

**ADDENDUM**  
**MANUAL OF LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING**

**For the Use of Legislative Staff**

**Prepared by**

**Legislative Affairs Agency**

**August 25, 2015**

This addendum implements the February 10, 2015, amendment to the 2015 Manual of Legislative Drafting adopted by the Legislative Council.

PAGES 9 - 10: Replace the "Official Heading; Sponsors" section with the following:

**OFFICIAL HEADING; SPONSORS**

The first part of every bill is the official heading, which includes the designation of the house in which the bill is to be introduced, a listing of the sponsor(s), a designation of the legislature and the session of that legislature, and the bill number. Each of these items, except that of sponsorship, is essentially a routine, clerical task.

Sponsorship of bills is governed by statute and the Uniform Rules. AS 24.08.060(a) provides:

- (a) A member of the legislature or a committee chairman, with the concurrence of a majority of the active members of the committee and on behalf of the committee, may introduce a bill or resolution. Bills and resolutions shall be prepared and introduced in the manner and form prescribed in the uniform rules and the legislative style manual.

The statutory provision has been implemented by the adoption of Rule 37(a), which provides in part:

Any member, group of members, standing, special, or joint committee may introduce a bill, subject to the provisions of these Uniform Rules.

Upon the consent of the prime sponsor, members of the house in which a measure is introduced may be included as co-sponsors of that measure. When a measure that was introduced by a member or group of members is in the possession of the second house and the prime sponsor of the measure consents, members of the second house may be added as cross-sponsors of the measure. (Addendum, Manual of Legislative Drafting, approved by Legislative Council December 8, 1989)

Rule 37(a) also provides:

Bills may be introduced through the Rules Committees by the governor and the permanent interim committees pursuant to provisions of law.

This part of the rule has been implemented by AS 24.08.060(b), which provides, in part:

- (b) Bills introduced by the legislative council shall be delivered with a letter of explanation to the rules committee of either house and bear the inscription "Rules Committee by Request of the Legislative Council"; bills introduced by the Administrative Regulation Review Committee shall be delivered with a letter of explanation to the rules committee of either house and bear the inscription "Rules Committee by Request of the Administrative

Regulation Review Committee"; bills introduced by the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee shall be delivered with a letter of explanation to the rules committee of either house and bear the inscription "Rules Committee by Request of the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee." Bills presented by the governor shall be delivered with a letter to the rules committee of either house and bear the inscription "Rules Committee by Request of the Governor";  
...

In addition to the provisions of Rule 37(a) and AS 24.08.060(b), it has been the custom of the legislature to allow a sponsor to show "BY REQUEST" following the sponsor's name. However, the requester is not identified on the face of the bill unless it is an entity or official described in the statutes or another formally established legislative entity.