

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023

SCR 1

4
5 By: Senator C. Penzo

6
7 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

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

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13 **Subtitle**

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

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

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22 SECTION 1. The Joint Rules of the House of Representatives and the Senate of
23 the Ninety-Fourth General Assembly of the State of Arkansas are adopted to
24 read as follows:

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26 JOINT RULES
27 OF THE
28 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
29 AND THE SENATE

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31 Joint Session - How Convened

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



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Engrossment of Bills

Section 6. After adoption of an amendment on the floor of the Senate, regardless whether the bill or resolution originated in the House or the Senate, the Senate shall engross the bill or resolution as amended. After the adoption of the amendment on the floor of the House of Representatives, regardless whether the bill or resolution originated in the House or the Senate, the House of Representatives shall engross the bill or resolution as amended.

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

Enrollment of Bills

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

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

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

Signing of Bills

Section 10. After examination and report by the committee responsible for enrolling bills, each bill shall be signed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and by the President of the Senate. Each page of a bill shall be signed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the right margin, and shall be signed by the President of the Senate on the left margin of each page. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate shall manually sign each page of each bill, or may provide, at

1 their option and under their supervision, for the affixing thereto of their
2 facsimile signature.

3 4 Conference Committee

5 Section 11. When either body shall request a conference, and appoint a
6 committee for that purpose, the other body shall also appoint a committee of
7 equal number to confer, and such conference shall be held at any time and
8 place agreed upon by the Chairpersons.

9 10 Suspension of Joint Rules

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

16 17 Appropriation Bills

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

26 27 Deadline for the Introduction of Bills

28 Section 14. (A) Appropriation Bills. An "appropriation bill" means a
29 bill by the General Assembly that authorizes the expenditure of moneys if
30 moneys are available.

31 (1) No appropriation bill shall be filed for introduction in
32 either the House of Representatives or the Senate later than the fiftieth
33 (50th) day of a regular session except upon consent of two-thirds (2/3) of
34 the members elected to each house. When the filing deadline for any bills or
35 resolutions ends on Saturday or Sunday, the deadline is hereby extended until
36 the close of business the following Monday.

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

5 (B) Retirement System Legislation.

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

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

14 (3) A bill affecting any publicly supported retirement system or
15 systems shall not be introduced at any special session of the General
16 Assembly unless the introduction and consideration of the bill is first
17 approved by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the full membership of each house
18 of the General Assembly.

19 (C) Non-appropriation Legislation During a Fiscal Session.

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

24 (2) The identical resolutions authorizing the introduction of a
25 non-appropriation bill in a fiscal session shall not be filed for
26 introduction in either the House of Representatives or the Senate later than
27 the first (1st) day of a fiscal session.

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

31 (D) State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program
32 Legislation.

33 (1) As used in this subsection (D):

34 (a) "Entity of the state" means any agency, board, bureau,
35 commission, committee, council, department, division, institution of higher
36 education, office, public school, quasi-public organization, or other

1 political subdivision of the state; and

2 (b) "Health benefit plan" means a policy, contract,
3 certificate, or agreement offered or issued by an entity to provide, deliver,
4 arrange for, pay for, or reimburse any of the costs of healthcare services,
5 including pharmacy benefits, to an entity of the state.

6 (2) A bill affecting the State and Public School Life and Health
7 Insurance Program or that imposes a new or increased cost obligation for
8 health benefit plans, including pharmacy benefits, on an entity of the state
9 to be considered by the General Assembly at a regular session shall be
10 introduced in the General Assembly during the first fifteen (15) calendar
11 days of a regular session.

12 (3) A bill as described in subsection (D)(2) shall not be
13 introduced after the fifteenth day of a regular session unless the
14 introduction of the bill is first approved by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of
15 the full membership of each house of the General Assembly.

16 (4) A bill affecting the State and Public School Life and Health
17 Insurance Program or that imposes a new or increased cost obligation for
18 health benefit plans, including pharmacy benefits, on an entity of the state
19 shall not be introduced or considered at a fiscal session or an extraordinary
20 session of the General Assembly unless the introduction and consideration of
21 the bill is first approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full membership
22 of each house of the General Assembly.

23 (E) Lottery-Funded Scholarship Legislation.

