

1                                   **JOINT RULES RESOLUTION -- PRIORITY**  
2                                   **LEGISLATION DESIGNATION**

3                                   2021 GENERAL SESSION

4                                   STATE OF UTAH

5                                   **Chief Sponsor: David G. Buxton**

6                                   House Sponsor: Timothy D. Hawkes

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8 **LONG TITLE**

9 **General Description:**

10           This resolution modifies joint legislative rules related to prioritizing legislation.

11 **Highlighted Provisions:**

12           This resolution:

13           ▶ allows a legislator-elect to designate the same number of priority requests as a  
14 sitting legislator;

15           ▶ provides a deadline by which:

- 16           • a representative-elect must designate priority request number one; and
- 17           • a senator-elect must designate priority request numbers one and two; and

18           ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

19 **Special Clauses:**

20           None

21 **Legislative Rules Affected:**

22 AMENDS:

23           **JR4-2-102**

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25 *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

26           Section 1. **JR4-2-102** is amended to read:

27           **JR4-2-102. Drafting and prioritizing legislation.**



28 (1) As used in this section, "interim committee" means a committee established under  
29 [JR7-1-201](#).

30 (2) (a) Requests for legislation shall be drafted on a first-in, first-out basis, except for  
31 legislation that is prioritized under the provisions of this section.

32 (b) When sufficient drafting information is available, the following requests for  
33 legislation shall be drafted before other requests for legislation, in the following order of  
34 priority:

35 (i) a committee bill file, as defined in [JR7-1-101](#); and

36 (ii) a request for legislation that is prioritized by a legislator under Subsection (3).

37 (3) (a) Beginning on the first day on which a request for legislation may be filed under  
38 [JR4-2-101](#), a member of the House of Representatives may designate up to four requests for  
39 legislation as priority requests, and a member of the Senate may designate up to five requests  
40 for legislation as priority requests, subject to the following deadlines:

41 (i) except as provided in Subsection (3)(b), priority request number one for  
42 representatives, and priority request numbers one and two for senators, must be requested on or  
43 before November 15, or the following regular business day if November 15 falls on a weekend  
44 or a holiday;

45 (ii) priority request number two for representatives, and priority request number three  
46 for senators, must be requested on or before the first Thursday in December, or the following  
47 business day if the first Thursday falls on a holiday;

48 (iii) priority request number three for representatives, and four for senators must be  
49 requested on or before the first Thursday in January, or the following business day if the first  
50 Thursday falls on a holiday; and

51 (iv) priority request number four for representatives, and five for senators must be  
52 requested on or before the first Thursday of the annual general session.

53 (b) (i) A representative-elect who is not a sitting legislator, shall designate priority  
54 request number one on or before the first Thursday in December, or the following business day  
55 if the first Thursday falls on a holiday.

56 (ii) A representative-elect who is a sitting senator shall designate each of the  
57 representative-elect's priority requests in accordance with the deadlines for representatives  
58 described in Subsection (3)(a).

59 (iii) (A) A senator-elect who is not a sitting legislator, shall designate priority request  
60 numbers one and two on or before the first Thursday in December, or the following business  
61 day if the first Thursday falls on a holiday.

62 (B) A senator-elect who is a sitting representative, shall designate priority request  
63 number one in accordance with Subsection (3)(a)(i), and priority request number two on or  
64 before the first Thursday in December, or the following business day if the first Thursday falls  
65 on a holiday.

66 [~~(b)~~] (c) A legislator who fails to make a priority request on or before a deadline loses  
67 that priority request. However, the legislator is not prohibited from using any remaining  
68 priority requests that are associated with a later deadline, if available.

69 [~~(c)~~] (d) A legislator who begins serving or becomes eligible to request a bill file after a  
70 deadline has passed is entitled to use only those priority requests that are available under an  
71 unexpired deadline.

72 [~~(d)~~] (e) A legislator may not designate a request for legislation as a priority request  
73 unless the request:

74 (i) provides specific or conceptual information concerning the change or addition to  
75 law or policy that the legislator intends the proposed legislation to make; or

76 (ii) identifies the specific situation or concern that the legislator intends the legislation  
77 to address.

78 (4) A legislator may not:

79 (a) revoke a priority designation once it has been requested;

80 (b) transfer a priority designation to a different request for legislation; or

81 (c) transfer a priority designation to another legislator.

82 (5) Except as provided under [JR4-2-502](#) or as otherwise provided in these rules, the  
83 Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:

84 (a) reserve as many bill numbers as necessary to number the bills recommended by an  
85 interim committee; and

86 (b) number all other legislation in the order in which the legislation is approved by the  
87 sponsor for numbering.