

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Legislative training and process changes; expenses for governor-elect

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Overview

Proposes several changes relating to the legislative process. These include: annual training forums for legislators; a schedule for certain actions relating to the legislative process; a limit on material that can be included in appropriation and tax bills; and expenses for a governor-elect when a new person is elected governor.

Section

1 Legislative training forums. Requires the Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC) to oversee two legislative training forums each year, one in January and one in February. Provides that joint legislative rules must prohibit other official legislative gatherings that would conflict with these forums. Authorizes the LCC to select a partner from Minnesota's higher education institutions to run training, schedule activities, and create meeting agendas. Authorizes the LCC to accept donations for purposes of this section, but not from lobbyists or principals.

2 Schedule for consideration of legislation.

Subd. 1. Agency bills. Requires agency bills to be delivered to the Revisor by November 1, with some exceptions.

Subd. 2. Resolution for structure of budget bills. Requires that by January 15 of each odd-numbered year, the legislature adopt a concurrent resolution designating major budget bills and allocating state program and budget accounts among these

Section

bills.

Subd. 3. Deadline resolution. Requires that by January 31 of each odd-numbered year, the legislature adopt a concurrent resolution establishing committee deadlines.

Subd. 4. State of the state. Encourages the Governor to make a state of the state address in January of odd-numbered years and within the first 10 days of the legislative session in an even-numbered year. Encourages the Governor to announce major legislative policy initiatives before or during this address.

Subd. 5. Executive submission of budget bills. Requires the governor to submit bills necessary to implement the operating budget within one week after the detailed budget must be presented to the legislature.

Subd. 6. Price of government. References adoption of the price of government resolution required by current law.

Subd. 7. Individual budget resolutions. Requires that by April 1 of odd-numbered years house and senate each adopt a budget resolution establishing overall expenditure targets and separate targets for each major budget bill.

3 Contents of budget bills. Provides that an appropriation bill may contain only language appropriating money and other language related to the appropriations in the bill. Provides an exception for the omnibus tax bill, and specifies what material may be contained in that bill.

Provides that a conference committee report on an appropriation bill may contain only subject matter contained in the house or senate versions of the bill. Requires that if a compromise proposal emerges in conference committee that would make substantial changes in programs (different in a major way from what is proposed in the house or senate bill), the conference committee must delay action at least 12 hours and then allow for input from persons impacted before the final vote.

Requires the legislature to adopt joint rules to implement and enforce this section. Provides that remedies provided by these joint rules are exclusive.

4 Expenses of governor-elect. Provides a statutory appropriation of money for expenses of a governor-elect, when a new person is elected governor.

5 Appropriation. Appropriates \$30,000 to the LCC for the legislative forums in 2007.