

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 45th Legislature (1995)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION NO. 1002

By: Peltier

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution relating to the joint rules; amending Rule 10 of the Joint Rules of the 45th Oklahoma Legislature, which relates to conference committees; limiting matter that may be considered by conference committees; providing exception; and providing procedure for obtaining exception.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 45TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

SECTION 1. Rule 10 of the Joint Rules of the 45th Oklahoma Legislature, is amended to read as follows:

RULE 10

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

(a) When a bill or resolution is returned by either house to the other with amendments, and the house where the bill or resolution originated refuses to concur in said amendments, a Conference, by a majority vote of those present and voting, may be requested. Such action shall be transmitted by Message in which shall be included the names of the conferees on the part of the requesting house. Upon receipt of such Message, the other house may, in like manner, grant such Conference, notifying the requesting house by Message and stating the names of its conferees.

(b) A Conference Committee shall consist of three (3) members of the Senate and three (3) members of the House, unless otherwise specified, to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, respectively. In all cases, the first-named member of the house in which the bill or resolution originated shall be chairman of the Conference Committee. The Committee shall meet at a convenient time, to be established by the chairman.

(c) No Conference Committee shall proceed with its business until such time as a quorum of each committee is present and any member of said Committee may request a roll call at any time to determine the presence of a quorum. The roll call of the Conference Committee shall be from the printed Journals of the respective houses, or from an official list furnished by the Presiding Officer of the respective houses.

~~(d) Only matters germane to the bill or resolution shall be subject to consideration by the Conference Committee and a~~
Conference Committees shall limit their discussions and their actions solely to the matters in disagreement between the two houses. A Conference Committee shall have no authority with respect to any bill or resolution:

(1) To change, alter, or amend text which is not in disagreement;

(2) To omit text which is not in disagreement;

(3) To add text on any matter which is not in disagreement;

(4) To add text on any matter which is not included in either the House or Senate version of the bill or resolution.

This subsection shall be strictly construed by the Presiding Officer in each house to achieve these purposes. Limitations imposed on Conference Committees by the provisions of this section may be suspended in part by permission of both houses to allow consideration of and action on a specific matter or matters which

otherwise would be prohibited. Permission shall be granted only by a Concurrent Resolution passed by majority vote of both houses. All such Concurrent Resolutions shall be privileged in nature and need not be referred to a Committee. The introduction of such a Concurrent Resolution shall be eligible for consideration by the house in which it was introduced one (1) hour after a copy of the Concurrent Resolution has been distributed to each member. The time at which the copies of the Concurrent Resolution are distributed to the members shall be time-stamped on the originals of the Concurrent Resolution. The Concurrent Resolution shall specify in detail:

(1) The exact nature of the matter or matters proposed to be considered;

(2) The specific limitation or limitations to be suspended;

(3) The specific action contemplated by the Conference Committee; and

(4) The reasons that suspension of the limitations is being requested.

Permission granted shall suspend the limitations only for the matter or matters clearly specified in the Concurrent Resolution, and the action of the Conference Committee shall be in conformity with the Concurrent Resolution. A Conference Committee Report shall not be subject to amendment.

(e) Conference Committee Reports of bills or joint resolutions shall not be considered for final passage unless the Conference Committee Report is filed within twelve (12) legislative days following the date Conference is granted, but not later than the date set by Rule 17 of the Joint Rules. After said twelve (12) legislative days but not later than the date set by Rule 17 of the Joint Rules, the conferees from the house of origin of the bill or resolution may request from the Rules Committee of the house of origin an extension not to exceed four (4) legislative days. If any extension is granted by the house of origin, the opposite house

shall be notified by Message. Upon receipt of notice of the extension, the opposite house shall grant the same extension.

(f) A Conference Committee Report for any bill or joint resolution returned to the Conference Committee for further consideration shall be filed no later than two (2) legislative days following the date further conference is granted.

(g) Bills or joint resolutions containing appropriation matters and which are referred to the General Conference Committee on Appropriations (GCCA) shall not be subject to the provisions of subsections (e) and (f) of this rule.

(h) In case of agreement by a majority of the members of each house, the Conference Committee Report shall first be made, with the papers referred accompanying it, to the house which refused to concur in amendments, and there acted upon, the action taken to be immediately reported, by Message, by the Secretary or the Clerk to the other house, the papers referred accompanying the Message. The Conference Committee Report shall be signed by all members of the Committee or by a majority of those of each house.

(i) In the event of the failure of either house to adopt the Conference Committee Report, the bill or resolution as reported by the Conference Committee shall remain with the house where the failure to adopt occurred and that house may, at any time thereafter, request further conference and the original or new conferees shall be appointed for the further consideration of amendments.

(j) In case the conferees of the two (2) houses are unable to agree they shall report that fact to both houses, and the bill shall accompany the Conference Committee Report to the house in which it originated. The bill or joint resolution shall revert to the status it occupied before being sent to Conference Committee.

(k) Neither house shall consider in either session of the current Legislature any Conference Committee Report that has been

altered in any manner after being signed by the members of the Conference Committee. Any such altered Report shall be immediately returned to the Conference Committee from which it came. It shall be the duty of the Presiding Officer of each house to enforce this Rule, regardless of whether or not a point of order is raised by a member.

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