

**BILL REQUEST PROCEDURES JOINT RESOLUTION**

2011 THIRD SPECIAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper**

Senate Sponsor: Margaret Dayton

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This rules resolution modifies procedures for prioritizing requests for legislation.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- ▶ extends and staggers the deadlines for a legislator to designate priority status for a request for legislation;
- ▶ provides that a legislator will forfeit one or more priority requests if the legislator fails to make a priority designation before a staggered deadline passes;
- ▶ clarifies existing restrictions on the use and transfer of priority designations;
- ▶ clarifies language regulating the order in which legislation is drafted; and
- ▶ changes language to provide for more consistent use of terms.

**Special Clauses:**

None

**Legislative Rules Affected:**

AMENDS:

**JR4-2-102**

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*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. **JR4-2-102** is amended to read:

**JR4-2-102. Prioritizing Legislation.**

~~[(1) Consistent with JR4-2-101 on prefilings of bills, beginning 60 days after each annual general session and ending December 1 of each year, each legislator may make an~~

30 ~~irrevocable and nontransferable prioritization of up to three bills.]~~

31 (1) (a) Beginning on the first day on which a request for legislation may be filed under  
32 JR4-2-101, a legislator may designate up to three requests for legislation as priority requests  
33 subject to the following deadlines:

34 (i) priority request number one must be requested on or before the first Thursday in  
35 December, or the following business day if the first Thursday falls on a holiday;

36 (ii) priority request number two must be requested on or before the first Thursday in  
37 January, or the following business day if the first Thursday falls on a holiday; and

38 (iii) priority request number three must be requested on or before the first Thursday of  
39 the annual general session.

40 (b) A legislator who fails to make a priority request on or before a deadline loses that  
41 priority request. However, the legislator is not prohibited from using any remaining priority  
42 requests that are associated with a later deadline, if available.

43 (c) A legislator who begins serving after a deadline has passed is entitled to use only  
44 those priority requests that are available under an unexpired deadline.

45 (2) A legislator may not:

46 (a) revoke a priority designation once it has been requested;

47 (b) transfer a priority designation to a different request for legislation; or

48 (c) transfer a priority designation to another legislator.

49 ~~[(2)]~~ (3) (a) (i) When sufficient drafting information is available, [priority bills]  
50 prioritized requests for legislation and interim committee bills shall be drafted [first] before  
51 other requests for legislation.

52 ~~(ii) [All other bills]~~ Subject to preference for priority status as provided in Subsection  
53 (3)(a)(i), requests for legislation shall be drafted on a first-in, first-out basis.

54 (b) Except as otherwise provided in these rules, [before numbering any bills,] the  
55 Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall reserve as many bill numbers as  
56 necessary to allow all [designated priority bills to be the first bills numbered] prioritized  
57 requests for legislation to receive lower bill numbers than non-prioritized requests.

