



AN ACT PROVIDING THAT THE LEGISLATURE HAS THE SOLE CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY REGARDING RULES THAT GOVERN THE LEGISLATURE'S PROCEEDINGS; PROHIBITING THE JUDICIAL BRANCH FROM REVIEWING AND INTERPRETING LEGISLATIVE RULES; PROVIDING A DEFINITION; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1. Sole constitutional authority by legislature on rules governing its proceedings -- judicial review and interpretation prohibited -- EXCEPTION.** (1) Pursuant ~~Except as provided in subsection (2), pursuant~~ to Article V, section 10(1), of the Montana constitution, the legislature possesses the sole power and discretion to make, enforce, interpret, suspend, repeal, or waive rules for its proceedings, ~~unless the rules potentially conflict with the Montana constitution or the United States constitution.~~

(2) A judicial officer may not review and interpret a legislative rule unless the rule ~~potentially~~ conflicts with the Montana constitution or the United States constitution.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "judicial officer" has the same meaning as provided in 1-1-202(2).

**Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 5, chapter 5, and the provisions of Title 5, chapter 5, apply to [section 1].

**Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,  
HB 531, originated in the House.

---

Chief Clerk of the House

---

Speaker of the House

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

---

President of the Senate

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

HOUSE BILL NO. 531

INTRODUCED BY S. FITZPATRICK

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT THE LEGISLATURE HAS THE SOLE CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY REGARDING RULES THAT GOVERN THE LEGISLATURE'S PROCEEDINGS; PROHIBITING THE JUDICIAL BRANCH FROM REVIEWING AND INTERPRETING LEGISLATIVE RULES; PROVIDING A DEFINITION; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."