

House Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing amendments to Sections 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 15, and 19 of Article III of the State Constitution to revise and require specified legislative procedures, provide and revise requirements for legislative officers and executive directors, provide specifications for legislative committees, revise the dates and length of each legislative session, eliminate special sessions, revise when a bill becomes a law and takes effect, set compensation of legislative members and their staff, require certain facilities, and authorize removal of appropriations from appropriations bills during the public review period.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following amendment to Sections 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 15, and 19 of Article III of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE III

LEGISLATURE

SECTION 2. Members; officers; committees.-

26 (a) MEMBERS AND OFFICERS. Each house shall be the sole
 27 judge of the qualifications, elections, and returns of its
 28 members~~7~~ and shall ~~biennially~~ choose its officers, including a
 29 permanent presiding officer selected from its membership, who
 30 shall be designated in the senate as President of the Senate~~7~~
 31 and in the house as Speaker of the House of Representatives and
 32 who shall serve at its pleasure. Each house shall also designate
 33 an alternate presiding officer who shall preside in the absence
 34 of the presiding officer and who shall be designated as the
 35 officer pro tempore. The presiding officer shall preside over
 36 sessions of the legislature and may vote, but shall serve no
 37 other role and may not introduce legislation. The senate shall
 38 designate a Secretary to serve at its pleasure~~7~~ and the house of
 39 representatives shall designate a Clerk to serve at its
 40 pleasure. Each house shall designate an executive director who
 41 shall be responsible for administration of the respective house
 42 and who shall serve at its pleasure. The legislature shall
 43 appoint an auditor to serve at its pleasure who shall audit
 44 public records and perform related duties as prescribed by law
 45 or concurrent resolution. A member may not serve in more than
 46 one legislative officer position at a time. Committee
 47 chairpersons shall be considered officers. A legislative officer
 48 may be removed from his or her position at any time by a
 49 majority vote of the respective house.

50 (b) COMMITTEES.

51 (1) In addition to any other entity required by this
 52 constitution, each house shall be comprised of at least the
 53 following legislative committees:

- 54 a. Appropriations.
- 55 b. Commerce.
- 56 c. Education and employment.
- 57 d. Health and human services.
- 58 e. Infrastructure.
- 59 f. Judiciary.
- 60 g. Rules.
- 61 h. State affairs.
- 62 i. Ways and means.

63 (2) Each legislative committee shall have prescribed and
 64 nonoverlapping jurisdiction.

65 (3) Each house may by rule create subcommittees which are
 66 subordinate to the legislative committees set forth in paragraph
 67 (1). However, the total number of legislative committees and
 68 subcommittees in each house may not exceed 30. Any bill passed
 69 by a subcommittee must be subsequently referred to the
 70 legislative committee to which it is subordinate.

71 (4) Within each house, each member shall serve on the same
 72 number of legislative committees, including subcommittees.
 73 However, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the
 74 House of Representatives may not serve on any legislative
 75 committee and a member of the legislature who chairs a

76 legislative committee may only serve on that legislative
 77 committee and any subordinate subcommittee of such legislative
 78 committee.

79 (5) The political party affiliations of members of the
 80 legislative committees and subcommittees of each house shall be
 81 proportional to the political party affiliations of the
 82 respective house as a whole.

83 SECTION 3. Sessions of the legislature.-

84 (a) ORGANIZATION SESSIONS. On the fourteenth day
 85 following each general election the legislature shall convene
 86 for the exclusive purpose of organization and selection of
 87 officers, including legislative committee chairpersons, except
 88 that in years during which the fourteenth day following the
 89 general election falls during the same calendar week as
 90 Thanksgiving, the legislature shall convene on the twenty-second
 91 day following the general election.

