Overview

The bill would amend the statutes to require both houses of the legislature to adopt and implement certain rules of procedure by the 2002 legislative session: (1) to establish a system of joint standing committees to consider and report on bills; and (2) to change current procedures that require the appointment of a conference committee on a bill at a certain point in the legislative process.

1 **Joint Standing Committees.** Requires both houses to adopt and implement legislative rules by the 2002 session that establish a system of joint standing committees to consider and report on bills introduced in either house.

2 **Conference Committees.** Requires both houses to adopt and implement legislative rules by the 2002 session that do not compel the house of origin of a bill, when confronted with an amendment of the other house, either to concur in the amendment or to refuse to concur and request the appointment of a conference committee. Under the changed rules, both houses could continue to amend the bill, or an amendment to the bill, until one house chooses to request a conference.