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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007

INTRODUCED BY

W. Ken Martinez

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

AMENDING LEGISLATIVE JOINT RULE 3-1 TO OPEN CONFERENCE COMMITTEES TO THE PUBLIC.

WHEREAS, Legislative Joint Rule 8-1 provides that joint rules may be adopted, amended or repealed by concurrent resolution approved by two-thirds of the membership of each house;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN, that Joint Rule 3-1 be amended to read:

"CONFERENCE COMMITTEES (3-1)

If one house refuses to concur in the amendments made to its [bill] legislation by the other house, the chief clerk shall notify the house making the amendments of that refusal to concur and ask that it

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recede from its amendments. If the amending house refuses to recede from its amendments, a conference committee, consisting of three members from each house, shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate and the speaker of the house. Conference committee meetings shall be open to the public; provided that conference committee meetings may be closed to the public pursuant to the exceptions stated in Subsection B of Section 10-15-2 NMSA 1978 or for good cause upon a vote of the committee. The time and place of open conference committee meetings shall be announced on the public address system and posted at the speaker's and the president pro tempore's offices. The conference committee shall meet at a time and place to be mutually agreed upon by the committee members, and when agreement on the amendments in dispute has been reached, the members shall report to their respective houses, or if agreement has not been reached, they shall report that fact to their respective houses. No new item shall be presented as an amendment for inclusion in the conference committee report unless the item has been the subject of a legislative committee hearing during the session. Voting in the conference committee

shall be by the respective houses, and a majority of the membership from each house is required for adoption of a recommendation. The report of the conference committee shall not be subject to amendment in either house. The report of the conference committee shall always be in order except during a roll call or when a question of order or a motion to adjourn is pending.".

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