2015 Regular Session

Tim Burns

Existing House Rule provides that the Committee on Appropriations is comprised of 25 members.

<u>Prior House Rule</u> provided that seven members of the committee were elected (one each by the members residing in each congressional district, respectively) and 18 were appointed by the Speaker. Provided that one appointed member had to be a resident of each Public Service Commission district, one appointed member had to be a resident of each congressional district, and six members were appointed from the state at large.

New House Rule provides instead that there are 17 members appointed by the Speaker and eight elected members. Of the 17 appointed members, one shall be a resident of each Public Service Commission district, one shall be a resident of each congressional district, and the remainder shall be appointed from the state at large. Of the eight elected members, one shall be a resident of and elected by the members residing in each BESE district.

Existing House Rule provides procedures for electing members of the committee. Provides that members are elected to the committee after the general election for members of the House of Representatives from among the members-elect. Requires the Clerk to transmit a notice of candidacy form and an outline of the election procedures to each member-elect. Requires the Clerk to transmit to each member-elect a ballot listing the candidates from his district. Requires the Clerk to tabulate the votes. Provides deadlines for each procedural step.

<u>Prior House Rule</u> required the outline of election procedures to be in the form of a letter. Required each member-elect who wished to be a candidate to sign and date the notice of candidacy and return it to the Clerk. Required the member-elect to mark, sign, and date the ballot and return it to the Clerk. Required a member-elect's request to withdraw his ballot or change his vote to be written. Required the Clerk to open the ballots.

<u>New House Rule</u> removes provisions providing for paper election materials. Removes requirements that the notice of candidacy and ballot be signed by the member-elect. Removes requirement that a member-elect's request to withdraw his ballot or change his vote be written. Removes the requirement that the Clerk open ballots. Further <u>new House Rule</u> requires the Clerk to initiate and oversee the design and implementation of an electronic voting system and to certify that the system is accurate and secure.

Effective on November 21, 2015, for election purposes; effective for all purposes on January 11, 2016.

(Amends House Rule 6.4(A), (B), and (D))