92 (b) REGULAR SESSIONS. After each organization session,
 93 the legislature may convene in session each month beginning on
 94 the first Monday of the month, except that during the months of
 95 July and January the legislature may convene in session
 96 beginning on the second Monday of the month. However, the
 97 legislature is not required to convene in session or conduct
 98 business on any particular day or days of the week or for any
 99 particular period of time ~~A regular session of the legislature~~
 100 ~~shall convene on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in~~

101 ~~March of each odd-numbered year, and on the second Tuesday after~~
 102 ~~the first Monday in January of each even-numbered year.~~

103 ~~(c) SPECIAL SESSIONS.~~

104 ~~(1) The governor, by proclamation stating the purpose, may~~
 105 ~~convene the legislature in special session during which only~~
 106 ~~such legislative business may be transacted as is within the~~
 107 ~~purview of the proclamation, or of a communication from the~~
 108 ~~governor, or is introduced by consent of two-thirds of the~~
 109 ~~membership of each house.~~

110 ~~(2) A special session of the legislature may be convened~~
 111 ~~as provided by law.~~

112 ~~(d) LENGTH OF SESSIONS. A regular session of the~~
 113 ~~legislature shall not exceed sixty consecutive days, and a~~
 114 ~~special session shall not exceed twenty consecutive days, unless~~
 115 ~~extended beyond such limit by a three-fifths vote of each house.~~
 116 ~~During such an extension no new business may be taken up in~~
 117 ~~either house without the consent of two-thirds of its~~
 118 ~~membership.~~

119 ~~(e) ADJOURNMENT. Neither house shall adjourn for more~~
 120 ~~than seventy-two consecutive hours except pursuant to concurrent~~
 121 ~~resolution.~~

122 ~~(f) ADJOURNMENT BY GOVERNOR. If, during any regular or~~
 123 ~~special session, the two houses cannot agree upon a time for~~
 124 ~~adjournment, the governor may adjourn the session sine die or to~~
 125 ~~any date within the period authorized for such session; provided~~

HJR 1625

2024

126 ~~that, at least twenty-four hours before adjourning the session,~~
127 ~~and while neither house is in recess, each house shall be given~~
128 ~~formal written notice of the governor's intention to do so, and~~
129 ~~agreement reached within that period by both houses on a time~~
130 ~~for adjournment shall prevail.~~

131 SECTION 4. Quorum and procedure.—

132 (a) A majority of the membership of each house shall
133 constitute a quorum, but a smaller number may adjourn from day
134 to day and compel the presence of absent members in such manner
135 and under such penalties as it may prescribe. Each house shall
136 determine its rules of procedure, subject to the requirements of
137 this section.

138 (b) Sessions of each house shall be public; except
139 sessions of the senate when considering appointment to or
140 removal from public office may be closed.

141 (c) Each house shall keep and publish a journal of its
142 proceedings. ~~and upon the request of five members present,~~ The
143 vote of each member voting on any question shall be entered on
144 the journal. In any legislative committee or subcommittee, the
145 vote of each member voting on the final passage of any
146 legislation pending before the committee, ~~and upon the request~~
147 ~~of any two members of the committee or subcommittee,~~ the vote of
148 each member on any other question, shall be recorded.

149 (d) Each house may punish a member for contempt or
150 disorderly conduct and, by a two-thirds vote of its membership,

151 may expel a member.

152 (e) The rules of procedure of each house shall provide
153 that all legislative committee and subcommittee meetings of each
154 house, and joint conference committee meetings, shall be open
155 and noticed to the public. The rules of procedure of each house
156 shall further provide that all prearranged gatherings, between
157 more than two members of the legislature, or between the
158 governor, the president of the senate, or the speaker of the
159 house of representatives, the purpose of which is to agree upon
160 formal legislative action that will be taken at a subsequent
161 time, or at which formal legislative action is taken, regarding
162 pending legislation or amendments, shall be reasonably open to
163 the public. All open meetings shall be subject to order and
164 decorum. This section shall be implemented and defined by the
165 rules of each house, and such rules shall control admission to
166 the floor of each legislative chamber and may, where reasonably
167 necessary for security purposes or to protect a witness
168 appearing before a committee, provide for the closure of
169 committee meetings. Each house shall be the sole judge for the
170 interpretation, implementation, and enforcement of this section.

171 (f) The Clerk and the Secretary, respectively, shall
172 assign each bill to an appropriate legislative committee of the
173 respective house, except that such house may by majority vote
174 reassign any bill to a different legislative committee.

