

[Senate, January 22, 1990 — Offered by Senator Richard A. Kraus.]

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety.

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1 *Ordered*, That the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of  
2 Representatives are hereby amended by inserting after the first  
3 paragraph of Rule 1 the following new paragraph: —

4 Within ten calendar days of the opening of each annual session  
5 of each General Court the Committees on Rules of the Senate  
6 and the House of Representatives shall meet concurrently to  
7 establish a designated day of each week and designated hours  
8 during that day which shall be set aside for the holding of formal  
9 sessions of the respective branches and during which the Joint  
10 Standing committees shall not hold public hearings or Executive  
11 sessions of its members from the opening of the first annual session  
12 through the fourth Wednesday of April in that session, and from  
13 the opening of the second annual session through the first  
14 Wednesday of April in that session.

15 By striking out Rule 1C and inserting in place the following: —

16 Rule 1C. All Joint Standing committees shall schedule  
17 committee hearings and Executive sessions so as not to conflict  
18 with the day of the week and hours of the day which have been  
19 designated under Rule 1 as the day of the week and times during  
20 that day set aside for formal sessions of the respective branches  
21 from the first Wednesday in January of each year through the  
22 fourth Wednesday of April of the first annual session and the first  
23 Wednesday of April of the second annual session.

24 By amending Rule 10 by striking out the first sentence and  
25 inserting in place thereof the following: —

26 10. Joint Committees and Committees on Rules of the two  
27 branches, acting concurrently, shall in the first annual session  
28 make a final report on all matters referred to them during that  
29 session previously to the fifteenth day of April not later than the  
30 fourth Wednesday in April and within ten days on all matters  
31 referred to them on and after the fifteenth day of April and shall

32 in the second annual session make a final report on all matters  
33 referred to them during that session previously to the twenty-fifth  
34 day of March not later than the first Wednesday in April and  
35 within ten days on all matters referred to them on and after the  
36 twenty-fifth day of March.

37 By amending Rule 12 by striking out in the first paragraph the  
38 words: — “preceding the first annual session of the General Court  
39 and prior to five o’clock in the afternoon on the first Wednesday  
40 in November preceding the second annual session of the General  
41 Court” and by striking out in the second paragraph the words: —  
42 “preceding the first annual session of the General Court or  
43 deposited with the respective clerks subsequent to five o’clock on  
44 the first Wednesday of November preceding the second annual  
45 session of the General Court.”

46 By inserting after Rule 12 the following rules: —

47 12A. All business of the first annual session of the General  
48 Court shall be concluded no later than the fourth Tuesday in  
49 November and all business of the second annual session of the  
50 General Court shall be concluded no later than the first day of  
51 November of that calendar year.

52 12B. Any matter pending before the General Court at the end  
53 of the first annual session which has been engrossed in either  
54 branch but has not received final action shall carry over into the  
55 second annual session of the same General Court in the same  
56 reading it was at the time of prorogation or dissolution of the first  
57 annual session. Consideration of any matter pending before a  
58 committee of conference of the two branches at the end of a first  
59 annual session shall be resumed at the commencement of the  
60 second annual session of the same General Court.