

## Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1608

By Committee on Ways and Means

2-10

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

*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives 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 all sessions shall be held at the state capital. The duration of ~~each regular sessions held in even-numbered years~~ *session* shall not exceed ~~ninety eighty-eight~~ calendar days. ~~Each such sessions~~ *session* may be extended beyond ~~ninety eighty-eight~~ calendar days by an affirmative vote of ~~two-thirds of the~~ *a majority of all members elected (or appointed) and qualified to each house, except that no regular session can be extended by more than two calendar days.* 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

1 presiding officer and determine the rules of its proceedings, except  
2 that the two houses may adopt joint rules on certain matters and  
3 provide for the manner of change thereof. Each house shall provide  
4 for the expulsion or censure of members in appropriate cases. Each  
5 house shall be the judge of elections, returns and qualifications of  
6 its own members.”

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

9 “*Explanatory statement.* The purpose of this amendment is to limit  
10 the duration of the annual regular sessions of the Kansas legis-  
11 lature. It imposes a limit of eighty-eight calendar days for each  
12 regular session. It removes the existing limit of ninety calendar  
13 days which applies only to regular sessions held in even-num-  
14 bered years and the existing provision allowing extension of such  
15 sessions beyond ninety calendar days by a vote of two-thirds of  
16 the members of each house. This amendment would permit the  
17 legislature to extend the regular session beyond the eighty-eighth  
18 calendar day by the vote of a majority vote of all members of  
19 each house. Such extension could not be for more than two cal-  
20 endar days.

21 “A vote for this proposition would limit the duration of each regular  
22 session of the Kansas legislature to eighty-eight calendar days.  
23 Each such session could be extended by the legislature for up to  
24 two calendar days by a majority vote of all members of each  
25 house.

26 “A vote against this proposition would continue in effect the current  
27 provision which limits only the regular sessions held in even-  
28 numbered years to ninety calendar days and the existing provi-  
29 sion allowing extension of such sessions beyond ninety calendar  
30 days by a vote of two-thirds of the members of each house.”

31 Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members  
32 elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate, and two-thirds of the  
33 members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Repre-  
34 sentatives shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas and  
35 nays. The secretary of state shall cause this resolution to be published as  
36 provided by law and shall cause the proposed amendment to be submitted  
37 to the electors of the state at the general election in November in the  
38 year 2004 unless a special election is called at a sooner date by concurrent  
39 resolution of the legislature, in which case it shall be submitted to the  
40 electors of the state at the special election. proposed amendment to be  
41 submitted to the electors of the state at the general election in November  
42 in the year 2004 unless a special election is called at a sooner date by  
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1 concurrent resolution of the legislature, in which case it shall be submit-  
2 ted to the electors of the state at the special election.  
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