

By: Representatives Dotson, Shepherd, Wardlaw, Beaty Jr., Beck, M. Berry, Bragg, Brown, C. Cooper, Dalby, M. Davis, Ennett, Eubanks, D. Garner, Godfrey, Hawks, M. Hodges, Hollowell, Hudson, Jett, Love, Maddox, McCullough, S. Meeks, Nicks, Perry, Scott, S. Smith, Speaks, Vaught, Warren, D. Whitaker, Wing, Wooten, S. Berry, C. Fite, K. Ferguson

By: Senators Irvin, Hickey, Rice, Beckham, L. Chesterfield, J. Dismang, Elliott, J. English, Flippo, Gilmore, Hill, K. Ingram, G. Leding, B. Sample, B. Johnson, D. Sullivan

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

TO AMEND THE JOINT RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY; AND TO ESTABLISH A BILL-FILING DEADLINE FOR LEGISLATION RELATED TO STATE ENTITY-MANAGED HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE JOINT RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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

SECTION 1. Section 14 of the Joint Rules of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Ninety-Third General Assembly, concerning deadlines for the introduction of bills, is amended to read as follows:

Deadline for the Introduction of Bills

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



moneys are available.

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

~~(2)~~ ~~Any proposed legislation affecting any publicly supported retirement system or pension plan to be considered by the General Assembly at a regular session shall be introduced in the General Assembly during the first fifteen (15) calendar days of a regular session.~~

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

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

(B) Retirement System Legislation.

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

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

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

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

~~(2)(1)~~ For a fiscal session, a non-appropriation bill shall not be filed for introduction until identical resolutions authorizing the

introduction of the non-appropriation bill have been approved by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to each house.

~~(3)~~(2) The identical resolutions authorizing the introduction of a non-appropriation bill in a fiscal session shall not be filed for introduction in either the House of Representatives or the Senate later than the first (1st) day of a fiscal session.

~~(4)~~(3) A non-appropriation bill shall not be filed for introduction in either the House of Representatives or the Senate later than the fifteenth (15th) day of a fiscal session.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

of each house of the General Assembly.

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

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

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