

Existing constitution (Art. III, Section 2(A)) provides that the legislature shall meet annually in regular session. Provides that, during any regular session, any bill to be introduced must be prefiled no later than 5 p.m. of the Friday before the first day of the session. Permits each member of the legislature to introduce not more than five bills which were not prefiled. (The legislature is authorized to provide for exceptions to this limitation by joint rule.) Existing constitution (Art. XIII, Section 1) provides that a constitutional amendment must be prefiled at least 10 days prior to the regular session at which it is to be considered.

Proposed constitutional amendment changes the prefiling deadline for bills to 5 p.m. on the tenth calendar day prior to the first day of a regular session.

Existing constitution provides that in odd-numbered years the regular session convenes at noon on the last Monday in March and that in even-numbered years the regular session convenes at noon on the last Monday in April.

Proposed constitutional amendment changes the convening day in even-numbered years to the last Monday in March and the convening day in odd-numbered years to the last Monday in April.

Existing constitution provides that in odd-numbered years the length of the regular session is not more than 60 legislative days during a period of 85 calendar days.

Proposed constitutional amendment changes the length of the regular session in even-numbered years to not more than 60 legislative days in a period of 85 calendar days.

Existing constitution provides that in even-numbered years the length of the regular session is not more than 30 legislative days in a period of 45 calendar days.

Proposed constitutional amendment changes the length of the regular session in an odd-numbered year to not more than 45 legislative days during a period of 60 calendar days.

Existing constitution provides that in regular sessions convening in odd-numbered years the deadline for the introduction of bills is midnight of the 30th calendar day.

Proposed constitutional amendment changes the deadline for introduction in even-numbered years to 6 p.m. of the 23rd calendar day.

Existing constitution provides that in regular sessions convening in even-numbered years the deadline for the introduction of bills is midnight of the 10th calendar day.

Proposed constitutional amendment changes the deadline for introduction in odd-numbered years to 6 p.m. of the 10th calendar day.

Existing constitution provides that in regular sessions convening in odd-numbered years, the

deadline for consideration on third reading and final passage of matters intended to have the effect of law is midnight of the 55th legislative day (except by 2/3 vote of both houses). (NOTE: Measures proposing a suspension of law are not subject to the deadline.)

Proposed constitutional amendment changes that deadline in even-numbered years to 6 p.m. of the 57th legislative day or the 82nd calendar day, whichever occurs first (except by 2/3 vote of both houses).

Existing constitution provides that in a regular session convening in even-numbered years, the deadline for third reading and final passage of matters intended to have the effect of law is midnight of the 27th legislative day (except by 2/3 vote of both houses). (NOTE: Measures proposing a suspension of law are not subject to the deadline.)

Proposed constitutional amendment changes that deadline in odd-numbered years to 6 p.m. of the 42nd legislative day or the 57th calendar day, whichever occurs first (except by 2/3 vote of both houses).

Existing constitution further provides that all regular sessions convening in even-numbered years shall be restricted to the consideration of legislation which provides for the enactment of a general appropriations bill, implementation of a capital budget, for making an appropriation, levying or authorizing a new tax, increasing an existing tax, legislating with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeal, or credits, or issuing bonds.

Proposed constitutional amendment removes the subject matter restrictions on sessions convening in even-numbered years in the existing constitution and makes those restrictions applicable to sessions convening in odd-numbered years. Additionally, proposed constitutional amendment provides for the consideration in such sessions of legislation if its object is to levy, authorize, increase, decrease, or repeal a fee, or to dedicate revenue, or to enact a local or special law, provided such local or special bill is required to be and has been advertised in accordance with the existing constitution and is not otherwise a prohibited local or special law as provided by the existing constitution. Additionally, proposed constitutional amendment allows the consideration of five prefiled bills per member which are not within the subject matter jurisdiction for the session.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election on November 5, 2002 and specifies that it shall be the first ballot proposition for constitutional amendments to appear on the ballot for such election.

Effective January 1, 2004.

(Amends Const. Art. III, §2(A))