

JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE OF ARIZONA

RULES AND REGULATIONS

RULE 1

NAME OF COMMITTEE AND METHOD OF APPOINTMENT

The name of the Committee is the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, consisting of sixteen members designated or appointed as follows:

1. The majority leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives, the Chairmen of the Senate and House of Representatives Appropriations Committees, the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the Chairman of the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee.
2. Five members of the Senate and five members of the House of Representatives who are members of their Appropriations Committees shall be appointed to the Committee by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively.

RULE 2

STATUTORY POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE

1. The Committee shall ascertain facts and make recommendations to the Legislature relating to the State budget, revenues and expenditures of the State, future fiscal needs, the organization and functions of State agencies or divisions thereof and such other matters incident to the above functions as may be provided for by rules and regulations of the Committee.
2. The Committee shall promulgate rules and regulations for the operation of the Committee.
3. The Committee shall have the powers conferred by law upon legislative committees.
4. The Committee shall make studies, conduct inquiries, investigations and hold hearings.
5. The Committee may meet and conduct its business any place within the State during the sessions of the Legislature or any recess thereof and in the period when the Legislature is not in session.
6. The Committee may establish subcommittees from the membership of the Legislature and assign to such subcommittees any study, inquiry, investigation or hearing, with the right to call witnesses, which the Committee has authority to undertake.

RULE 3

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee shall have a term as Chairman of the Committee from the first day of the First Regular Session to the first day of the Second Regular Session of each Legislature and the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee shall have a term from the first day of the Second Regular Session to the first day of the next Legislature's First Regular Session.

RULE 4

COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS

The Committee proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure, except as otherwise provided by these rules.

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RULE 5

SUBCOMMITTEES

The Committee may establish subcommittees from the membership of the Legislature and assign to such subcommittees any study, inquiry, investigation or hearing with the right to call witnesses which the Committee has authority to undertake. Each such subcommittee shall include in its membership an equal number of Senate and House of Representatives members.

RULE 6

QUORUM

A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

RULE 7

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET ANALYST

The Legislative Budget Analyst (hereinafter "Director") shall be the Staff Director and the Chief Executive Officer of the Committee. The Director shall be appointed by the Committee and shall serve on a full-time basis. The Committee shall annually review the Director's performance and determine the Director's salary within the limits prescribed by law. The Chairman of the Committee may appoint a subcommittee to make recommendations concerning these matters.

In addition to the responsibilities prescribed by A.R.S. § 41-1273, the duties of the Director shall include any duties which shall be assigned by the Committee, including the following:

1. Compilation of information for the Committee.
2. A continuous review of State expenditures, revenues and analysis of the budget to ascertain facts, compare costs, workload and other data and make recommendations concerning the State's budget and revenue of the departments, boards, commissions and agencies of the State.
3. Act as administrative head of the Committee Staff, with authority to hire and dismiss such personnel as may be necessary for the proper conduct of the office, and fix compensation of staff members within any limits set by the Committee.
4. Maintain the records and files of the Committee.
5. Shall make special reports for presentation to the Committee and to others as directed by the Committee.
6. Attend all meetings of the Committee and such other meetings and hearings as are necessary to facilitate the work of the Committee.
7. Examine as to correctness all vouchers for the expenditure of funds appropriated for the use of the Committee.

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RULE 8

AGENDA FOR MEETINGS

An agenda for each Committee Meeting shall be prepared by the Director and, whenever possible, mailed or delivered to members of the Committee, not less than one week prior to the meeting. The Director must have at least three weeks prior notice for any state agency-requested items that appear on the agenda, unless the Chairman of the Committee approves of a later submission.

RULE 9

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Order of Business at a Committee meeting shall be determined by the Chairman of the Committee. It shall normally be as follows:

1. Call to order and roll call
2. Reading and approval of minutes
3. Director's Report [if any]
4. Executive Session (including Rule 14 items)
5. Items requiring Committee review and/or approval
6. Other Business - For Information Only
7. Adjournment

RULE 10

DISBURSEMENTS

1. All expenditures of the Committee shall be by vouchers properly itemized and supported by receipts and shall be approved by the Director when authorized by the Chairman of the Committee.
2. All contracts and studies authorized by the Committee shall be approved by the Committee after examination.

RULE 11

MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee shall meet at such times and places as the Committee may determine, but in any event, no less than once in each calendar quarter. Additional special meetings may be called by the Chairman or by a majority of the members of the Committee.

RULE 12

ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS

These rules and regulations shall be adopted and may be amended by a majority vote of the members of the Committee, provided that a quorum is present.

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RULE 13

FISCAL NOTES

1. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives or their designees may each designate bills that shall have a fiscal note prepared regarding their impact.
2. The JLBC Staff shall prepare the fiscal notes utilizing an impact period that covers the full cost of the legislation. The fiscal notes shall indicate any local fiscal impact, where appropriate.
3. Fiscal notes shall not contain comments or opinions on the merits of the bill.
4. Exceptions to the procedure set forth in this rule shall be permitted with the approval of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee.
5. The Committee may amend or suspend this rule or any subsection hereof by a majority vote of those present and eligible to vote.
6. Procedures to implement this rule shall be prepared by the Director and approved by the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee.

