

House Legislative Analysis Section

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THE APPARENT PROBLEM:

The Joint Committee on Administrative Rules (JCAR), which was created by the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969, considers all administrative rules proposed by state agencies, once the proposed rules have been approved by the Legislative Service Bureau and the attorney general. The JCAR can approve or disapprove a proposed rule, or it can certify an impasse when a majority fails either to approve or disapprove the proposed rule.

Public Act 13 of 1987 amended the Administrative Procedures Act to increase the membership of the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules from ten to twelve by adding one additional member each from the House of Representatives and the Senate. It was felt that the JCAR's workload was such that membership on the committee should be increased. However, due to the volume of legislation and increasing workloads of the standing committees of the House and Senate, some feel that the increased membership of the JCAR is not practical.

THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:

The bill would amend the Administrative Procedures Act to reduce by two the number of members on the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, so that the committee would have five members from the Senate and five from the House of Representatives rather than the present six members from each house. The bill would require that three of the five from each house be of the majority party and two from the minority party. The position of chairperson of the committee would alternate between houses each year.

MCL 24.235

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

According to JCAR staff, the bill would have no fiscal implications for the state. (9-21-90)

ARGUMENTS:

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The addition of two members to the JCAR has not worked as envisioned, since members must divide their time between JCAR and standing committee assignments, whose schedules frequently overlap. Since JCAR can function with ten members, it makes sense to reduce the number of members serving on the JCAR from twelve to ten.

POSITIONS:

The Joint Committee on Administrative Rules supports the bill. (9-21-90)

House Bill 6002 with committee amendments First Analysis (9-25-90)

Sponsor: Rep. Michael J. Griffin Committee: House Oversight