

INTRODUCED BY C. SMITH

JOINT RULES AMENDMENT NO. SJ.0001.001.014

AMENDMENT REQUESTED BY S. FITZPATRICK

FOR THE JOINT RULES COMMITTEE

PREPARED BY JARET COLES

BY REQUEST OF THE JOINT RULES

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA ADOPTING THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE RULES.

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

That the following Joint Rules be adopted:

**JOINT RULES OF THE MONTANA
SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

CHAPTER 1

COVID-19 Response

1-05. Definitions. As used in these joint rules, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Member" means a member of the Senate or the House of Representatives for the 67th Legislature.

(2) "Participating remotely", "remotely present", or "participate remotely" means participating by telephone, teleconference, videoconference, or other means.

(3) "Present" means a member was either physically present and participating in the session or remotely present and participating in the session.

(4) "Session" means the 67th legislative session.

1-10. Legislative Leadership COVID-19 Response Panel. (1) There is a Legislative Leadership COVID-19 Response Panel comprised of:

(b) further amendment of the disputed amendment.

(3) (a) If either house requests a free conference committee and the other house concurs, appointments must be made in the same manner as provided in subsection (1). A free conference committee may discuss and propose amendments to a bill in its entirety and is not confined to a particular amendment. However, a free conference committee is limited to consideration of amendments that are within the scope of the title of the introduced bill.

(b) A free conference committee may not take executive action on an amendment to a bill implementing provisions of a general appropriation act that does not directly and substantively address the subject of the bill.

30-40. Conference committee -- enrolling. A conference committee report must give clerical instructions for a corrected reference bill and for enrolling by referring to the reference bill version.

30-50. Committee consideration of general appropriation bills. (1) All general appropriation bills must first be considered by a joint subcommittee composed of designated members of the Senate Finance and Claims Committee and the House Appropriations Committee, and then by each committee separately.

(2) Joint meetings of the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance and Claims Committee must be held upon call of the chair of the House Appropriations Committee, who is chair of the joint committee.

(3) The committee chair of the Senate Finance and Claims Committee or of the House Appropriations Committee may be a voting member in the joint subcommittees if:

(a) either house has fewer members on the joint subcommittees;

(b) the chair represents the house with fewer members on the subcommittees; and

(c) the chair is present for the vote at the time that a question is called. A vote may not be held open to facilitate voting by a chair.

30-55. Legislative Consumer Counsel testimony. The Office of Consumer Counsel or anyone acting on behalf of the Office of Consumer Counsel may not present oral or written testimony to a standing or select committee as a proponent or opponent without the approval of the Legislative Consumer Committee. Any testimony or information that is presented without the approval of the Legislative Consumer Committee must be presented in the capacity of an informational witness.

30-60. Estimation of revenue. (1) The Revenue Interim Committee shall introduce a House joint