
DIGEST

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HB 752 Original

2026 Regular Session

Green

Abstract: Provides that the regular sessions of the legislature will begin each year on the second Monday in Feb. and end no later than May 31st. Removes subject matter restrictions and deadlines for prefiling, introduction, and final passage of legislative instruments in the provisions for sessions. Provides for exceptions. Allows the legislature to change the timing of annual sessions by a joint rule adopted by a two-thirds vote.

Present constitution provides that in even-numbered years the regular session of the legislature convenes at noon on the second Monday in March, in which the legislature shall meet for not more than 60 legislative days during a period of 85 calendar days.

Present constitution prohibits the introduction or enactment of any measure levying or authorizing a new tax or increasing an existing tax by state or by any statewide political subdivision, or legislating with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, dedications, or credits during a regular session convening in an even-numbered year.

Present constitution provides that in odd-numbered years the legislature shall convene at noon on the second Monday in April, in which the legislature shall meet for not more than 45 legislative days during a period of 60 calendar days.

Present constitution provides that during any session convening in an odd-numbered year, no matter shall be introduced or considered unless its object is to enact the General Appropriation Bill or the comprehensive capital budget, to make an appropriation, levy or authorize a new tax, increase an existing tax, levy, authorize, increase, decrease, or repeal a fee, dedicate revenue, legislate with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, or credits, or legislate with regard to the issuance of bonds. Provides exceptions to this subject matter limitation, including allowing members to prefile up to five "general" matters and local and special bills which are required to be advertised.

Present constitution requires proposed legislation to be introduced to be prefiled no later than 5 p.m. of the 10th calendar day prior to the first day of a regular session. Provides that proposed legislation to effect a change in a retirement system for public employees to be prefiled for introduction shall be prefiled no later than 5 p.m. of the 45th calendar day prior to the first day of a regular session.

Present constitution provides for deadlines for introduction of matters intended to have the effect of law in each regular session. Provides for deadlines for consideration on third reading and final passage of such matters in each regular session, except by a two-thirds vote of each house.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides instead that the legislature shall meet in regular session at least once in every year and such session shall begin at noon on the second Monday in February and adjourn sine die no later than 6 p.m. on May 31st, unless the legislature provides otherwise by joint rule adopted by a favorable vote of two-thirds of the elected members of each house and according to the same procedure and formalities required for the passage of a law, except for gubernatorial veto and time limitations for introduction.

Present constitution limits the duration of the organizational session of the legislature at the beginning of each term to three legislative days. Proposed constitutional amendment changes the limitation to three days and otherwise retains present constitution.

Present constitution provides the legislature by a favorable record vote of two-thirds of the elected members of each house, may extend a regular session in increments of two legislative or calendar days for the purpose to finally pass a bill appropriating money. Provides during the time that a regular session has been extended, the legislature shall not consider any matter having the effect of law other than those contained in a bill appropriating money. Further provides no regular session shall be extended more than six calendar days beyond the original time and day for the session to adjourn sine die.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 2026.

(Amends Const. Art. III, §2(A) and (D))