

House Concurrent Resolution No. 5055

By Representative Benlon

3-21

A PROPOSITION to amend section 8 of article 2 of the constitution of the state of Kansas, relating to legislative sessions.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate concurring therein:

Section 1. The following proposition to amend the constitution of the state of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state for their approval or rejection: Section 8 of article 2 of the constitution of the state of Kansas is hereby amended to read as follows:

“§ 8. Organization and sessions. The legislature shall meet in regular session annually ~~commencing on the second Monday in January, and as provided by law.~~ All sessions shall be held at the state capital. The duration of regular sessions held in even-numbered years shall not exceed ninety calendar days. Such sessions may be extended beyond ninety calendar days by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members elected to each house. Bills and concurrent resolutions under consideration by the legislature upon adjournment of a regular session held in an odd-numbered year may be considered at the next succeeding regular session held in an even-numbered year, as if there had been no such adjournment.

The legislature shall be organized concurrently with the terms of representatives except that the senate shall remain organized during the terms of senators. The president of the senate shall preside over the senate, and the speaker of the house of representatives shall preside over the house of representatives. A majority of the members then elected (or appointed) and qualified of the house of representatives or the senate shall constitute a quorum of that house. Neither house, without the consent of the other, shall adjourn for more than two days, Sundays excepted. Each house shall elect its presiding officer and determine the rules of its proceedings, except that the two houses may adopt joint rules on certain matters and provide for the manner of change thereof. Each house shall provide for the expulsion or censure of members in appropriate cases. Each

1 house shall be the judge of elections, returns and qualifications of
2 its own members.”

3 Sec. 2. The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with
4 the amendment as a whole:

5 “*Explanatory statement.* The purpose of this amendment is to au-
6 thorize the legislature to provide by statute for the time of com-
7 mencement of regular legislative sessions.

8 “A vote for this amendment would favor authorizing the legislature
9 to provide by statute for the time of commencement of regular
10 legislative sessions.

11 “A vote against this amendment would favor making no change in
12 the current constitutional provision establishing the time for
13 commencement of regular legislative sessions.”

14 Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members
15 elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives and
16 two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the
17 Senate, shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas and nays.
18 The secretary of state shall cause this resolution to be published as pro-
19 vided by law and shall cause the proposed amendment to be submitted
20 to the electors of the state at the general election in the year 2002 unless
21 a special election is called at a sooner date by concurrent resolution of
22 the legislature, in which case it shall be submitted to the electors of the
23 state at the special election.

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