

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 110

BY REPRESENTATIVE TIM BURNS

A RESOLUTION

To amend and readopt House Rules 6.4(A), (B), and (D) of the Rules of Order of the House of Representatives to provide for the composition of the Committee on Appropriations and the procedures for electing members of the committee.

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana that House Rules 6.4(A), (B), and (D) of the Rules of Order of the House of Representatives are hereby amended and readopted to read as follows:

Rule 6.4. Committee on Appropriations; subcommittees

A. Appropriations. The Committee on Appropriations shall be composed of twenty-five members, of whom ~~eighteen~~ seventeen shall be appointed by the Speaker and ~~seven~~ eight shall be elected, both as provided herein. Of the ~~eighteen~~ seventeen appointed members, one member shall be a resident of each of the Public Service Commission districts respectively, one member shall be a resident of each of the congressional districts respectively, and ~~six members~~ the remainder shall be appointed from the state at large. Of the ~~seven~~ eight elected members, one member shall be a resident of each of the ~~congressional~~ districts for the election of members to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education respectively; such districts are hereinafter referred to as BESE districts.

B. The ~~seven~~ elected members shall be elected in the following manner:

(1) The election shall be held after the general election for members of the House of Representatives from among the members-elect.

(2) Each member-elect shall be eligible to be a candidate from the ~~congressional~~ BESE district within which the member-elect resides at the time the election is held.

(3) Within five days after the promulgation of the official returns of each general election for members of the House of Representatives, the Clerk shall transmit to each member-elect a notice of candidacy form and a ~~letter outlining an~~ outline of the procedure for the election of members of the committee.

(4) Each member-elect who wishes to be a candidate for membership on the committee shall ~~sign and date~~ return the notice of candidacy and ~~shall return it to the~~ Clerk within ten days after the notice of candidacy was transmitted by the Clerk.

(5) Within three days after the final day for the receipt of the notice of candidacy, the Clerk shall transmit to each member-elect the ~~written~~ ballot listing the candidates from the ~~congressional~~ BESE district within which the member-elect resides.

(6) The ballots shall be prepared separately by ~~congressional districts~~ BESE district and shall list the name and address of each member-elect who has declared himself to be a candidate from the respective districts. The ballot shall contain the name of the member-elect to whom it is to be transmitted.

(7) Each member-elect shall mark the ballot with his choice for one of the candidates, ~~shall sign and date the ballot,~~ and shall return the ballot to the Clerk within fifteen days after the ballot was transmitted by the Clerk.

(8) No ballot received by the Clerk after five o'clock p.m. on the fifteenth day after the date on which the ballots were transmitted shall be counted, but the day and time received shall be ~~marked on~~ recorded for each ballot received after such time, and the ballot shall be ~~marked "Invalid"~~ invalid. However, prior to five o'clock p.m. on the fifteenth day after the date on which the ballots were transmitted, a member-elect may withdraw his ballot or change his vote upon his ~~written~~ request.

(9) ~~Ballots which are not signed or on which the signature is not the normal customary signature of the member-elect shall be void.~~

~~(10)~~ (9) Each candidate who receives a majority of the votes cast by the members-elect voting in his or her ~~congressional~~ BESE district shall be elected to the committee.

~~(11)~~ (10) If no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast in a ~~congressional~~ BESE district, the Clerk shall conduct a run-off election between the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes. The run-off election shall be conducted in the same manner as the original election.

~~(12)~~ (11) The candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the run-off election shall be elected to the committee.

~~(13)~~ (12) If the run-off election results in a tie vote, the two candidates shall cast lots under the supervision of the Clerk to determine which candidate shall be elected to the committee.

~~(14)~~ (13) On or before the twentieth day after the date on which the ballots were transmitted, the Clerk shall ~~open and~~ tabulate the ~~vote~~ votes by ~~congressional~~ BESE district. Prior to the tabulation, the Clerk shall ~~hold all ballots unopened and~~ shall not disclose the contents of any ballot to any person until the day when the ~~ballots are opened and~~ votes are tabulated.

~~(15)~~ (14) The tabulation of the results of the election in each ~~congressional~~ BESE district shall indicate by name the candidate for whom each member-elect voted and the name of each member-elect who did not vote ~~or whose ballots were~~ invalid because not signed by the member-elect in accord with Subparagraph ~~(9)~~ hereof. The Clerk shall sign each of the tabulation sheets.

~~(16)~~ (15) The Clerk shall promulgate the returns of the elections within three days after the date on which the ~~ballots were opened and the~~ votes were tabulated. Promulgation shall be accomplished by transmitting a copy of the tabulation sheets to each member-elect. The vote in each election as tabulated by the Clerk shall be recorded in the Journal.

~~(17)~~ (16) The notices of candidacy returned by the members-elect and the ballots cast by the members-elect shall be public record.

(17) The Clerk shall initiate and oversee the design and implementation of a system to allow each member-elect to electronically vote and return his ballot. The system shall be accurate and secure, and the Clerk shall certify that the system meets these requirements.

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D. Any elected member of the committee may be removed by a majority of those members who reside in the ~~congressional~~ BESE district from which the member was originally elected.

(1) Removal shall be accomplished by delivery to the Speaker of an affidavit signed by a majority of those members who reside in a ~~congressional~~ BESE district expressing their intent to remove an elected member.

(2) Upon receipt of the affidavit, the Speaker shall declare a vacancy in the membership of the committee and direct the Clerk to conduct an election to fill the vacant position.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall become effective on November 21, 2015, for the purpose of the election of members to the Committee on Appropriations for the term of office beginning on January 11, 2016, and shall become effective for all purposes on January 11, 2016.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES