

September 2009

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE AND HOUSE RULES 508

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

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

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

21           **508. Reporting of measures.** Except for an appropriations bill, a resolution proposing  
22 an amendment to the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of North Dakota, or a  
23 resolution directing an interim study by the Legislative ~~Council~~ Management, no House bill or  
24 resolution may be held in a committee for more than thirty legislative days after it is referred to  
25 the committee, unless an extension of time is granted by the House. Except for a bill  
26 introduced after the deadline for introducing bills, a resolution directing an interim study by the  
27 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 55<sup>th</sup> legislative day. Should there be an exception for bills introduced after the deadline for introduction of bills, whether introduced before or after the 55<sup>th</sup> legislative day?

The proposed amendment provides two exceptions for a delayed bill--rather than being required to be reported back by the 31<sup>st</sup> 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 55<sup>th</sup> 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.