

HB 964 -- JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

SPONSOR: Bahr

COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues by a vote of 8 to 4. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 6 to 3.

This bill specifies that any administrative rule adopted by an agency, board, department, or commission must not be valid if the rule is contrary to the clear intent of the General Assembly as demonstrated by legislative history.

The Joint Committee on Administrative Rules is authorized to recommend the disapproval of all or a portion of a rule if the rule is not efficient as revealed by a cost-benefit analysis or if the rule creates a new classification of individuals or entities subject to varying outcomes and requirements if the goals are not explicitly authorized by the enabling statute.

Currently, the rules promulgated by the Labor and Industrial Relations Commission are not subject to the joint committee's review. The bill repeals that exemption.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will grant the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules more authority to disapprove inefficient and unintended rules. The General Assembly should have authority to ensure that administrative agencies follow legislative intent and choose the most efficient rules to implement that intent.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Bahr.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.