

By: Senator Hickey
By: Representative Wardlaw

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

TO AMEND THE JOINT RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS; TO AMEND PROVISIONS REGARDING THE DEADLINE FOR INTRODUCTION OF BILLS CONCERNING THE STATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM AND HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS OF ENTITIES OF THE STATE; AND TO REQUIRE A FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ANY PROPOSED LEGISLATION IMPOSING A NEW OR INCREASED COST OBLIGATION ON THE STATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE JOINT RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 14.(D) of the Joint Rules of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Ninety-Fourth General Assembly, concerning the deadline for the introduction of bills related to the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program, is amended to read as follows:

(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~~ on the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program 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)~~(2) A bill as described in subsection (D)~~(2)~~(1) 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)~~(3) 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~~ on the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program 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.

SECTION 2. The Joint Rules of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Ninety-Fourth General Assembly are amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

Fiscal Impact Statements – State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program Bills

Section 26.(A) For purposes of this section, "fiscal impact statement"

means a realistic written statement of the purpose of a proposed law and the estimated financial cost to the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program of implementing or complying with the proposed law.

(B)(1) A bill filed in the House of Representatives or the Senate that will impose a new or increased cost obligation on the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program shall:

(a) Have a fiscal impact statement attached to the bill prepared and filed with the chair of the committee to which the bill is referred; and

(b) Not be taken up by the committee to which the bill is referred until a fiscal impact statement is provided to the chair of the committee.

(2) The fiscal impact statements required by this section shall be prepared by the actuaries under contract with the Bureau of Legislative Research for this purpose.

(C)(1)(a) If a House bill or Senate bill is called up for final passage in the House of Representatives or the Senate and a fiscal impact statement has not been provided by the sponsor of the bill or by the committee to which the bill was referred, a member of the House of Representatives or the Senate may object to the bill's being called up for final passage until a fiscal impact statement is prepared and made available on the desk of each member of the House of Representatives or the Senate at least one (1) day before the bill is called up for final passage.

(b) An affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of a quorum present and voting shall override the objection.

(2) If an objection is made without override, the presiding officer of the House of Representatives or the Senate shall cause the bill to be referred to an actuary for the preparation of a fiscal impact statement, which shall be filed with the presiding officer not later than five (5) days from the date of the request.

(D) A fiscal impact statement required by this section shall be developed by an actuary within the guidelines adopted by the House Committee on Insurance and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce.