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HOUSE BILL 760

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

INTRODUCED BY

Luciano "Lucky" Varela

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE LEGISLATURE; INCREASING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE
LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 2-5-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1957,
Chapter 3, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"2-5-1. LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE CREATED--TERMS--
VACANCIES.--

A. There is created a continuing joint interim
committee of the legislature to be designated the "legislative
finance committee". The committee shall be composed of
[~~sixteen~~] twenty members, [~~eight~~] ten members from the house of
representatives and [~~eight~~] ten members from the senate. The
[~~chairmen~~] chairs of the house appropriations and finance and
house taxation and revenue committees and the senate finance

.165431.1

underscored material = new
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1 committee or members of their respective committees designated
2 by each of them from time to time shall be members. The
3 minority party shall be represented on the committee by at
4 least one member from each house. [~~Six~~] Eight of the remaining
5 members shall be appointed from the house of representatives by
6 the speaker, and the [~~seven~~] nine remaining members shall be
7 appointed from the senate by the committees' committee or, if
8 the appointments are made in the interim, by the president pro
9 tempore after consultation with and agreement of a majority of
10 the members of the committees' committee. An appointed member
11 may designate a member of [~~his~~] the appointed member's party to
12 serve in [~~his~~] the appointed member's place at a committee
13 meeting at which the [~~regular~~] appointed member is going to be
14 absent if the member notifies the [~~chairman~~] chair of the
15 legislative finance committee of [~~his~~] the anticipated absence
16 and [~~his~~] the member's designee at least twenty-four hours
17 before the committee meeting. The appointed members of the
18 committee shall be appointed from each house so as to give the
19 two political parties having the most members in each house the
20 same total proportionate representation on the committee as
21 prevails in that house; provided that, in the computation,
22 major fractions shall be counted as whole numbers. Minority
23 members from the house shall be appointed by the speaker only
24 from recommendations made by the minority floor leader,
25 although the speaker shall retain the right to reject any such

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underscored material = new
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1 recommendations.

2 B. Members shall be appointed for terms of two
3 years and shall serve from the time of their appointment until
4 the end of the next sixty-day session of the legislature. The
5 term of any member shall terminate when the member ceases to be
6 a member of the legislature.

7 C. Vacancies in the committee may be filled for the
8 unexpired term by appointment from the house or senate
9 respectively by the respective appointing authority that makes
10 the original appointments and subject to the same
11 recommendations; provided the new members shall be from the
12 same house of the legislature and the same party from which
13 their predecessors were appointed. The committee shall elect
14 from its membership such other officers as may be deemed
15 necessary. The officers shall be appointed for terms
16 coterminous with their membership on the committee. Each
17 office shall be alternated between the respective houses each
18 two years. For the terms beginning in 1979, the [~~chairman~~]
19 chair shall be a senate member and the vice [~~chairman~~] chair,
20 if any, shall be a house member. The appointing authority of
21 each house shall exercise its appointing authority by naming
22 the [~~chairman~~] chair or vice [~~chairman~~] chair, respectively, on
23 this alternating basis.

24 D. No action shall be taken by the committee if a
25 majority of the total membership from either house on the

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underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material]~~ = delete

1 committee rejects the action."

2 Section 2. EMERGENCY.-It is necessary for the public
3 peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.

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