175 (g) Each legislative committee agenda shall be proposed by

176 the chairperson and voted upon, subject to amendment, at the
177 preceding meeting. Any amendments to legislation placed on a
178 legislative committee agenda must be filed at least fourteen
179 days, and amendments to amendments and substitute amendments
180 must be filed at least seven days, before the meeting at which
181 the legislation is to be considered. However, late-filed
182 amendments, amendments to amendments, and substitute amendments
183 may be considered upon a two-thirds vote of the committee.

184 (h) Each bill shall be passed by a majority of the members
185 of one or more committees before being considered on the floor
186 of either house, except that, if a majority of members of a
187 house sponsor or cosponsor a bill, the bill shall be considered
188 on the next day such house is in session which occurs at least
189 twenty days after the date that the majority sponsors or
190 cosponsors the bill.

191 (i) Each legislative session agenda shall be proposed by
192 the chairperson of the rules committee and voted upon, subject
193 to amendment, at the preceding meeting. Any amendments to
194 legislation placed on a session agenda must be filed at least
195 fourteen days, and amendments to amendments and substitute
196 amendments must be filed at least seven days, before the session
197 at which the legislation is to be considered. However, late-
198 filed amendments, amendments to amendments, or substitute
199 amendments may be considered upon a two-thirds vote of the
200 respective house.

201 (j) A bill that has been placed on a committee agenda or
202 the agenda of either house may not be removed from consideration
203 at that meeting or session except due to the absence or request
204 of the main sponsor or upon a majority vote of the respective
205 body.

206 (k) A bill that is not withdrawn from consideration by the
207 bill sponsor shall remain available for consideration and
208 placement on a legislative agenda until a general election
209 occurs.

210 (l) Upon a recommendation of its respective rules
211 committee, either house may, by a two thirds vote, limit debate
212 on a measure ahead of time. However, each member desiring to
213 debate must have equal time ascertained in advance by dividing
214 the time allocated by the number of members wishing to debate as
215 indicated by submitting an electronic indication of the desire
216 to debate to the Clerk or the Secretary, respectively, at any
217 time between the issuance of the recommendation of the rules
218 committee and the beginning of debate. In all events, members
219 shall be recognized in debate in the order that requests are
220 received, and the order of members registered to debate shall be
221 displayed in the respective house during the debate and shall be
222 accessible to members through an electronic system. No attempt
223 may be made by the presiding officer or any other party to
224 influence the order of the debate or to divide the time for
225 debate between members supporting or opposing the bill.

226 Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this subsection,
 227 each member may exercise, in each week that the legislature is
 228 in session, the right to debate any single measure for up to
 229 five minutes, either in committee or on the floor of the
 230 respective house.

231 SECTION 8. Executive approval and veto.—

232 (a) Every bill passed by the legislature shall be
 233 presented to the governor for approval within fourteen days
 234 after final passage and shall become a law if the governor
 235 approves and signs it, ~~or fails to veto it within fourteen ~~seven~~~~
 236 ~~consecutive days after presentation. ~~If during that period or on~~~~
 237 ~~the seventh day the legislature adjourns sine die or takes a~~
 238 ~~recess of more than thirty days, the governor shall have fifteen~~
 239 ~~consecutive days from the date of presentation to act on the~~
 240 ~~bill.~~ In all cases except general appropriation bills, the veto
 241 shall extend to the entire bill. The governor may veto any
 242 specific appropriation in a general appropriation bill, but may
 243 not veto any qualification or restriction without also vetoing
 244 the appropriation to which it relates.

245 (b) When a bill or any specific appropriation of a general
 246 appropriation bill has been vetoed, the governor shall transmit
 247 signed objections thereto to the house in which the bill
 248 originated if in session. If that house is not in session, the
 249 governor shall file them with the custodian of state records,
 250 who shall lay them before that house at its next regular or

251 special session, whichever occurs first, and they shall be
 252 entered on its journal. If the originating house votes to re-
 253 enact a vetoed measure, whether in a regular or special session,
 254 and the other house does not consider or fails to re-enact the
 255 vetoed measure, no further consideration by either house at any
 256 subsequent session may be taken. If a vetoed measure is
 257 presented at a special session and the originating house does
 258 not consider it, the measure will be available for consideration
 259 at any intervening special session and until the end of the next
 260 regular session.

