

# Carry Over Bills

## Background

Under Joint Rule 310 *as adopted by the 126<sup>th</sup> Legislature*, all bills must be reported out of committee in accordance with deadlines established by the presiding officers. Generally, all bills must be reported out during the session in which they are introduced. However, under certain circumstances, committees may be authorized to hold specific, identified bills in committee beyond the end of a legislative session. Such bills are said to be “carried over” to the subsequent session. A bill may be carried over only if there is another scheduled session of the same legislature (e.g., bills may be carried over from the First Regular Session to the Second Regular Session).

There are various reasons why a committee may wish to carry a bill over to the subsequent session. For instance, the subject matter may be exceptionally complex, important additional information may be needed or the committee may be awaiting the outcome of certain events that are deemed significant to the consideration of the bill.

## Procedure

If a committee wishes to carry over one or more bills:

1. It must submit a written request, prepared by the committee’s analyst and signed by the chairs, to the presiding officers for permission to carry them over;
2. The request must identify the bills by LD number and title and briefly explain for each bill the reason why the committee is requesting it be carried over;
3. The presiding officers jointly review the requests; and
4. LDs approved for carry over are then included in a single Joint Order, introduced near the end of the session, authorizing the LDs to be carried over to a subsequent session.

A bill carried over to a subsequent session of the same legislature and referred back to committee is carried over without amendments that may have been added during the previous session in which it was first considered.

Carry over bills are subject to committee reporting deadlines for the subsequent session, as established by the presiding officers under Joint Rule 310.