

Utah Legislature: Joint Rule on Drafting Priorities

JR4-2-102. Drafting and prioritizing legislation.

- (1) (a) Requests for legislation shall be drafted on a first-in, first-out basis.
- (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(a), the following requests for legislation shall be drafted before other requests for legislation when sufficient drafting information is available:
 - (i) a request for legislation that is prioritized by a legislator under Subsection (2); and
 - (ii) a request for legislation that is requested by the majority vote of an interim committee.
- (2) (a) Beginning on the first day on which a request for legislation may be filed under JR4-2-101, a legislator may designate up to three requests for legislation as priority requests subject to the following deadlines:
 - (i) priority request number one must be requested on or before the first Thursday in December, or the following business day if the first Thursday falls on a holiday;
 - (ii) priority request number two must be requested on or before the first Thursday in January, or the following business day if the first Thursday falls on a holiday; and
 - (iii) priority request number three must be requested on or before the first Thursday of the annual general session.
- (b) A legislator who fails to make a priority request on or before a deadline loses that priority request. However, the legislator is not prohibited from using any remaining priority requests that are associated with a later deadline, if available.
- (c) A legislator who begins serving after a deadline has passed is entitled to use only those priority requests that are available under an unexpired deadline.
- (d) A legislator may not designate a request for legislation as a priority request unless the request:
 - (i) provides specific or conceptual information concerning the change or addition to law or policy that the legislator intends the proposed legislation to make; or
 - (ii) identifies the specific situation or concern that the legislator intends the legislation to address.
- (3) A legislator may not:
 - (a) revoke a priority designation once it has been requested;
 - (b) transfer a priority designation to a different request for legislation; or
 - (c) transfer a priority designation to another legislator.
- (4) Except as provided under JR4-2-502 or as otherwise provided in these rules, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:
 - (a) reserve as many bill numbers as necessary to number the bills recommended by an interim committee; and
 - (b) number all other legislation in the order in which the legislation is approved by the sponsor for numbering.