261 (c) If each house shall, by a two-thirds vote, re-enact
 262 the bill or reinstate the vetoed specific appropriation of a
 263 general appropriation bill, the vote of each member voting shall
 264 be entered on the respective journals, and the bill shall become
 265 law or the specific appropriation reinstated, the veto
 266 notwithstanding.

267 SECTION 9. Effective date of laws.—Each law shall take
 268 effect on the sixtieth day after becoming a law ~~adjournment sine~~
 269 ~~die of the session of the legislature in which enacted~~ or as
 270 otherwise provided therein. If the law is passed over the veto
 271 of the governor it shall take effect on the sixtieth day after
 272 adjournment sine die of the session in which the veto is
 273 overridden, on a later date fixed in the law, or on a date fixed
 274 by resolution passed by both houses of the legislature.

275 SECTION 15. Terms and qualifications of legislators;

276 compensation; administration.—

277 (a) SENATORS. Senators shall be elected for terms of four
278 years, those from odd-numbered districts in the years the
279 numbers of which are multiples of four and those from even-
280 numbered districts in even-numbered years the numbers of which
281 are not multiples of four; except, at the election next
282 following a reapportionment, some senators shall be elected for
283 terms of two years when necessary to maintain staggered terms.

284 (b) REPRESENTATIVES. Members of the house of
285 representatives shall be elected for terms of two years in each
286 even-numbered year.

287 (c) QUALIFICATIONS. Each legislator shall be at least
288 twenty-one years of age, an elector and resident of the district
289 from which elected and shall have resided in the state for a
290 period of two years prior to election.

291 (d) ASSUMING OFFICE; VACANCIES. Members of the
292 legislature shall take office upon election. Vacancies in
293 legislative office shall be filled only by election as provided
294 by law.

295 (e) COMPENSATION. Each member of the legislature shall be
296 compensated at a salary rate equal to half of the salary rate of
297 a United States Representative.

298 (f) ADMINISTRATION. Each member of the legislature may
299 hire two or more staff persons who shall be compensated at a
300 salary rate equal to or greater than one-third of the salary

301 rate of a United States Representative. Each house shall provide
302 each member with facilities located at both the state seat of
303 government and in the member's respective district which are
304 adequate for the performance of the member's duties. Each house
305 shall administer the funds assigned to each member for
306 management of the member's offices. A member may not sign a
307 lease or open a bank account in his or her individual capacity
308 in connection with his or her office or any official funds
309 supplied by the respective house.

310 SECTION 19. State Budgeting, Planning and Appropriations
311 Processes.—

312 (a) ANNUAL BUDGETING.

313 (1) General law shall prescribe the adoption of annual
314 state budgetary and planning processes and require that detail
315 reflecting the annualized costs of the state budget and
316 reflecting the nonrecurring costs of the budget requests shall
317 accompany state department and agency legislative budget
318 requests, the governor's recommended budget, and appropriation
319 bills.

320 (2) Unless approved by a three-fifths vote of the
321 membership of each house, appropriations made for recurring
322 purposes from nonrecurring general revenue funds for any fiscal
323 year shall not exceed three percent of the total general revenue
324 funds estimated to be available at the time such appropriation
325 is made.

326 (3) As prescribed by general law, each state department
 327 and agency shall be required to submit a legislative budget
 328 request that is based upon and that reflects the long-range
 329 financial outlook adopted by the joint legislative budget
 330 commission or that specifically explains any variance from the
 331 long-range financial outlook contained in the request.

332 (4) For purposes of this section, the terms department and
 333 agency shall include the judicial branch.

