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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

**SPONSOR** Boitano **ORIGINAL DATE** 2/01/11 **LAST UPDATED** 2/02/11 **HB** \_\_\_\_\_  
**SHORT TITLE** Limit Number Of Bill Introductions **SCR** 1  
**ANALYST** Haug

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	<b>FY11</b>	<b>FY12</b>	<b>FY13</b>	<b>3 Year Total Cost</b>	<b>Recurring or Non-Rec</b>	<b>Fund Affected</b>
<b>Total</b>		(\$80.0)	(\$80.0)	(\$160.0)	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

Senate Concurrent Resolution 1 proposes that a new joint rule be adopted to read:  
Limitation On Number Of Bills Introduced By A Legislator.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

If the average cost of considering a bill, including staff analytical and preparation for hearing costs, printing costs and any other miscellaneous costs associated with a bill, are \$100.00 per bill introduced, then based on the 2007 bill introduction numbers (the highest in the past 10 years) described below in significant issues, and assuming that 800 of the bills introduced beyond the limit of 1,680 proposed by SCR 1 were not subject to the exceptions in SCR 1, the marginal cost savings from the 800 bills introduced beyond the limit would be \$80,000.00.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Effective subsequent to the first session of the fiftieth legislature, no member shall introduce more than fifteen bills during a legislative session.

Excluded from the total limit of 15 bills are:

Two bills endorsed by an interim legislative committee.

Bills introduced at the request of the governor or a state agency

In addition the 15 bill limit may be suspended in either house by a two-thirds' vote in that house.

Finally, a legislator may allocate any part of the legislator's allotment for bills to another member

of the same house.

Senate Concurrent Resolution does not seek to limit introduction of memorials or resolutions.

Bill introduction limits potentially reduce costs and permit more time for consideration of the more limited array of bills introduced. Bill introduction limits also potentially prevent individual legislators from proposing all pieces of legislation that they wish to introduce.

For 112 members of the legislature, SCR 1 would limit total bill introductions to 1,680 plus those sponsored by interim committees and at the request of the governor or state agency, assuming no suspension of the rule by either house.

Without attempting to identify exceptions noted in SCR 1 for interim committee endorsed bills or bills introduced at the request of the executive, the total number of bills introduced in the previous 10 legislative sessions are detailed below:

<u>60 day sessions</u>	<u>30 day sessions</u>
2001 – 1859	2002 – 987
2003 – 1973	2004 – 1253
2005 – 2273	2006 – 1712
2007 – 2589	2008 – 1268
2009 – 1685	2010 – 660

It is clear that the trend prior to the deterioration of economic conditions was for increasing numbers of bill introductions. While the number of bills introduced clearly reflects economic conditions, the maximum number of bills introduced (2,589 in 2007) exceeded the limit proposed in SCR 1 by 909 bills, some of which would have fallen within the exceptions for committee sponsored or executive requested.

GH/bym