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HOUSE RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

daily floor report

Thursday, January 16, 2025
89th Legislature, Number 3
The House convenes at 10 a.m.

The House is expected to consider HR 3 by Geren, the proposed Housekeeping Resolution for the 89th Legislature. A summary of the proposed changes to the resolution begins on the following page.



Gary VanDeaver
Chairman
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PROPOSED HOUSEKEEPING RESOLUTION CHANGES

The administration and operation of the House of Representatives are governed primarily by the housekeeping resolution adopted for the two-year term of each legislature. HR 3 by Geren would update the housekeeping resolution with references to the 89th Legislature and revise certain other provisions on officers of the House, employee salary caps, and members' operating accounts.

Legal officer. HR 3 would authorize the speaker to appoint an officer who is an attorney licensed to practice law in Texas to provide legal assistance to and represent the House. On written authorization by the speaker, this officer could initiate or participate in litigation as necessary to ensure the institutional position of the House was sufficiently safeguarded. The officer would be the only individual authorized to do so on behalf of the House or its committees, officers, or employees in their official capacities.

Employee salary cap. The number of employees a member could exempt from the salary cap established in the housekeeping resolution would be increased from one to two. HR 3 would maintain a provision that chairs of standing or select committees could also exempt one committee employee.

Monthly operating accounts. The resolution would increase the monthly amount credited to each member's operating account from \$19,250 to \$20,250 for each month that falls wholly or partly during the regular legislative session or a special session. The amount credited to a member's operating account in any other month would be increased from \$17,500 to \$18,500.

Carryforward provisions. The unexpended operating account balance that each member could carry forward from one fiscal year to the next would be increased from \$20,000 to \$25,000.