334 (b) APPROPRIATION BILLS FORMAT. Separate sections within
 335 the general appropriation bill shall be used for each major
 336 program area of the state budget; major program areas shall
 337 include: education enhancement "lottery" trust fund items;
 338 education (all other funds); human services; criminal justice
 339 and corrections; natural resources, environment, growth
 340 management, and transportation; general government; and judicial
 341 branch. Each major program area shall include an itemization of
 342 expenditures for: state operations; state capital outlay; aid to
 343 local governments and nonprofit organizations operations; aid to
 344 local governments and nonprofit organizations capital outlay;
 345 federal funds and the associated state matching funds; spending
 346 authorizations for operations; and spending authorizations for
 347 capital outlay. Additionally, appropriation bills passed by the
 348 legislature shall include an itemization of specific
 349 appropriations that exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00)
 350 in 1992 dollars. For purposes of this subsection, "specific

351 appropriation," "itemization," and "major program area" shall be
352 defined by law. This itemization threshold shall be adjusted by
353 general law every four years to reflect the rate of inflation or
354 deflation as indicated in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban
355 Consumers, U.S. City Average, All Items, or successor reports as
356 reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of
357 Labor Statistics or its successor. Substantive bills containing
358 appropriations shall also be subject to the itemization
359 requirement mandated under this provision and shall be subject
360 to the governor's specific appropriation veto power described in
361 Article III, Section 8.

362 (c) APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS.

363 (1) No later than September 15 of each year, the joint
364 legislative budget commission shall issue a long-range financial
365 outlook setting out recommended fiscal strategies for the state
366 and its departments and agencies in order to assist the
367 legislature in making budget decisions. The long-range financial
368 outlook must include major workload and revenue estimates. In
369 order to implement this paragraph, the joint legislative budget
370 commission shall use current official consensus estimates and
371 may request the development of additional official estimates.

372 (2) The joint legislative budget commission shall seek
373 input from the public and from the executive and judicial
374 branches when developing and recommending the long-range
375 financial outlook.

376 (3) The legislature shall prescribe by general law
 377 conditions under which limited adjustments to the budget, as
 378 recommended by the governor or the chief justice of the supreme
 379 court, may be approved without the concurrence of the full
 380 legislature.

381 (d) SEVENTY-TWO HOUR PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD. All general
 382 appropriation bills shall be furnished to each member of the
 383 legislature, each member of the cabinet, the governor, and the
 384 chief justice of the supreme court at least seventy-two hours
 385 before final passage by either house of the legislature of the
 386 bill in substantially the form that will be presented to the
 387 governor. During this period, no appropriation may be added to
 388 the bill, but specific appropriations may be reduced or
 389 eliminated by amendment.

390 (e) FINAL BUDGET REPORT. A final budget report shall be
 391 prepared as prescribed by general law. The final budget report
 392 shall be produced no later than the 120th day after the
 393 beginning of the fiscal year, and copies of the report shall be
 394 furnished to each member of the legislature, the head of each
 395 department and agency of the state, the auditor general, and the
 396 chief justice of the supreme court.

397 (f) TRUST FUNDS.

398 (1) No trust fund of the State of Florida or other public
 399 body may be created or re-created by law without a three-fifths
 400 vote of the membership of each house of the legislature in a

401 separate bill for that purpose only.

402 (2) State trust funds shall terminate not more than four
 403 years after the effective date of the act authorizing the
 404 initial creation of the trust fund. By law the legislature may
 405 set a shorter time period for which any trust fund is
 406 authorized.

407 (3) Trust funds required by federal programs or mandates;
 408 trust funds established for bond covenants, indentures, or
 409 resolutions, whose revenues are legally pledged by the state or
 410 public body to meet debt service or other financial requirements
 411 of any debt obligations of the state or any public body; the
 412 state transportation trust fund; the trust fund containing the
 413 net annual proceeds from the Florida Education Lotteries; the
 414 Florida retirement trust fund; trust funds for institutions
 415 under the management of the Board of Governors, where such trust
 416 funds are for auxiliary enterprises and contracts, grants, and
 417 donations, as those terms are defined by general law; trust
 418 funds that serve as clearing funds or accounts for the chief
 419 financial officer or state agencies; trust funds that account
 420 for assets held by the state in a trustee capacity as an agent
 421 or fiduciary for individuals, private organizations, or other
 422 governmental units; and other trust funds authorized by this
 423 Constitution, are not subject to the requirements set forth in
 424 paragraph (2) of this subsection.

