

EXEMPTIONS

Joint Standing Rule No. 14.6

- Joint Standing Rule No. 14.6 provides for the exemption of certain bills from the strict timelines for the submission of requests, introduction of measures and passage of measures out of committees and Houses imposed because of the 120-day Session.
- Bills that are requested by or referred to the Senate Committee on Finance or the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means are exempt if they contain an appropriation.
- Bills that do not contain an appropriation can be exempt or eligible for exemption if the Fiscal Analysis Division determines that the bill:
 1. Authorizes the expenditure by a state agency of sums not appropriated from the State General Fund or the State Highway Fund;
 2. Creates or increases any significant fiscal liability of the State;
 3. Implements a budget decision; or
 4. Significantly reduces any revenue of the State.
- A bill that is eligible for exemption does not become exempt until it has been referred to the Senate Committee on Finance or the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means. For example, if a policy committee has a bill that has been determined to be eligible for exemption, the policy committee must take action by the deadline for committee action and the bill must have been re-referred to the money committee before the deadline for House passage or the bill will not become exempt and will die (subject to revival by waiver).
- Once a bill becomes exempt, it remains exempt regardless of the subsequent actions taken by the Legislature (*e.g., removal of the appropriation in the bill*).
- Unless the rule has been waived or a bill contains an appropriation, the decision regarding whether the bill is eligible for exemption or is exempt rests with the Fiscal Analysis Division. Joint Standing Rule No. 14.6 does not provide any exceptions that would allow anyone else, including a member of the Legislature, to declare a bill exempt. To exempt a bill, the Fiscal Analysis Division has to determine that the bill meets one of the four criteria set forth in the rule.
- Subsection 4 of Joint Standing Rule No. 14.6 provides that a bill may also be exempt if it carries out legislative business such as the creation of a legislative interim study or the return of a bill from enrollment for a technical correction. These bills do not have “Exempt” printed on their face. For a bill that creates an interim study to be exempt, there must be no other non-exempt provisions in the bill.
- A cumulative list of all bills determined by the Fiscal Analysis Division to be exempt or eligible for exemption after being printed are included in the back of the weekly publication of the BDR List.
- If a bill is determined to be exempt or eligible for exemption, a notation of that fact is included in the history of the bill.