24 (1) The following proposed legislation to be considered by the
25 General Assembly at a regular session shall be introduced in the General
26 Assembly during the first thirty-one (31) calendar days of a regular session:

27 (a) A bill that creates a new scholarship to be funded with net
28 proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education Grants Fund Account,
29 as applicable; and

30 (b) A bill that affects an existing scholarship that is funded
31 with net proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education Grants Fund
32 Account, as applicable.

33 (2)(a) A bill creating a new scholarship to be funded with net
34 proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education Grants Fund Account,
35 as applicable, or affecting an existing scholarship that is funded with net
36 proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education Grants Fund Account,

1 as applicable, shall not be introduced after the thirty-first day of a
2 regular session unless its introduction is first approved by a three-fourths
3 (3/4) vote of the full membership of each chamber of the General Assembly.

4 (b) If the General Assembly recesses for longer than three (3)
5 consecutive days during the first thirty-one (31) days of a regular session,
6 the deadline imposed under this section shall be extended for a time period
7 equal to the recess.

8 (3) A bill creating a new scholarship to be funded with net proceeds
9 from the state lottery or the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, as
10 applicable, or affecting an existing scholarship that is funded with net
11 proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education Grants Fund Account,
12 as applicable, shall not be introduced or considered at a special session or
13 fiscal session of the General Assembly unless the introduction or
14 consideration of the bill is first approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the
15 full membership of each chamber of the General Assembly.

16 (F) When the filing deadline for any bills or resolutions ends on
17 Saturday or Sunday, the deadline is extended until the close of business the
18 following Monday.

19 ~~(F)~~(G) If the General Assembly recesses for longer than three (3)
20 consecutive days during the first fifteen (15) days of a regular session, the
21 fifteen-day introduction deadlines established in this section shall be
22 extended for a time period equal to the recess.

24 Introduction of Health Care Legislation

25 Section 15. (A) Any proposed legislation affecting the licensure of
26 any profession, occupation, or class of health care providers not currently
27 licensed, or expanding the scope of practice of any profession, occupation,
28 or class of health care providers to be considered by the General Assembly at
29 a regular biennial session shall be introduced in the General Assembly during
30 the first fifteen (15) calendar days of a regular biennial session.

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

35 (C) The Senate and the House, and committees of the Senate and House,
36 shall take no action on any such bill for an additional fifteen (15) calendar

1 days after the fifteen (15) calendar day deadline for introduction of such
2 bills has passed.

3
4 Method of Preparing Bills and Resolutions - Automated Bill Preparation System

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

10 (1) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall establish and
11 operate, in cooperation with the appropriate officials of the House of
12 Representatives and the Senate, an automated bill preparation system in which
13 all bills and resolutions, as defined herein, shall be prepared for
14 introduction. Such system shall be designed in a manner which will permit
15 either or both houses of the General Assembly to install compatible and
16 interconnecting electronic equipment for the preparation of bills and
17 resolutions in the same format as prepared by the Bureau of Legislative
18 Research for introduction in either house of the General Assembly.

19 (2) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall provide the
20 Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives
21 access by electronic medium to the central bill files in which bills and
22 resolutions recorded in the automated bill preparation system are stored, to
23 enable the engrossing rooms of the respective houses to have ready access
24 thereto for enrollment of engrossed amendments adopted to such bills and
25 resolutions.

26 (3) As used herein:

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

31 (b) "automated bill preparation system" shall mean an
32 automated system using word processors, computers, or other electronic
33 devices for the typing and preparation of bills and resolutions (as defined
34 herein) for introduction by members of the General Assembly in either the
35 Senate or the House of Representatives, and shall include the following
36 features:

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

4 (ii) a method of electronically recording the
5 contents of each bill and resolution for ready access for retrieval and
6 engrossment purposes;

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

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

15 (B) All bills and resolutions introduced in the House and Senate shall
16 be prepared on 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper. The number of copies of bills and
17 resolutions to be prepared for introduction shall be specified by the
18 Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.
19 One (1) copy shall be placed in the manuscript cover provided for the
20 official copy of bills or resolutions and one (1) copy shall be placed in the
21 manuscript cover provided for the duplicate copy, with any additional copies
22 attached thereto in the manner prescribed by the respective houses. In
23 addition, copies of the caption on each bill or resolution shall be prepared
24 and attached thereto at the time of introduction.

