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HOUSE RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL
ASSEMBLY; TO AMEND THE RULES REGARDING SELECTION OF
MEMBERS OF HOUSE COMMITTEES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-SECOND
GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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

SECTION 1. Rule 54(a) of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-
Second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as
follows:

54.(a) STANDING COMMITTEES

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

~~54.(a)(2)~~ Each standing committee shall consist of twenty (20)
members. Each member of the House shall serve on two (2) standing
committees, one (1) of which shall be a Class "A" committee and one (1) of
which shall be a Class "B" committee. Members of the standing committees
shall be selected as follows:

(A)(i) The makeup of the standing committees shall reflect as



close as possible the majority party to minority party ratio present in the House of Representatives at the time of the committee selection; for example, if the ratio in the House of Representatives is seventy-five percent (75%) majority party to twenty-five percent (25%) minority party, the standing committees shall have the same ratio of majority party to minority party. As such, the standing committees shall be composed of at least eleven (11) members of the majority party, and the minority party shall have no more than nine (9) members on any standing committee.

(ii) Prior to the committee selection process by the members, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall notify the House Majority Leader and the House Minority Leader of the number of positions each political party caucus will have to fill on the standing committees, keeping as close as possible to the percentages of political party representation within the House of Representatives.

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

(B)(i) The most senior member of the House of Representatives shall select first and shall choose a position on a Class "A" standing committee. The next-senior member shall then choose a position on a Class "A" standing committee. The seniority rotation procedure shall continue until the member with the least seniority makes his or her selection.

(ii) After the member with the least seniority makes his or her Class "A" standing committee selection, the most senior member shall select his or her Class "B" standing committee. The seniority rotation shall continue until the member with the least seniority selects his or her Class "B" standing committee.

(iii) A member may not select a position on a standing committee for which all positions allotted by the Speaker to his or her political party caucus have been filled, but should select a standing committee with remaining slots available that are allotted to his or her political party affiliation.

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

54.(a)(2) From within each standing committee there shall be created three (3) permanent subcommittees consisting of eight (8) members. Each

member of the House shall serve on two (2) permanent subcommittees, one (1) from a Class "A" standing committee and one (1) from a Class "B" standing committee. The Speaker and the chairperson of each standing committee shall jointly appoint from the membership of the standing committee six (6) persons for each permanent subcommittee available, provided further the chairperson and vice chairperson of each standing committee shall be ex-officio, voting members of each permanent subcommittee created from within their standing committee. The permanent subcommittees of the standing committees may meet after having first obtained prior approval of the standing committee chairperson.

54.(a)(3) There shall be no transfers from one standing committee to another or from one permanent subcommittee to another during the biennium following initial biennial appointment and or confirmation. After selection of standing committee members and permanent subcommittee members, a vacancy occurring on a standing committee or permanent subcommittee during the biennium because of the death, resignation, impeachment, etc., of a member, shall be temporarily filled by the Speaker of the House assigning the newly elected member, for the remainder of the biennium, to the "A" and "B" standing committees, and the permanent subcommittees previously held by their predecessor. The newly elected member does not automatically assume a chairmanship or vice-chairmanship, which vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

54.(a)(4) A non-returning member of the House of Representatives who has been assigned an office or other premises shall vacate the office or other premises by December 15 following the General Election in the even-numbered years; and, by the same date, a returning member shall be prepared to vacate his or her assigned office or premises at the direction of the Speaker.

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

54.(b) SELECT COMMITTEES

54.(b)(1) With the exception of the House Budget Committee, The the Speaker shall appoint all members and all alternates on all House select committees and all Joint Select Committees. The Speaker shall appoint ex-

officio members in accordance with the law.

54.(b)(2)(A) Selection of positions on the House Budget Committee shall occur following the Class "A" standing committee and Class "B" standing committee selections and in conjunction with selection of members of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

(B) The most senior member of the House of Representatives shall select first and shall choose a position on the House Budget Committee, the Legislative Council, or the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee. The seniority rotation procedure shall continue until the member with the least seniority makes his or her selection or until all positions on the House Budget Committee, the Legislative Council, or the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee are filled.