425 (4) All cash balances and income of any trust funds

426 | abolished under this subsection shall be deposited into the
 427 | general revenue fund.

428 | (g) BUDGET STABILIZATION FUND. Subject to the provisions
 429 | of this subsection, an amount equal to at least 5% of the last
 430 | completed fiscal year's net revenue collections for the general
 431 | revenue fund shall be retained in the budget stabilization fund.
 432 | The budget stabilization fund's principal balance shall not
 433 | exceed an amount equal to 10% of the last completed fiscal
 434 | year's net revenue collections for the general revenue fund. The
 435 | legislature shall provide criteria for withdrawing funds from
 436 | the budget stabilization fund in a separate bill for that
 437 | purpose only and only for the purpose of covering revenue
 438 | shortfalls of the general revenue fund or for the purpose of
 439 | providing funding for an emergency, as defined by general law.
 440 | General law shall provide for the restoration of this fund. The
 441 | budget stabilization fund shall be comprised of funds not
 442 | otherwise obligated or committed for any purpose.

443 | (h) LONG-RANGE STATE PLANNING DOCUMENT AND DEPARTMENT AND
 444 | AGENCY PLANNING DOCUMENT PROCESSES. General law shall provide
 445 | for a long-range state planning document. The governor shall
 446 | recommend to the legislature biennially any revisions to the
 447 | long-range state planning document, as defined by law. General
 448 | law shall require a biennial review and revision of the long-
 449 | range state planning document and shall require all departments
 450 | and agencies of state government to develop planning documents

451 that identify statewide strategic goals and objectives,
452 consistent with the long-range state planning document. The
453 long-range state planning document and department and agency
454 planning documents shall remain subject to review and revision
455 by the legislature. The long-range state planning document must
456 include projections of future needs and resources of the state
457 which are consistent with the long-range financial outlook. The
458 department and agency planning documents shall include a
459 prioritized listing of planned expenditures for review and
460 possible reduction in the event of revenue shortfalls, as
461 defined by general law.

462 (i) GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY TASK FORCE. No later than
463 January of 2007, and each fourth year thereafter, the president
464 of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and
465 the governor shall appoint a government efficiency task force,
466 the membership of which shall be established by general law. The
467 task force shall be composed of members of the legislature and
468 representatives from the private and public sectors who shall
469 develop recommendations for improving governmental operations
470 and reducing costs. Staff to assist the task force in performing
471 its duties shall be assigned by general law, and the task force
472 may obtain assistance from the private sector. The task force
473 shall complete its work within one year and shall submit its
474 recommendations to the joint legislative budget commission, the
475 governor, and the chief justice of the supreme court.

476 (j) JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMISSION. There is created
477 within the legislature the joint legislative budget commission
478 composed of equal numbers of senate members appointed by the
479 president of the senate and house members appointed by the
480 speaker of the house of representatives. Each member shall serve
481 at the pleasure of the officer who appointed the member. A
482 vacancy on the commission shall be filled in the same manner as
483 the original appointment. From November of each odd-numbered
484 year through October of each even-numbered year, the chairperson
485 of the joint legislative budget commission shall be appointed by
486 the president of the senate and the vice chairperson of the
487 commission shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of
488 representatives. From November of each even-numbered year
489 through October of each odd-numbered year, the chairperson of
490 the joint legislative budget commission shall be appointed by
491 the speaker of the house of representatives and the vice
492 chairperson of the commission shall be appointed by the
493 president of the senate. The joint legislative budget commission
494 shall be governed by the joint rules of the senate and the house
495 of representatives, which shall remain in effect until repealed
496 or amended by concurrent resolution. The commission shall
497 convene at least quarterly and shall convene at the call of the
498 president of the senate and the speaker of the house of
499 representatives. A majority of the commission members of each
500 house plus one additional member from either house constitutes a

501 quorum. Action by the commission requires a majority vote of the
 502 commission members present of each house. The commission may
 503 conduct its meetings through teleconferences or similar means.
 504 In addition to the powers and duties specified in this
 505 subsection, the joint legislative budget commission shall
 506 exercise all other powers and perform any other duties not in
 507 conflict with paragraph (c) (3) and as prescribed by general law
 508 or joint rule.