25 (C) Upon the introduction of each bill and resolution, the appropriate
26 clerks of the respective houses shall cause the original signed copy thereof
27 (which is contained in the official bill or resolution manuscript cover) to
28 be identified as the official copy by perforation or stamping on the left
29 margin of each page thereof the words "HOUSE ORIGINAL" to be placed on each
30 official original copy of House bills and resolutions, and the words "SENATE
31 ORIGINAL" to be placed on the left margin of each official original copy of
32 Senate bills and resolutions. Whenever any bill or resolution is amended,
33 the engrossed page or pages thereof shall be perforated in the same manner as
34 the original introduced copy. Only the original signed copy of a bill or
35 resolution and engrossed pages thereof shall be perforated or stamped as
36 provided herein.

1 (D) If any person shall unlawfully perforate any fraudulent or
2 counterfeit copy of any bill or resolution for the purpose of intentionally
3 inserting in any bill or resolution any page or provision thereof for the
4 purpose of altering the bill or resolution as introduced, such person shall
5 be in contempt of the House or Senate, or both House and Senate, and shall be
6 punished accordingly. If any person shall make any alteration, change or
7 erasure in any original copy of a bill or resolution as originally
8 introduced, except upon direction of the House or Senate, or both House and
9 Senate, or upon direction of the appropriate committees on engrossed or
10 enrolled bills, such person shall be in contempt of the House or Senate, or
11 both of them and shall be punished accordingly. In addition, such person
12 shall be subject to such fine and imprisonment as may be imposed by the laws
13 of this State for fraud.

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

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

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

22 (b) underlining all new language proposed to be added to
23 the existing law. At the top of the first page of the bill shall appear
24 language substantially similar to the following: "Stricken language would be
25 deleted from present law. Underlined language would be added to present
26 law."

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

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

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

1 added to present Constitution.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 (b) sections which allocate funds within the Revenue
21 Stabilization Law or within the General Improvement Fund Distribution Law;
22 and

23 (c) sections which amend Arkansas Code §§ 21-5-208(b) and
24 21-5-209(e).

25 (7) It shall be the duty of the Chairman of the Joint Budget
26 Committee to have a schedule prepared which reflects the amounts approved by
27 the Joint Budget Committee for each category for each fund within the Revenue
28 Stabilization Law to provide funding for the budget enacted by the General
29 Assembly and a schedule reflecting the proposed distribution of General
30 Improvement funds. The schedule reflecting the allocation of funds in the
31 Revenue Stabilization Law for the next fiscal year shall be submitted during
32 a regular session or fiscal session to each body of the Arkansas General
33 Assembly at least three (3) calendar days prior to the day at which the same
34 is to be considered for final passage. The schedule reflecting the
35 allocation of funds in the General Improvement Fund Distribution Law for the
36 next biennium shall be submitted during a regular session to each body of the

1 Arkansas General Assembly at least three (3) calendar days prior to the day
2 at which the same is to be considered for final passage.

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

5
6 "SECTION. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds
7 authorized by this Act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency
8 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and
9 the restrictions of the State Purchasing Law, the General Accounting and
10 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary
11 Procedures and Restrictions Act, the Higher Education Expenditure
12 Restrictions Act, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by the
13 Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be
14 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

15
16 SECTION. EMPLOYMENT OF ATTORNEYS. None of the funds appropriated in
17 this Act for Maintenance and General Operation shall be expended in payment
18 for services of attorneys, unless the agency shall first make a request in
19 writing to the Attorney General of the State of Arkansas to provide the
20 required legal services. The Attorney General's Office shall provide the
21 required legal services, or, if the Attorney General's Office shall determine
22 that sufficient personnel are not available to provide the requested legal
23 services, the Attorney General shall certify the same to the agency and may
24 authorize the agency to employ legal counsel and to expend monies
25 appropriated for Maintenance and General Operations thereof, if:

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

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

30 Such certification shall be required with respect to each
31 instance of the employment of special legal counsel, or shall be required
32 annually with respect to legal counsel employed on a retainer basis. A copy
33 of such certification shall be entered in the official minutes of the agency,
34 and shall be retained in the fiscal records of the agency for audit purposes.

35
36 SECTION. DISBURSEMENT CONTROLS. (A) No contract may be awarded nor

1 obligations otherwise incurred in relation to the project or projects
2 described herein in excess of the State Treasury funds actually available
3 therefore as provided by law. Provided, however, that institutions and
4 agencies listed herein shall have the authority to accept and use grants and
5 donations including Federal funds, and to use its unobligated cash income or
6 funds, or both available to it, for the purpose of supplementing the State
7 Treasury funds for financing the entire costs of the project or projects
8 enumerated herein. Provided further, that the appropriations and funds
9 otherwise provided by the General Assembly for Maintenance and General
10 Operations of the agency or institutions receiving appropriation herein shall
11 not be used for any of the purposes as appropriated in this Act.

