

State of Vermont
House of Representatives
Montpelier, Vermont



House Resolution

H.R. 5

House resolution amending the Rules and Orders of the House of Representatives related to the introduction of bills

Offered by: Representatives Higley of Lowell, Batchelor of Derby, Burditt of West Rutland, Devereux of Mount Holly, Hebert of Vernon, Lefebvre of Newark, Shaw of Pittsford, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh, and Willhoit of St. Johnsbury

Whereas, the Office of Legislative Council's receipt of a large number of standard form bill drafting requests from members after the convening of the biennial and adjourned sessions of the General Assembly has proven increasingly challenging, and

Whereas, placing a limit on the number of member-initiated standard-form bill drafting requests, after the convening of the biennial and adjourned sessions of the General Assembly, combined with the authority of the House Committee on Rules to grant a waiver in specific circumstances, would ease the heavy early session workload on the Office of Legislative Council and still allow for bill requests that could not have been anticipated on the first day of the biennial or adjourned sessions, and

Whereas, members would still be authorized to request an unlimited number of standard form bills prior to the convening of the biennial session and during the legislative interim, now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That Rule 40 of the Rules and Order of the House of Representatives be amended to read:

40. (a) ~~During the first year of the biennium, except with the prior consent of the Committee on Rules, no member may introduce a bill into the House drafted in standard form, after the last day of February or submit any requests to the Legislative Council that a bill be drafted in this form later than the last day of January. Prior to the first day of the first year of the biennium, a member may request an unlimited number of bills drafted in standard form. Except with the prior consent of the Committee on Rules, a member may request a maximum of five bills drafted in standard form from the first day of the biennium until the last day in January, and no member may introduce a bill drafted in that form after the last day in February.~~ During the first year of the biennium, a member may introduce a bill into the House drafted in short form at any time, and may submit requests to the Legislative Council that a bill be drafted in this form at any time.

(b) ~~During the second year of the biennium, except with the prior consent of the Committee on Rules, no member may introduce a bill into the House drafted in standard form after the last day of January or submit any requests to the Legislative Council that a bill be drafted in this form later than the fifteenth~~

~~day of January~~ Prior to the first day of the second year of the biennium, a member may request an unlimited number of bills drafted in standard form. Except with the prior consent of the Committee on Rules, a member may request a maximum of five bills drafted in standard form from the first day of the second year of the biennium until the fifteenth of January, and no member may introduce a bill drafted in that form after the last day in January. During the second year of the biennium, a member may introduce a bill into the House in short form until the second Friday after the annual Town meeting day, and may submit requests to the Legislative Council that a bill be drafted in short form until the fifteenth day of February.