislative Council and Legislative Joint Auditing Committee and their respective subcommittees, shall not schedule a meeting at the same time as a regularly scheduled pre-session Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget Committee or Joint Budget Committee budget hearing meeting, unless the pre-session budget hearing meeting was scheduled with less than one week's notice and prior authorization for the conflicting interim committee meeting is granted by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of

1 Representatives.

2           (2)(a) For purposes of this rule, "regularly scheduled pre-  
3 session budget hearing meetings" means those pre-session budget hearings that  
4 are held prior to the regular or fiscal session for the purpose of  
5 recommending agency appropriation bills for the following regular or fiscal  
6 session.

7           (b) "Regularly scheduled pre-session budget hearing  
8 meetings" does not include meetings of the subcommittees of Arkansas  
9 Legislative Council/Joint Budget Committee or Joint Budget Committee.

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