

RULE SIX

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

6.1 – Definition of the Term “Bill”

The term “bill”, as used in these Rules, shall mean proposed legislation which in order to become law must pass through the Legislature according to the procedures established by the Oklahoma Constitution, including consideration by the Governor. The term shall include proposed laws of a general nature and proposed special or local laws. The procedures of these Rules applicable to the introduction and passage of bills shall also apply to the introduction and passage of joint resolutions.

6.2 - Filing Deadlines

The filing deadlines for introduction of bills and joint resolutions shall be established in consultation between the House and Senate.

6.3 - Numbering

(a) Bills and joint resolutions introduced in the Second Regular Session of a Legislature shall be numbered consecutively with the last bill and joint resolution, respectively, introduced in the First Regular Session of the same Legislature.

(b) Simple and concurrent resolutions introduced in the Second Regular Session of a Legislature shall be numbered consecutively with the last simple and concurrent resolution, respectively, introduced in the First Regular Session of the same Legislature.

6.4 - Introduction

(a) All bills and resolutions shall be accompanied by the name or names of the Member or Members introducing the bill or resolution, shall have a title stating the subject matter contained therein and shall include the request number assigned to the bill or resolution by the staff of the House.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, no Member of the House of Representatives shall be the principal author of more than eight (8) bills or joint resolutions during a session of the Legislature.

(c) The provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to:

1. bills containing appropriation matters of which the principal author is the Chair of the Appropriations and Budget Committee of the House,

2. reapportionment bills,

3. bills introduced for the purpose specified in Section 23.1 of Title 75 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

4. bills introduced for the purpose of disapproving or approving agency rules pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act,
5. bills introduced for the purpose of implementing the Oklahoma Sunset Law,
6. bills that only repeal or delete, without substantive replacement, provisions of the Oklahoma Statutes,
7. bills initially introduced by the principal author in the Senate and for which the House Member is serving as principal author only at the request of the principal author in the Senate,
8. simple or concurrent resolutions, and
9. any other measure authorized by the Speaker.

6.5 - Coauthors

Coauthors of bills and resolutions added after introduction shall be indicated on a separate page to be attached to the bill or resolution.

6.6 - Principal Senate Author of a House Bill or Resolution

While a House bill, joint resolution or concurrent resolution is within the physical control of the House, the principal author of the bill or resolution shall have full and complete discretion in determining who the principal Senate author of the bill or resolution shall be. No bill or resolution lacking a principal Senate author shall be scheduled for floor consideration, except that the withdrawal of the principal Senate author, after the bill or resolution is scheduled for floor consideration, shall not preclude the House from considering the bill or resolution.

6.7 – Procedures Governing Simple and Concurrent Resolutions

(a) The following classes of simple and concurrent resolutions shall lie over one (1) legislative day after introduction, after which they may be called up for consideration:

1. resolutions requesting information from any of the executive or judicial departments, from county and municipal officers or from corporate entities or persons,
2. resolutions giving rise to debate.

(b) The following classes of simple and concurrent resolutions may be taken up the same day they are introduced:

1. resolutions relating to business immediately before the House,
2. resolutions relating to business of the day on which they may be offered, or

3. resolutions relating to adjournment or recess.

(c) A motion to adopt a simple or concurrent resolution shall be subject to amendment and debate. A motion to amend shall be in order immediately. Debate shall be limited to thirty (30) minutes, equally divided between the proponents and opponents of the resolution, provided that no Member speak for more than ten (10) minutes. Five (5) minutes of the time allocated to the proponents of the resolution shall be reserved to the principal author, and the principal author shall have the right to close the debate.

(d) Coauthors of simple or concurrent resolutions added after introduction shall be indicated on a separate page to be attached to the simple or concurrent resolution.

(e) Any simple or concurrent resolution may be referred by the Speaker to an appropriate committee.

6.8 - Final Action

(a) The following action shall constitute final action on any bill or resolution:

1. committee recommendation of "Do Not Pass",
2. if a motion to reconsider the vote on Third Reading or Fourth Reading fails to prevail,
3. if a motion to table the motion to reconsider prevails, or
4. if a vote is taken on Third Reading or Fourth Reading and no notice is served to reconsider the vote.

(b) If final action is such as to defeat a bill or resolution, no other bill or resolution having the same effect and covering the same specific subject matter shall be considered by the House during either session of the current Legislature.

6.9 - Carry-over Bills and Joint Resolutions

Any bill or joint resolution pending in the House at the sine die adjournment of the First Regular Session of a Legislature shall carry over to the Second Regular Session with the same status as if there had been no adjournment; provided, however, that this Rule shall not apply to bills and joint resolutions pending in a conference committee at the time of sine die adjournment.