

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

*As Engrossed: S1/25/23*

SCR 1

5 By: Senator C. Penzo  
6 *By: Representative Vaught*  
7

## 8 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

9 TO ADOPT THE JOINT RULES OF THE HOUSE OF  
10 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH  
11 GENERAL ASSEMBLY.  
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### 14 Subtitle

15 TO ADOPT THE JOINT RULES OF THE HOUSE OF  
16 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE  
17 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.  
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20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
21 STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:  
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23 SECTION 1. The Joint Rules of the House of Representatives and the Senate of  
24 the Ninety-Fourth General Assembly of the State of Arkansas are adopted to read  
25 as follows:  
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27 JOINT RULES  
28 OF THE  
29 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
30 AND THE SENATE  
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#### 32 Joint Session - How Convened

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



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#### Officers of Joint Session

Section 2. When the meeting is assembled, the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House shall preside in conjunction, and the meeting shall be governed by such standing rules as shall have been adopted for that purpose by the concurrence of both houses. They shall have power to punish any person, other than a member, for disorderly or contemptuous behavior in their presence, by fine and imprisonment, in the same manner and to the same extent as either house may do, for like conduct before it, by the Constitution and laws of this state.

(A) Any member of either house who shall be guilty of disorderly behavior in the presence of the meeting may be punished by the house of which he or she is a member, in the same manner as if the offense had been committed in the presence of that house.

(B) The Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House shall both keep records of the proceedings, to be entered on the Journal of their respective houses.

#### Manner of Presenting Bills, Etc.

Section 3. All bills, resolutions, votes and amendments by either house, to which the concurrence of both is necessary, as well as messages, shall be presented to the other by the Clerk or Secretary of the house from which they are sent or by the assistant secretary or assistant clerk.

#### Contents of Bills

Section 4. No bill or resolution shall be passed by either house containing more than one subject, which shall be expressed in the title. House bills and resolutions shall have at least one House sponsor, and Senate bills and resolutions shall have at least one Senate Sponsor. House bills, House concurrent resolutions, and House joint resolutions may have Senate sponsors, and Senate bills, Senate concurrent resolutions, and Senate joint resolutions may have House sponsors.

#### Notice of Bill Rejection

Section 5. When a bill or resolution which has passed one house shall be rejected by the other, notice thereof shall be given to the house in which

1 the same shall have passed.

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#### Engrossment of Bills

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

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

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#### Enrollment of Bills

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

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#### Signing of Bills

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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

1 of the Senate shall manually sign each page of each bill, or may provide, at  
2 their option and under their supervision, for the affixing thereto of their  
3 facsimile signature.

#### 4 5 Conference Committee

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

#### 10 11 Suspension of Joint Rules

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

#### 17 18 Appropriation Bills

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

#### 27 28 Deadline for the Introduction of Bills

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

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

1 the close of business the following Monday.

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

6 (B) Retirement System Legislation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 (3) A non-appropriation bill shall not be filed for introduction  
30 in either the House of Representatives or the Senate later than the fifteenth  
31 (15th) day of a fiscal session.

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

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

35 (a) "Entity of the state" means any agency, board, bureau,  
36 commission, committee, council, department, division, institution of higher

1 education, office, public school, quasi-public organization, or other  
2 political subdivision of the state; and

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

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

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

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

24 (E) Lottery-Funded Scholarship Legislation.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### 24 25 Introduction of Health Care Legislation

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

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

36 (C) The Senate and the House, and committees of the Senate and House,

1 shall take no action on any such bill for an additional fifteen (15) calendar  
2 days after the fifteen (15) calendar day deadline for introduction of such  
3 bills has passed.

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5 Method of Preparing Bills and Resolutions - Automated Bill Preparation System

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

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

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

27 (3) As used herein:

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

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



1 features:

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 provided herein.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 would be deleted from the present Constitution. Underlined language would be  
2 added to present Constitution.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 (c) sections which amend Arkansas Code §§ 21-5-208(b) and  
25 21-5-209(e).

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

1 next biennium shall be submitted during a regular session to each body of the  
2 Arkansas General Assembly at least three (3) calendar days prior to the day  
3 at which the same is to be considered for final passage.

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

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

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

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

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

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

36

1 SECTION. DISBURSEMENT CONTROLS. (A) No contract may be awarded nor  
2 obligations otherwise incurred in relation to the project or projects  
3 described herein in excess of the State Treasury funds actually available  
4 therefore as provided by law. Provided, however, that institutions and  
5 agencies listed herein shall have the authority to accept and use grants and  
6 donations including Federal funds, and to use its unobligated cash income or  
7 funds, or both available to it, for the purpose of supplementing the State  
8 Treasury funds for financing the entire costs of the project or projects  
9 enumerated herein. Provided further, that the appropriations and funds  
10 otherwise provided by the General Assembly for Maintenance and General  
11 Operations of the agency or institutions receiving appropriation herein shall  
12 not be used for any of the purposes as appropriated in this Act.

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

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

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

35 (B) Once a House bill has passed the Senate and has been returned to  
36 the House, it may not be subsequently amended in the House unless the Senate

1 expunges the vote by which it passed the bill and any amendments to the bill  
2 and the House expunges the vote by which the bill was passed and places the  
3 bill on second reading.

#### 4 5 Submission of Bills to Governor

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

#### 28 29 Constitutional Amendments

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

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

1 until the House of Representatives affirms by a majority vote the Senate-  
2 proposed constitutional amendment.

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

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

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

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

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

22

### 23 Joint Meetings of Senate and House Committees

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

28

### 29 Correction of Obvious Errors

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

36

## 1 Assigning Bill and Resolution Numbers

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

6

## 7 Pre-filing of Bills and Resolutions

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

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

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

23

## 24 Interim Committee Meetings

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

24  
25 Procedural Requirements for Creating or Amending Lottery-Funded Scholarships

26 Section 25.(A) Lottery fiscal impact statements.

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

34  
35 /s/C. Penzo  
36