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HOUSE RESOLUTION 1  
**48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008**

INTRODUCED BY  
Janice E. Arnold-Jones

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE STRUCTURE AND PROCESS TASK FORCE

A RESOLUTION

RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE REFORM; AMENDING THE HOUSE RULES TO PROHIBIT COMMITTEES FROM REPORTING LEGISLATION "WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION", TO ALLOW MEMBERS TO COSPONSOR LEGISLATION BY FILING A WRITTEN NOTICE, TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF BILLS AND MEMORIALS THAT MAY BE INTRODUCED, TO LIMIT THE TIME TO INTRODUCE MEMORIALS, TO EXPAND LEGISLATION THAT MAY BE PREFILED AND TO AND ALLOW GUESTS ON THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

WHEREAS, the rules of the house of representatives may be amended by a two-thirds' vote of all the members of the house or by a majority vote of the members of the house upon the recommendation of the committee on rules and order of business;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that House Rule 9-12

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1 be amended to read:

2 "9-12 The report on the final vote of the committee on  
3 each bill, resolution or memorial shall be reported  
4 to the house no later than the second calendar day  
5 in which the house is in session after the day on  
6 which the final vote was taken by the committee. A  
7 committee shall not report a bill, resolution or  
8 memorial "without recommendation"."; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the existing House Rule 11-9-1  
10 be recompiled as House Rule 11-9-2 and the following new House  
11 Rule 11-9-1 be adopted to read:

12 "11-9-1 Every bill, resolution or memorial introduced in the  
13 house by a representative shall be endorsed by the  
14 representative sponsoring the bill, resolution or  
15 memorial and by each representative cosponsoring the  
16 bill, resolution or memorial. A representative may  
17 also cosponsor a bill, resolution or memorial by  
18 filing a written notice in open session with the  
19 clerk of the house prior to third reading in the  
20 house."; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a new House Rule 11-9-3 be  
22 adopted to read:

23 "11-9-3 Each member may introduce no more than five bills  
24 and two memorials during a session convened in an  
25 even-numbered year and no more than ten bills and

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1 two memorials during a session convened in an odd-  
2 numbered year; provided that this limitation shall  
3 not apply to bills that are prefiled; or bills or  
4 memorials that are endorsed by a legislative interim  
5 committee."; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a new House Rule 11-9-4 be  
7 adopted to read:

8 "11-9-4 No house memorial shall be introduced subsequent to  
9 the twenty-second day in a session convened in an  
10 even-numbered year or subsequent to the thirty-  
11 second day in a session convened in an odd-numbered  
12 year."; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that House Rules 11-12-1, 11-12-2,  
14 11-12-3 and 11-12-4 be repealed and a new House Rule 11-12-1 be  
15 adopted to read:

16 "11-12-1 A member may prefile legislation by depositing it  
17 with the chief clerk during regular business hours  
18 between December 15 and the Friday before a regular  
19 session begins. The chief clerk shall number  
20 prefiled legislation in the order in which it is  
21 received; provided that the first prefiled bill  
22 shall be numbered as House Bill 10 or a higher  
23 number as the speaker of the house may determine,  
24 reserving the initial bill numbers for the bill  
25 authorizing current expenses of the legislature, the

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1           general appropriation bill and such other bills as  
2           the speaker determines is appropriate. Prefiled  
3           legislation shall be publicly available. Prefiled  
4           legislation shall be introduced and referred to  
5           committee on the first day of the regular session.";  
6           and

7           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that House Rule 23-2 be amended to  
8           read:

9           "23-2       Only persons who are members of the legislature or  
10           officers and employees of the legislature having  
11           official duties directly connected with the business  
12           of the house shall be admitted to the floor,  
13           rostrum, lounges and hallways. Exceptions to this  
14           rule shall be:

15                   (a) the governor and representatives of [~~his~~]  
16           the governor's office on official business and  
17           carrying written accreditation from the governor;  
18           [~~and~~]

19                   (b) former members of the legislature,  
20           provided they carry written accreditation of status  
21           from the chief clerk, and special guests of the  
22           house; [~~and~~] provided that such former members and  
23           guests are seated, with the speaker's consent, only  
24           on the speaker's rostrum; and

25                   (c) special guests of the house who may be

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1                   invited to perform for the house prior to the final  
2                   fourteen days of a session."; and

3                   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that House Rule 23-5 be amended to  
4 read:

5 "23-5            No member shall make any introductions of persons  
6                   seated in the gallery. The names of guests or  
7                   organizations welcomed by the house may be posted in  
8                   an appropriate manner on an electronic display in  
9                   the chamber."; and

10                  BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the amendments to the house  
11 rules proposed by this resolution take effect immediately prior  
12 to adjournment of the second session of the forty-eighth  
13 legislature.