

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 53

INTRODUCED BY J. KARJALA

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A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF THE BILL REQUESTING PROCESS INCLUDING THE PRIORITY OF BILL DRAFTS.

WHEREAS, currently the rules regarding the bill requesting and drafting process and drafting priority have resulted in confusion and delay; and

WHEREAS, the process should be reviewed to determine if there is a more efficient process that provides more fairness for individual legislators; and

WHEREAS, the process should ensure that each bill receives the time and consideration necessary for a fair bill hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to examine the rules regarding the requesting of bills, the drafting of bills, and the prioritization of bill drafts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the study may also include a limitation on the number of bills either requested or introduced and a mechanism for requesting bills needed later in the session.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions, comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 67th Legislature.

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