ROUGH DRAFT: Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for Legislative Management Committee March 2008

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE AND HOUSE RULES 329(4) AND 508 AND JOINT RULE 203

1 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Senate Rule 329(4) is amended: 2 4. Except for bills approved for introduction after the deadline for introduction of bills, 3 all Senate bills required to be rereferred to the Appropriations Committee must be 4 rereferred not later than the twenty-third legislative day and all House bills required 5 to be rereferred to the Appropriations Committee must be rereferred not later than 6 the forty-seventh legislative day. If an appropriation bill is not reported to the floor 7 and rereferred as required herein, the bill is deemed rereferred and is under the 8 jurisdiction of the Appropriations Committee at the end of the twenty-third or 9 forty-seventh legislative day, as appropriate. **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Senate Rule 508 is amended: 10 11 **508. REPORTING OF MEASURES.** Except for an appropriations bill, a resolution

12 proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North 13 Dakota, or a resolution directing an interim study by the Legislative Council, no Senate bill or 14 resolution may be held in a committee for more than thirty legislative days after it is referred to 15 the committee, unless an extension of time is granted by the Senate. Except for a resolution 16 directing an interim study by the Legislative Council or proposing an amendment to the 17 Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota, all Senate bills and 18 resolutions must be reported back to the Senate no later than the thirty-first legislative day. A 19 resolution directing an interim study by the Legislative Council or proposing an amendment to 20 the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota must be reported back 21 to the Senate no later than the thirty-seventh legislative day. A bill or resolution not reported 22 back as required by this rule must automatically be placed on the calendar without 23 recommendation. House bills and resolutions must be reported back to the Senate by the 24 fifty-fifth legislative day.

25 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** House Rule 329(4) is amended:

4. Except for bills approved for introduction after the deadline for introduction of bills,

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all House bills required to be rereferred to the Appropriations Committee must be

rereferred not later than the twenty-third legislative day and all Senate bills
required to be rereferred to the Appropriations Committee must be rereferred not
later than the forty-seventh legislative day. If an appropriation bill is not reported to
the floor and rereferred as required herein, the bill is deemed rereferred and is
under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Committee at the end of the
twenty-third or forty-seventh legislative day, as appropriate.

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SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. House Rule 508 is amended:

8 **508. REPORTING OF MEASURES.** Except for an appropriations bill, a resolution 9 proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North 10 Dakota, or a resolution directing an interim study by the Legislative Council, no House bill or 11 resolution may be held in a committee for more than thirty legislative days after it is referred to 12 the committee, unless an extension of time is granted by the House. Except for a resolution 13 directing an interim study by the Legislative Council or proposing an amendment to the 14 Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota, all House bills and 15 resolutions must be reported back to the House no later than the thirty-first legislative day. A 16 resolution directing an interim study by the Legislative Council or proposing an amendment to 17 the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota must be reported back 18 to the House no later than the thirty-seventh legislative day. A bill or resolution not reported 19 back as required by this rule must automatically be placed on the calendar without 20 recommendation. Senate bills and resolutions must be reported back to the House by the 21 fifty-fifth legislative day. 22 SECTION 5. AMENDMENT. Joint Rule 203 is amended:

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203. LIMITATION ON MESSAGING OF MEASURES - CROSSOVER DAYS.

- A bill that has passed one house may not be sent to the other house for
 concurrence after the thirty-third legislative day, except a bill approved for
 introduction after the deadline for introduction of bills.
- A resolution that has passed one house may not be sent to the other house for
 concurrence after the fortieth legislative day, except a resolution approved for
 introduction after the deadline for introduction of that type of resolution.

NOTE: This proposed "rules amendment" is presented without any change in order to provide a vehicle for discussion purposes. This is in response to suggestions:

• (From the Senate) Bills with appropriations which are referred to standing committees have a small window to be heard and acted upon before crossover.

This puts pressure on the Appropriations Committee for bills receiving a do pass from the standing committees.

 (From the House) There should be more legislative days before crossover and a shortened time period after crossover. Deadlines before crossover are too tight too rushed.

A timeline showing the various deadlines established in the rules is attached.