

By: Representative Jean

HOUSE RESOLUTION

AN ACT TO AMEND THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY; AND TO AMEND THE RULES REGARDING SELECTION OF MEMBERS FOR 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. Section 54 of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Second General Assembly 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.~~ Selection of membership positions on House committees for members-elect shall take place during the caucus of the entire House of Representatives-elect on the first Friday following the November General Election.

54.(a)(2) Each Class "A" standing committee and Class "B" standing committee shall consist of twenty (20) members, with five (5) members from each of the four (4) House district caucuses. Members of the standing committees shall be selected as follows:

(A) 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.

(B) 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.

54.(a)(3) 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.

54.(a)(4)(A) The Speaker of the House shall have final approval authority of all committee memberships subsequent to selection by the members-elect.

(B) The Speaker shall have the authority to make adjustments to committee membership following the committee selection process for the purpose of adjusting the majority party to minority party ratio on the standing committees.

54.(a)(5) 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)(6) Standing committee membership shall be confirmed at the same time that representatives are administered the oath of office.

54.(a)~~(3)~~(7) 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.

p 54.(a)(8) 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)(9) 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~~ 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.

54.(b) SELECT COMMITTEES

54.(b)(1) The Speaker shall appoint all members and all alternates on all House select committees and all Joint Select Committees except the Joint Budget Committee or the House Budget Committee. 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" and Class "B" standing committee selections and in conjunction with selection of members for 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 primary or alternate position on the House Budget Committee, the Legislative Council, or the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee. The next-senior member shall then choose a primary or alternate 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 has made his or her selection or until all primary and alternate positions on the House Budget Committee, the Legislative Council, and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee are filled.

54.(b)(3) The House Budget Committee shall consist of six (6) members of the House of Representatives and two (2) alternates ~~selected by the~~

~~Speaker~~ from each caucus district. Membership selection shall take place on the first Friday following the November General Election. At the time the alternates are selected, one (1) shall be designated as first alternate and the other as second alternate.

54.(b)(4)(A) The Speaker of the House shall have final approval authority of all committee memberships subsequent to selection by the members-elect.

(B) The Speaker shall have the authority to make adjustments to committee membership following the committee selection process for the purpose of adjusting the majority party to minority party ratio on the House Budget Committee, the Legislative Council, and the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

54.(b)(5) House Budget Committee membership shall be confirmed at the same time that representatives are administered the oath of office.

54.(b)(6) 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~~)(7) 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.

54.(c)(1) The Speaker of the House shall appoint a chairperson and a vice chairperson of each standing committee and each select committee who shall serve at the pleasure of the Speaker. The Speaker, in consultation with the chairperson of each standing committee, shall appoint from the membership of each permanent subcommittee, a chairperson and vice chairperson, provided however that the vice chairperson of the standing committee may be the chairperson of a permanent subcommittee. No member of the House of Representatives, with the exception of each House standing committee vice chairperson, shall be chairperson or vice chairperson of more than one (1) standing committee, select committee, or permanent subcommittee.

54.(c)(2) The rules or proceedings of the House of Representatives shall be observed in all select committees, standing committees, and

subcommittees of the House of Representatives so far as they may be applicable.

54.(c)(3) The House Committee on the Journal; Engrossed and Enrolled Bills shall serve as the supervisory committee over the preparation of the Journal and engrossing and enrolling of bills.

54.(c)(4) After the membership of a standing committee or a permanent subcommittee is established, no member shall be removed from any standing committee or any permanent subcommittee during the biennium for which he or she was selected. All ~~select committee~~ appointees selected by the Speaker serve at his or her discretion.

SECTION 2. Section 80 of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Second General Assembly is amended to read as follows:

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL; LEGISLATIVE JOINT AUDITING COMMITTEE

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~~ In addition to ex officio members, the Legislative Council shall have twenty (20) members of the House of Representatives, to consist of five (5) members from each of the four (4) House caucus districts. 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 district shall reside within the same county.

80.(b) The Speaker shall select one (1) of their number as Legislative Council cochair and one (1) of their number as Legislative Council vice-chair.

80.(c) Membership selection for the Legislative Council shall take place on the first Friday following the November General Election in the same manner as is set forth in Rule 54.(b) of these rules.

80.(d)(1) The Speaker shall have final approval authority of membership on the Legislative Council.

(2) The Speaker shall have the authority to make adjustments to committee membership following the committee selection process for the purpose of adjusting the majority party to minority party ratio on the Legislative Council.

80.(e) 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)~~(f) 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 Legislative Council there shall be selected from each ~~Caucus District~~ caucus district a first alternate and a second alternate for each member selected from that caucus 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~~ House members of the caucus district from which the member or alternate was selected shall select from the same 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 a signed report from the caucus district chair designating otherwise is filed with the Speaker ~~selects a replacement~~. The Speaker shall notify the Legislative Council chairperson of all changes in membership on the Legislative Council.

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

SECTION 3. Section 81 of the Rules of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Second General Assembly 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~~ In addition to ex officio members, the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall have twenty (20) members of the House of Representatives, to consist of five (5) members from each of the four (4) House caucus districts. ~~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.~~ No more than two (2) members shall reside within the same county.

81.(b) The Speaker shall select one (1) of their number as Legislative Joint Auditing Committee cochair and one (1) of their number as Legislative

Joint Auditing Committee vice-chair.

81.(c) Membership selection for the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee shall take place on the first Friday following the November General Election in the same manner as is set forth in Rule 54.(b) of these rules.

81.(d)(1) The Speaker shall have final approval authority of membership on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

(2) The Speaker shall have the authority to make adjustments to committee membership following the committee selection process for the purpose of adjusting the majority party to minority party ratio on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

81.(e) 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)~~(f) 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 Legislative Joint Auditing Committee there shall be selected from each ~~Caucus District~~ caucus district a first alternate and a second alternate for each member selected from that ~~District~~ caucus 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~~ House membership from the caucus district from which the member or alternate was selected shall select from the same 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 a signed report from the caucus district chair designating otherwise is filed with the Speaker ~~selects a replacement~~. The Speaker shall notify the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee chairperson of all changes in membership on the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee.

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