

September 2009

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE AND HOUSE RULES 508

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Senate Rule 508 is amended as follows:

508. Reporting of measures. Except for an appropriations bill, a resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota, or a resolution directing an interim study by the Legislative ~~Council~~ Management, no Senate bill or resolution may be held in a committee for more than thirty legislative days after it is referred to the committee, unless an extension of time is granted by the Senate. Except for a bill introduced after the deadline for introducing bills, a resolution directing an interim study by the Legislative ~~Council~~ Management, or a resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota, all Senate bills and resolutions must be reported back to the Senate no later than the thirty-first legislative day. A resolution directing an interim study by the Legislative ~~Council~~ Management or proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota must be reported back to the Senate no later than the thirty-seventh legislative day. A bill introduced after the deadline for introducing bills must be reported back to the Senate within five legislative days after the day of introduction. A bill or resolution not reported back as required by this rule must automatically be placed on the calendar without recommendation. House bills and resolutions must be reported back to the Senate by the fifty-fifth legislative day. House bills received after the crossover deadline must be reported back to the Senate within five legislative days after the day of receipt.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. House Rule 508 is amended as follows:

508. Reporting of measures. Except for an appropriations bill, a resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota, or a resolution directing an interim study by the Legislative ~~Council~~ Management, no House bill or resolution may be held in a committee for more than thirty legislative days after it is referred to the committee, unless an extension of time is granted by the House. Except for a bill introduced after the deadline for introducing bills, a resolution directing an interim study by the Legislative ~~Council~~ Management, or a resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution

1 of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota, all House bills and resolutions must be
2 reported back to the House no later than the thirty-first legislative day. A resolution directing an
3 interim study by the Legislative ~~Council~~ Management or proposing an amendment to the
4 Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota must be reported back to
5 the House no later than the thirty-seventh legislative day. A bill introduced after the deadline
6 for introducing bills must be reported back to the House within five legislative days after the day
7 of introduction. A bill or resolution not reported back as required by this rule must automatically
8 be placed on the calendar without recommendation. Senate bills and resolutions must be
9 reported back to the House by the fifty-fifth legislative day. Senate bills received after the
10 crossover deadline must be reported back to the House within five legislative days after the day
11 of receipt.

NOTE: This proposed rules amendment is in response to the following question:

Under House and Senate Rules 508, bills from the other house must be reported out of committee by the 55th legislative day. Should there be an exception for bills introduced after the deadline for introduction of bills, whether introduced before or after the 55th legislative day?

The proposed amendment provides two exceptions for a delayed bill--rather than being required to be reported back by the 31st legislative day, a delayed bill must be reported back within five legislative days after the day of introduction, and rather than being required to be reported back by the 55th legislative day in the second house, a delayed bill received in the second house after the regular crossover deadline must be reported back within five legislative days after the day of receipt from the other house.