12 (B) The restrictions of any applicable provisions of the State
13 Purchasing Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, the
14 Revenue Stabilization Law and any other applicable fiscal control laws of
15 this State and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and
16 Administration, as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in
17 disbursement of any funds provided by this Act unless specifically provided
18 otherwise by law.

19
20 SECTION. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General Assembly
21 that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations contained
22 in this Act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for which this Act
23 was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive Recommendations
24 and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget manuals prepared by
25 the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or summarized oral
26 testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative Council or
27 Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

28
29 Section 17. (A) Once a Senate bill has passed the House of
30 Representatives and returned to the Senate, it may not be subsequently
31 amended in the Senate unless the House expunges the vote by which it passed
32 the bill and any amendments to the bill and the Senate expunges the vote by
33 which the bill was passed and places the bill on second reading.

34 (B) Once a House bill has passed the Senate and has been returned to
35 the House, it may not be subsequently amended in the House unless the Senate
36 expunges the vote by which it passed the bill and any amendments to the bill

1 and the House expunges the vote by which the bill was passed and places the
2 bill on second reading.

3 4 Submission of Bills to Governor

5 Section 18. Whenever any Senate bill shall be approved by the House of
6 Representatives and enrolled by the Senate, the Secretary of the Senate or
7 one of his or her authorized agents shall without delay, deliver the same to
8 the Governor or his or her designated representative and take receipt
9 thereof, which receipt shall be returned to the Senate and entered in the
10 Journal. Whenever any House bill shall be approved by the Senate and
11 enrolled by the House, the Chief Clerk of the House or one of his or her
12 authorized agents shall, without delay, deliver the same to the Governor or
13 his or her designated representative and take receipt thereof, which receipt
14 shall be returned to the House and entered in the Journal. In the event the
15 Governor, or his or her designated representative, shall refuse to accept
16 delivery of any such bill, the Secretary of the Senate, or the Chief Clerk of
17 the House, or their designated agents, as the case may be, shall forthwith
18 serve the same by handing the bill to either the Governor or to any employee
19 of the Governor's office, and shall return a certificate to the Senate or the
20 House as the case may be, of the date and time of such delivery and of the
21 name of the person to whom delivered and such certificate shall be entered in
22 the Journal of the Senate or the Journal of the House, as the case may be,
23 and shall constitute proof of delivery of said bill to the Governor in
24 determining the period of time in which the Governor has to sign the same or
25 return it to the Senate or the House with his or her veto as provided in the
26 Constitution of the State of Arkansas.

27 28 Constitutional Amendments

29 Section 19. (A)(1) The Senate may, according to its rules, recommend
30 one (1) proposed constitutional amendment for consideration and vote by the
31 House of Representatives and the Senate.

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

1 proposed constitutional amendment.

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

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

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

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

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

21 22 Joint Meetings of Senate and House Committees

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

27 28 Correction of Obvious Errors

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

35 36 Assigning Bill and Resolution Numbers

1 Section 22. In assigning numbers to bills and resolutions introduced
2 in the Senate and House of Representatives, Senate bills and resolutions
3 shall be numbered commencing with the figure 1, and House bills and
4 resolutions shall be assigned numbers commencing with the figure 1001.
5

6 Pre-filing of Bills and Resolutions

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

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

19 (2) A non-appropriation bill may not be pre-filed prior to a
20 fiscal session due to the requirements of Article 5, § 5 of the Constitution
21 of Arkansas.
22

23 Interim Committee Meetings

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

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

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

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

33 (B)(1) Interim committees, including the Legislative Council and
34 Legislative Joint Auditing Committee and their respective subcommittees,
35 shall not schedule a meeting at the same time as a regularly scheduled pre-
36 session Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget Committee or Joint Budget

1 Committee budget hearing meeting, unless the pre-session budget hearing
2 meeting was scheduled with less than one week's notice and prior
3 authorization for the conflicting interim committee meeting is granted by the
4 President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
5 Representatives.

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

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

14 (C) Interim committees and their respective subcommittees, including
15 legislative task forces, councils, or other statutorily created legislative
16 bodies, shall not schedule a meeting during the week of a regularly scheduled
17 meeting of the Legislative Council, unless prior authorization for the
18 conflicting interim committee meeting is granted by the President Pro Tempore
19 of the Senate, for a Senate committee or subcommittee, the Speaker of the
20 House of Representatives for a House committee or subcommittee, or both the
21 Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the
22 Senate for a joint committee or task force.