(C) Alternate positions for the House Budget Committee, the Legislative Council, and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall be selected in the same manner as for regular members, with those not serving as primary members on the House Budget Committee, the Legislative Council, or the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee going from most senior to least senior to choose a committee on which to serve as an alternate.

54.(b)(~~2~~)(3) The House Budget Committee shall consist of ~~six (6)~~ twenty-four (24) members of the House of Representatives and ~~two (2)~~ eight (8) alternates selected by the Speaker from each caucus district the political party caucuses as follows:

(A) The makeup of the House Budget Committee shall reflect as closely as possible the majority party to minority party ratio present in the House of Representatives at the time of the committee selection; for example, if the ratio in the House of Representatives is seventy-five percent (75%) majority party to twenty-five percent (25%) minority party, the House Budget Committee shall have the same ratio of majority party to minority party. As such, the House Budget Committee shall be composed of at least thirteen (13) members of the majority party, and the minority party shall have no more than eleven (11) members on the committee.

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

(C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall notify the House Majority Leader and the House Minority Leader of the number of

positions each political party caucus will have to fill on the committee, keeping as close as possible to the percentages of party representation within the House of Representatives.

~~At the time the alternates are selected, one (1) shall be designated as first alternate and the other as second alternate.~~

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

54.(b)(3) No member of the House of Representatives shall serve on more than one (1) select committee. The Legislative Council, the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee, the House Budget Committee, the House Committee on the Journal; Engrossed and Enrolled Bills, and the House Management Committee are excluded therefrom.

SECTION 3. Rule 80 of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as follows:

80. Legislative Council.

80.(a) ~~The Speaker shall select from each of the four (4) House District Caucuses five (5) members to serve on the Legislative Council.~~ The House of Representatives shall select twenty (20) members to serve on the Legislative Council in the same manner as is set forth in Rule 54.(b) of these rules:

(1) The makeup of the House members selected to serve on the Legislative Council shall reflect as close as possible the majority party to minority party ratio present in the House of Representatives at the time of the committee selection; for example, if the ratio in the House of Representatives is seventy-five percent (75%) majority party to twenty-five percent (25%) minority party, the non-ex officio House members of the Legislative Council shall have the same ratio of majority party to minority party. As such, the non-ex officio House membership of the Legislative Council shall be composed of at least eleven (11) members of the majority party, and the minority party shall have no more than nine (9) members on the Legislative Council; and

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

(3) Prior to the committee selection process, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall notify the House Majority Leader and the House Minority Leader of the number of positions each political party caucus will have to fill on the committee, keeping as close as possible to the percentages of party representation within the House of Representatives.

(4) The Speaker shall select one (1) of their number as Legislative Council co-chair and one (1) of their number as Legislative Council co-vice-chair. No more than two (2) members selected from each caucus shall reside within the same county.

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

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

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

SECTION 4. Rule 81 of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as follows:

81. Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

~~81.(a) The Speaker shall select from each of the four (4) House District Caucuses five (5) members to serve on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee. The House of Representatives shall select twenty (20) members to serve on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee in the same manner as is set forth in Rule 54.(b) of these rules:~~

(1) The makeup of the House members selected to serve on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall reflect as closely as possible the majority party to minority party ratio present in the House of Representatives at the time of the committee selection; for example, if the ratio in the House of Representatives is seventy-five percent (75%) majority party to twenty-five percent (25%) minority party, the non-ex officio House members of the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall have the same ratio of majority party to minority party. As such, the non-ex officio House membership of the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall be composed of at least eleven (11) members of the majority party, and the minority party shall have no more than nine (9) members on the Legislative Joint Auditing; and

(2) A member-elect elected as a representative of a non-major political party may determine which political party he or she wishes to caucus with for the purpose of Legislative Joint Auditing Committee selection.

(3) Prior to the committee selection process, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall notify the House Majority Leader and the House Minority Leader of the number of positions each political party caucus will have to fill on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee, keeping as close as possible to the percentages of party representation within the House of Representatives.

(4) The Speaker shall select one (1) of their number as Legislative Joint Auditing Committee co-chair and one (1) of their number as Legislative Joint Auditing Committee co-vice-chair.

(5) No more than two (2) members shall reside within the same county.

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

~~81.(b) In order that there may be no House vacancies on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee at any time, at the time of selection of~~

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

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