509 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
 510 placed on the ballot:

511 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

512 ARTICLE III, SECTIONS 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 15, AND 19

513 PROCEDURES OF THE LEGISLATURE.—Proposing amendments to the
 514 State Constitution to revise and require specified legislative
 515 procedures, provide and revise requirements for legislative
 516 officers and executive directors, provide specifications for
 517 legislative committees, revise the dates and length of each
 518 legislative session, eliminate special sessions, revise when a
 519 bill becomes a law and takes effect, set compensation of
 520 legislative members and their staff, require certain facilities,
 521 and authorize removal of appropriations from appropriations
 522 bills during the public review period.

523 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
 524 placed on the ballot if a court declares the preceding statement
 525 defective and the decision of the court is not reversed:

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

ARTICLE III, SECTIONS 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 15, AND 19

PROCEDURES OF THE LEGISLATURE.—Proposing amendments to the State Constitution to remove the requirement that each house of the Legislature choose its officers biennially; specify that the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives serve at the pleasure of his or her respective house; require the designation of alternate presiding officers and executive directors with specified duties; prohibit legislative members from holding more than one legislative officer position at a time; specify that committee chairpersons are legislative officers; authorize the removal of legislative officers in a specified manner; require specified committees with prescribed and nonoverlapping jurisdictions; authorize each legislative house to create subcommittees by rule; limit the total number of committees and subcommittees that may be created; require members to serve on the same number of committees, except that the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives may not serve on any committees and the chair of a committee may only serve on that committee or its subcommittees; require proportional political party affiliation on committees and subcommittees; revise the dates on which organization sessions are convened; revise the dates on which regular sessions are convened to authorize the Legislature to convene in session monthly; eliminate provisions

551 providing for special sessions, specifying the length of
552 sessions, and providing methods for adjourning sessions; require
553 certain votes to be recorded in a journal of proceedings as a
554 matter of course instead of upon a request of members; require
555 the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of the House of
556 Representatives, respectively, to assign each bill to a
557 committee; provide procedures for the proposal of legislative
558 committee agendas and legislative session agendas; require that
559 a bill be passed by a committee before being considered in
560 session, except that a bill sponsored or cosponsored by a
561 majority of the members shall be considered in session 20 days
562 after the majority sponsors or cosponsors the bill; specify that
563 amendments to a bill must be filed a specified number of days
564 before the meeting or session day at which the bill is to be
565 considered; provide that a bill placed on a legislative agenda
566 may only be removed from consideration in specified
567 circumstances; provide that a bill remains available for
568 consideration until it is withdrawn or a general election
569 occurs; authorize each legislative house to limit debate on a
570 measure in a specified manner that allocates equal time to each
571 member who desires to debate in a certain order; revise the
572 period in which a bill passed by the Legislature must be
573 presented to the Governor and revise to 14 days the period in
574 which the Governor may veto the bill before it becomes a law;
575 provide that, except as otherwise provided in law, a law takes

576 effect on the 60th day after becoming a law instead of after
577 adjournment sine die of the session in which the law is enacted;
578 specify a salary rate for each member of the Legislature equal
579 to half the salary rate of a United States Representative;
580 authorize each member of the Legislature to hire two or more
581 staff persons who shall be compensated at a rate equal to or
582 greater than one-third of the salary rate of a United States
583 Representative; require each house of the Legislature to provide
584 its members with certain facilities and to administer the funds
585 assigned to each member for management of the member's offices;
586 prohibit a member from signing a lease or opening a bank account
587 in his or her individual capacity in connection with his or her
588 office or official legislative funds; and authorize removal of
589 appropriations from appropriations bills during the 72-hour
590 public review period.