RULE 14

STATE LIABILITY CLAIMS - PROCEDURE FOR SETTLEMENT WHEN COVERED BY RISK MANAGEMENT SELF-INSURANCE FUND

1. General provisions for presentation of settlement to the Committee:
 - A. Settlements of \$250,000 or less do not require approval of the Committee pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-621(N). All proposed liability settlements must be presented to the Committee in accordance with these provisions and accompanied by a report containing the information specified in Paragraph 3.
 - B. The report shall be filed with the Chairman of the Committee seven days before the meeting scheduled to consider the settlement proposal.
 - C. A limited number of items may be excluded from the written report and presented orally at the Committee meeting, if the Attorney General and Risk Management Division find the exclusion to be absolutely necessary for the protection of the State's case.
 - D. All Committee settlement proceedings and material prepared for such proceedings shall be required to be kept confidential.
 - E. Any plaintiff's inquiries regarding Committee meeting dates, times and agendas should be directed to the Attorney General's Insurance Defense Section which shall consult with the JLBC Staff Director.
2. At a Committee meeting at which a settlement proposal is considered:
 - A. Material shall be presented by the Attorney General or retained defense counsel who had primary responsibility over negotiation of the settlement and/or handling of the case, together with the Manager of the Risk Management Division of the Department of Administration.

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RULE 14 CONTINUED

STATE LIABILITY CLAIMS (CONT'D)

- B. The Committee Chairman or a majority of the Committee, may request other witnesses to attend and testify at any settlement proposal meeting. When requested by a Committee member, the director of an agency named in a lawsuit for which a settlement is proposed shall be requested to appear at the meeting at which the settlement is proposed.
 - C. The presentation of the settlement proposal at the Committee meeting shall contain, at a minimum, the information required to be submitted pursuant to Paragraph 3.
 - D. In addition to the report, additional drafts, charts, pictures, documents or other items may be presented to the Committee by the Attorney General or Risk Management Division, if helpful in reviewing the merits of the settlement. Additional items shall be presented when requested by the Committee Chairman, or a majority of the Committee at a prior meeting, or a JLBC subcommittee to which the matter has been referred.
 - E. Upon a conclusion of the presentation, the Committee may accept the settlement as proposed, reject the settlement as proposed, recommend an alternative settlement with the advice of the Attorney General and Risk Management Division, request additional information, evaluations or appearances of witnesses, or the matter may be referred to a JLBC subcommittee for further study.
3. The written settlement proposal report submitted to the Committee for each settlement offer shall contain the following information:
- A. A one to two page executive summary of pertinent information related to the case that, at a minimum, summarizes information contained in items B, D, G, H, I, K, L, N and P below.
 - B. The names of the plaintiffs or claimants.
 - C. Whether a lawsuit has been filed, the date on which it was filed and the current status of the lawsuit. If a lawsuit has not been filed, the last date upon which a lawsuit could be filed.
 - D. The basic facts of the case including, first, the undisputed facts and secondly, those facts in dispute.
 - E. A summary of the basis or bases of liability claimed by plaintiff or claimant and the State's defenses to such liability, including the key evidence relied upon by each party.
 - F. The amount originally claimed by the plaintiff or claimant.
 - G. The identifiable damages and/or costs incurred by plaintiff or claimant to date.
 - H. Costs incurred by the State in defending the claim or suit to date.
 - I. Estimated costs to the State of defending the claim or suit through trial.
 - J. Attorney for plaintiff, Attorney General assigned to the case, retained defense counsel, if any.
 - K. Estimate of plaintiff or claimant's chances of prevailing in suit against the State.
 - L. Range of recovery likely at trial for plaintiff's claims.
 - M. Complete terms of settlement including:
 - 1. To whom payment is to be made;

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RULE 14 CONTINUED

STATE LIABILITY CLAIMS (CONT'D)

2. The amount of payment;
 3. The conditions, if any, attached to the payment; and
 4. Deadline for settlement, if any.
- N. Settlement recommendations of Attorney General and Risk Management and recommended response to settlement offer.
- O. Whether the State has any claim or right of recovery against other parties, e.g., subrogation or indemnification.
- P. An agency and an Arizona Department of Administration response that shall contain the following information:
1. Actions taken to eliminate or limit the future risk of liability to the state.
 2. Statement as to any disciplinary action(s) taken against any employee(s) that were negligent in carrying out their duties.
 3. An agency loss prevention plan approved by the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA). If an approved plan is not available, ADOA will provide an explanation of why it is not approved at that time, and a timetable for submitting an approved plan.
4. In conjunction with the settlement procedures prescribed pursuant to this rule, the Risk Management Division shall:
- A. Annually report to the Committee on 1) the operations of the Division, 2) the status of pending claims and lawsuits, 3) information on actual judgements and settlements, 4) status of claims and lawsuits reported on the prior year annual report, 5) number of claims and lawsuits filed since the last report, 6) number of liability cases taken to trial with information on the verdicts and judgment amounts, and 7) projected fund balances.
 - B. With the assistance of the Attorney General, propose to the Committee any changes in State insurance coverage, State statutes, State liability principles or claims procedures which may help to limit future State liability.
 - C. Provide the Committee with an agency loss prevention plan that results from a judgment against the state in an amount equal to or greater than that which requires JLBC settlement authority. Within sixty days after payment of the judgment, ADOA will either indicate approval of the plan, provide an explanation of why it is not approved, or provide an explanation as to why a plan is no longer applicable.

RULE 15

CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF SERVICES

The Director, members of the JLBC Staff, and those charged with the duty of processing in any manner proposed budget estimates, recommendations or research, shall not, without consent of the recipient legislator(s), disclose to any other person whomsoever, the contents of any letter, memorandum, report, or other written communique.

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RULE 15 (CONTINUED)

This provision does not apply to regular JLBC Staff reports nor information which the Staff prepares and disseminates under the general authority of the Director that was not specifically requested by a legislator(s).

The violation of any provision of this rule by the Director, a member of his staff, or any person charged in any manner with the duty of processing proposed analysis or research may be deemed sufficient cause for dismissal by the Director and in the case of the Director, by the Committee.