
DIGEST

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HCR 46 Original

2026 Regular Session

Green

Abstract: Provides for sessions.

Proposed Joint Rule provides that the legislature shall meet annually in regular session for a limited number of legislative days in the state capital and provides that a legislative day is a calendar day on which either house is in session.

Proposed Joint Rule provides that no member of the legislature may introduce more than five bills that were not prefiled, except as provided in present Joint Rule. Provides that any bill that is to be prefiled for introduction in either house shall be prefiled no later than 5 p.m. of the 10th calendar day prior to the first day of a regular session, except as otherwise provided. Provides that any bill to effect any change in laws relating to any retirement system for public employees that is to be prefiled for introduction in either house shall be prefiled no later than 5 p.m. of the 45th calendar day prior to the first day of a regular session. Further provides that the legislature may provide by joint rule for the procedures for passage of duplicate or companion instruments.

Proposed joint rule provides that all regular sessions shall convene on the second Monday in April and except as provided in present constitution, adjourn no later than 6 p.m. on June 1st. Provides that no new matter intended to have the effect of law shall be introduced or received by either house after 6 p.m. of the 10th calendar day. Provides that no matter intended to have the effect of law, except a measure proposing a suspension of law, shall be considered on third reading and final passage in either house after 6 p.m. on May 29th, except by a favorable record vote of two-thirds of the elected members of each house.

Provides that regular sessions convening in even-numbered years are general in nature. Provides that no measure levying or authorizing a new tax by the state or by any statewide political subdivision whose boundaries are coterminous with the state; increasing an existing tax by the state or by any statewide political subdivision whose boundaries are coterminous with the state; or legislating with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions or credits, shall be introduced or enacted during a regular session held in an even-numbered year.

Proposed Joint Rule provides that during any session convening in an odd-numbered year, no matter intended to have the effect of law, including any suspension of law, shall be introduced or considered unless its object is to enact the General Appropriation Bill; enact the comprehensive capital budget; make an appropriation; levy or authorize a new tax; increase an existing tax; levy, authorize, increase, decrease, or repeal a fee; dedicate revenue; legislate with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, or credits; or legislate with regard to the issuance of

bonds. Provides that in addition, a matter intended to have the effect of law, including a measure proposing a suspension of law, which is not within the subject matter restrictions provided in proposed Joint Rule may be considered at any such session if:

1. It is prefiled no later than the deadline provided in proposed Joint Rule, provided that the member shall not prefile more than five such matters pursuant to proposed Joint Rule; or
2. Its object is to enact a local or special law which is required to be and has been advertised in accordance with present constitution and which is not prohibited by the provisions of present constitution.

Proposed Joint Rule provides that the legislature shall meet in an organizational session in the state capitol to be convened at ten o'clock in the morning on the day the members are required to take office. Provides that no such session shall exceed three legislative days. Provides that the session shall be for the primary purpose of judging the qualifications and elections of the members, taking the oath of office, organizing the two houses, and selecting officers. Further provides that no matter intended to have the effect of law shall be introduced at an organizational session.

Proposed Joint Rule provides for effectiveness.

(Adds Joint Rule No. 23)