

LEGAL SERVICES

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MEMORANDUM

February 12, 2025

SUBJECT: Adoption of the 2025 *Manual of Legislative Drafting*

TO: Representative Sara Hannan
Chair of the Legislative Council

FROM: Hilary V. Martin 
Revisor of Statutes

Uniform Rule 10 provides that the Legislative Council shall adopt a drafting manual prepared by the enrolling secretary and the revisor of statutes. The draft of the 2025 *Manual of Legislative Drafting*, prepared by Lora Brown, the legal editor and enrolling secretary, and myself, is enclosed.

We have made a number of technical changes, including updating dates, correcting typographical errors, updating references to the Thirty-Fourth rather than the Thirty-Third Legislature, updating case citations, updating the lists of recipients of copies of resolutions to reflect new office holders, updating the appendices, and updating the table of contents, index, and table of cases.

In addition, we have made the following changes:

Page 65, we added examples of commonly used phrases that should be drafted consistently.

Page 88, we added language explaining that if the only change to a section is to repeal a paragraph, then the preferred method is to add the paragraph to the repealer rather than setting out the section and bracketing out the paragraph.

Page 93, we added language to clarify that if a resolution amending the uniform rules has no special effective date, the resolution takes effect immediately.

Page 113, we added an example of the designation for a House Special Concurrent Resolution that has failed to pass in a joint session. This example was added at the request of the Chief Clerk's office.

Page 115, we added an example of a bill designation for a House bill that is not amended in the House and is amended in the Senate and contains an effective date that does not pass. This example was added at the request of the Chief Clerk's office.

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Page 117, we added an example of the designation for a House Special Concurrent Resolution that has failed to pass in a joint session. This example was added at the request of the Chief Clerk's office.

HVM:mis
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Attachment

cc: Jessica Geary
Executive Director