23
24 Procedural Requirements for Creating or Amending Lottery-Funded Scholarships
25 Section 25.(A) Lottery fiscal impact statements.

26 (1) Any bill filed with the Senate or the House of
27 Representatives that creates a new scholarship to be funded with net proceeds
28 from the state lottery or the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, as
29 applicable, or affects an existing scholarship that is funded with net
30 proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education Grants Fund Account,
31 as applicable, shall:

32 (a)(i) Have a lottery fiscal impact statement attached to
33 it that is substantially in the form set forth in Arkansas Code § 6-85-502.

34 (ii) A bill that creates a new scholarship to be
35 funded with net proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education
36 Grants Fund Account, as applicable, or affects an existing scholarship that

1 is funded with net proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education
2 Grants Fund Account, as applicable, shall not be taken up by the House
3 Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education, meeting
4 jointly, until a lottery fiscal impact statement is attached; and

5 (b) Not take effect until at least one (1) year
6 immediately following the year in which the scholarship was enacted.

7 (2) The lottery fiscal impact of a bill that creates a new
8 scholarship to be funded with net proceeds from the state lottery or the
9 Higher Education Grants Fund Account, as applicable, or affects an existing
10 scholarship that is funded with net proceeds from the state lottery or the
11 Higher Education Grants Fund Account, as applicable, shall be determined in
12 the manner set forth in Arkansas Code § 6-85-502.

13 (3) In addition to the information required under subdivision
14 (A)(2) of this section, the final lottery fiscal impact statement regarding
15 the scholarship that is the subject of the bill shall include and be
16 calculated as required under Arkansas Code § 6-85-502.

17 (4)(a)(i) If the final lottery fiscal impact statement results
18 in a positive number, the House Committee on Education and the Senate
19 Committee on Education, meeting jointly during a regular session, special
20 session, or fiscal session, may refer a bill creating a new scholarship to be
21 funded with net proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education
22 Grants Fund Account, as applicable, or amending an existing scholarship
23 funded with net proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education
24 Grants Fund Account, as applicable, to either chamber of the General Assembly
25 for consideration.

26 (ii) The referral of a bill under subdivision
27 (A)(4)(a)(i) of this section shall require approval by a separate vote of
28 House Committee on Education members and Senate Committee on Education
29 members, meeting jointly during a regular session, special session, or fiscal
30 session.

31 (b) If the final lottery fiscal impact results in a
32 negative number, the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on
33 Education, meeting jointly during a regular session, special session, or
34 fiscal session, shall not refer the bill to either chamber of the General
35 Assembly for consideration unless:

36 (i) The bill is amended to ensure the final lottery

1 fiscal impact results in a positive number; or

2 (ii) Additional funding is provided through the
3 General Revenue Fund Account.

4 (B) Consideration of bills.

5 (1) The House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on
6 Education shall meet jointly during a regular session, special session, or
7 fiscal session to consider any bill:

8 (a) Creating a new scholarship to be funded with net
9 proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education Grants Fund Account;
10 or

11 (b) Affecting an existing scholarship that is funded with
12 net proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education Grants Fund
13 Account.

14 (2) A bill creating a new scholarship to be funded with net
15 proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education Grants Fund Account,
16 as applicable, or affecting an existing scholarship funded with net proceeds
17 from the state lottery or the Higher Education Grants Fund Account, as
18 applicable, shall not be recommended to either chamber of the General
19 Assembly except upon an affirmative vote or a majority of the members of the
20 following, meeting jointly during a regular session, special session, or
21 fiscal session:

22 (a) House Committee on Education; and

23 (b) Senate Committee on Education.

24 (3) A lottery fiscal impact statement prepared for a bill as
25 required under Arkansas Code § 6-85-502 shall be amended each time the House
26 Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education recommends to
27 either chamber of the General Assembly a bill creating a new scholarship to
28 be funded with net proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education
29 Grants Fund Account, as applicable, or affecting an existing scholarship
30 funded with net proceeds from the state lottery or the Higher Education
31 Grants Fund Account, as applicable, in order to account for the updated
32 lottery fiscal impact, if any, the bill that proposes a new scholarship or
33 amends an existing scholarship will have.

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