

CHANGES IN BILL DRAFTING STYLE BEGINNING IN THE 2009 SESSION

The below changes would be made in all new language and in existing code. Since the changes would be in form only and not in substance, no strike-throughs or underscoring would be used to show these changes.

DATES:

Dates would now be shown in the conventional style of Month in words, day and year in numerals. Just remove the old language and insert the same date in the new style. Do not use strike-throughs and underscoring if the date remains the same.

OLD: the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred ninety-nine

NEW: July 1, 1999

OLD: on the first day of July of each year,

NEW: on July 1 of each year

NOT: on July 1st of each year

Correct: school year 2008-2009

Incorrect: school year 2008-09

Correct: fiscal year 2008-2009

Incorrect: fiscal year 2008-09

To make a change in an existing date, strike-through and underscore the complete part of the date that is changed.

EXAMPLES:

~~the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred ninety-nine~~ July 1, 2000

~~the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred ninety-nine~~ March 1, 2000

To change a date that is in the new style use these examples:

~~July~~ September 1, 1989

July + 31, 1989

July 1, ~~1989~~ 1990

~~July 1, 1989~~ October 31, 1992

MONEY:

Money will be written in figures rather than words. The figures will include the cents amount unless it is zero. Any changes in amounts of money should be indicated by striking-through the complete old amount and underscoring the complete new amount.

OLD: a fine of five hundred dollars

NEW: a fine of \$500

EXAMPLE:

~~\$45.00~~ to ~~\$45.00~~ \$45.50

~~forty-five dollars~~ \$45.50

Large amounts, a million or more, will be indicated as shown in the example below:

OLD: five million dollars

NEW: \$5 million

However, an amount such as five million, two hundred thirty-seven thousand, nine hundred forty-two will be shown as \$5,237,942

Examples that will remain the same:

one-dollar bill

five-dollar bill

Other Examples:

OLD: one dollar fifty cents

NEW: \$1.50

OLD: eighty five cents

NEW: 85¢

The cents symbol may be made by holding down the Alt key and typing 0162 on the keypad. Make sure the NumLock feature is on.