

December 2009

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE AND HOUSE RULES 329(4) and 508,  
SENATE RULE 402(3), HOUSE RULE 402(4), AND JOINT RULE 203**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 4 of Senate Rule 329 is amended as follows:

4. Except for bills approved for introduction after the deadline for introduction of bills, all Senate bills required to be rereferred to the Appropriations Committee must be rereferred not later than the ~~twenty-third~~ twenty-fifth legislative day and all House bills required to be rereferred to the Appropriations Committee must be rereferred not later than the ~~forty-seventh~~ fifty-second 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~~ twenty-fifth or ~~forty-seventh~~ fifty-second legislative day, as appropriate.

**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of Senate Rule 402 is amended as follows:

3. Resolutions that propose amendments to the Constitution of North Dakota and resolutions directing the Legislative ~~Council~~ Management to carry out a study may not be introduced after the ~~thirty-first~~ thirty-fourth legislative day.

**SECTION 3. 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 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, all Senate bills and resolutions must be reported back to the Senate no later than the ~~thirty-first~~ thirty-fourth 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~~ fortieth legislative

1 day. A bill or resolution not reported back as required by this rule must automatically be placed  
2 on the calendar without recommendation. House bills and resolutions must be reported back to  
3 the Senate by the ~~fifty-fifth~~ sixty-second legislative day.

4 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 4 of House Rule 329 is amended as follows:

- 5 4. Except for bills approved for introduction after the deadline for introduction of bills,  
6 all House bills required to be rereferred to the Appropriations Committee must be  
7 rereferred not later than the ~~twenty-third~~ twenty-fifth legislative day and all Senate  
8 bills required to be rereferred to the Appropriations Committee must be rereferred  
9 not later than the ~~forty-seventh~~ fifty-second legislative day. If an appropriation bill  
10 is not reported to the floor and rereferred as required herein, the bill is deemed  
11 rereferred and is under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Committee at the end  
12 of the ~~twenty-third~~ twenty-fifth or ~~forty-seventh~~ fifty-second legislative day, as  
13 appropriate.

14 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 4 of House Rule 402 is amended as follows:

- 15 4. Resolutions that propose amendments to the Constitution of North Dakota and  
16 resolutions directing the Legislative ~~Council~~ Management to carry out a study may  
17 not be introduced after the ~~thirty-first~~ thirty-fourth legislative day.

18 **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** House Rule 508 is amended as follows:

19 **508. Reporting of measures.** Except for an appropriations bill, a resolution proposing  
20 an amendment to the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota, or a  
21 resolution directing an interim study by the Legislative ~~Council~~ Management, no House bill or  
22 resolution may be held in a committee for more than thirty legislative days after it is referred to  
23 the committee, unless an extension of time is granted by the House. Except for a resolution  
24 directing an interim study by the Legislative ~~Council~~ Management or proposing an amendment  
25 to the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota, all House bills and  
26 resolutions must be reported back to the House no later than the ~~thirty-first~~ thirty-fourth  
27 legislative day. A resolution directing an interim study by the Legislative ~~Council~~ Management  
28 or proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North  
29 Dakota must be reported back to the House no later than the ~~thirty-seventh~~ fortieth legislative  
30 day. A bill or resolution not reported back as required by this rule must automatically be placed  
31 on the calendar without recommendation. Senate bills and resolutions must be reported back  
32 to the House by the ~~fifty-fifth~~ sixty-second legislative day.

33 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Joint Rule 203 is amended as follows:

1       **203. Limitation on messaging of measures - Crossover days.**

- 2       1. A bill that has passed one house may not be sent to the other house for
- 3       concurrence after the ~~thirty-fourth~~ thirty-seventh legislative day, except a bill
- 4       approved for introduction after the deadline for introduction of bills.
- 5       2. A resolution that has passed one house may not be sent to the other house for
- 6       concurrence after the ~~fortieth~~ forty-third legislative day, except a resolution
- 7       approved for introduction after the deadline for introduction of that type of
- 8       resolution.

**NOTE:** This rules amendment was prepared in response to a request at the June 23 and September 14, 2009, Legislative Procedure and Arrangements Committee meetings to present 2011 legislative deadlines to allow the committee to review those deadlines and how rules may be revised to allow additional time for consideration of measures, especially the Appropriations Committees.

The proposed amendments:

- Extend the deadline for rereferral to the Appropriations Committee in the house of origin from the 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> legislative day. This would give the two-day and the three-day committees an additional day for consideration of measures before rereferral.
- Extend the deadline for reporting measures in the house of origin (as well as the final resolution introduction deadline) from the 31<sup>st</sup> to the 34<sup>th</sup> legislative day. This would give the three-day committees an additional day, the two-day committees two additional days, and the Appropriations Committees three additional days for consideration of measures before reporting measures out of committee.
- Extend the deadline for crossover from the 34<sup>th</sup> legislative day (Friday) to the 37<sup>th</sup> legislative day (Wednesday). The crossover recess would also be moved from Monday-Tuesday to Thursday-Friday.
- Extend the deadline for reporting constitutional amendment and study resolutions from the 37<sup>th</sup> to the 40<sup>th</sup> legislative day. This would give the three-day and the two-day committees three additional days for consideration of these resolutions.
- Extend the deadline for crossover of resolutions from the 40<sup>th</sup> to the 43<sup>rd</sup> legislative day.
- Extend the deadline for rereferral to the Appropriations Committee in the second house from the 47<sup>th</sup> to the 52<sup>nd</sup> legislative day. This would give the three-day and the two-day committees an extra week for consideration of measures before rereferral.
- Extend the deadline for reporting measures in the second house from the 55<sup>th</sup> to the 62<sup>nd</sup> legislative day. This would give the three-day committees three additional days, the two-day committees two additional days, and the Appropriations Committees four additional days for consideration of measures before reporting measures out of committee.

[Attached](#) is a 2011 calendar depiction of current legislative deadlines, with arrows depicting the effect of moving the two rereferral deadlines and the final reporting deadline.