HLS 14RS-91 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 112

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BY REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD

LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides relative to the length of regular sessions in odd-numbered years and the consideration of certain measures in such sessions

A JOINT RESOLUTION

2	Proposing to amend Article III, Section 2(A)(4) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to provide
3	relative to regular legislative sessions convening in odd-numbered years; to provide
4	for the length of such sessions; to provide relative to the consideration of matters at
5	such sessions; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors;
6	and to provide for related matters.
7	Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members
8	elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of
9	Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to
10	amend Article III, Section 2(A)(4) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:
11	§2. Sessions
12	Section 2.(A) Annual Session.
13	* * *
14	(4)(a) All regular sessions convening in odd-numbered years shall convene
15	at noon on the second Monday in April. The legislature shall meet in such a session
16	for not more than forty-five legislative days in a period of sixty fifty calendar days.
17	No such session shall continue beyond six o'clock in the evening of the sixtieth
18	fiftieth calendar day after convening. No new matter intended to have the effect of
19	law shall be introduced or received by either house after six o'clock in the evening

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2	measure proposing a suspension of law, shall be considered on third reading and
3	final passage in either house after six o'clock in the evening of the forty-second
4	legislative day or fifty-seventh forty-seventh calendar day, whichever occurs first,
5	except by a favorable record vote of two-thirds of the elected members of each
6	house.
7	(b)(i) During any session convening in an odd-numbered year, no matter
8	intended to have the effect of law, including any suspension of law, shall be
9	introduced or considered unless its object is to enact the General Appropriation Bill;
10	enact the comprehensive capital budget; make an appropriation; levy or authorize a
11	new tax; increase an existing tax; levy, authorize, increase, decrease, or repeal a fee;
12	dedicate revenue; legislate with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions,
13	reductions, repeals, or credits; or legislate with regard to the issuance of bonds.
14	(ii) In addition, a matter intended to have the effect of law, including a
15	measure proposing a suspension of law, which is not within the subject matter
16	restrictions provided in this Subparagraph Subsubparagraph may be considered at
17	any such session if:
18	(i) It is prefiled no later than the deadline provided in Subparagraph (2) of
19	this Paragraph, provided that the member shall not prefile more than five such
20	matters pursuant to this Subsubparagraph; or
21	(ii) Its if its object is to enact a local or special law which is required to be
22	and has been advertised in accordance with Section 13 of this Article and which is
23	not prohibited by the provisions of Section 12 of this Article.
24	(iii) The subject matter restrictions provided in this Subsubparagraph shall
25	not be construed to prevent the legislature from considering the minimum foundation
26	program formula pursuant to Article VIII, Section 13 of this constitution.
27	* * *

of the tenth calendar day. No matter intended to have the effect of law, except a

1 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted 2 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 4, 3 2014. 4 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election, 5 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted 6 to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as 7 follows: 8 Do you support an amendment to repeal provisions that allow each legislator 9 during regular sessions convened in odd-numbered years to introduce up to 10 five prefiled bills that do not fit within the subject matter limitations for such 11 sessions and to reduce from sixty to fifty the maximum number of calendar 12 days for such sessions? (Amends Article III, Section 2(A)(4))

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Richard HB No. 112

Abstract: Repeals provisions that allow each legislator during regular sessions convened in odd-numbered years to introduce up to five prefiled bills that do not fit within the subject matter limitations for such sessions; reduces <u>from</u> 60 to 50 the maximum number of calendar days for such sessions; and expressly allows for the consideration of the minimum foundation program formula at such sessions.

<u>Present constitution</u> (Art. III, §2) provides for regular sessions of the legislature. Provides time limitations and procedures for filing bills.

<u>Present constitution</u> provides that regular sessions convening in even-numbered years are general in nature. Prohibits the introduction or enactment of any measure levying or authorizing a new tax by the state or by any statewide political subdivision whose boundaries are coterminous with the state; increasing an existing tax by the state or by any statewide political subdivision whose boundaries are coterminous with the state; or legislating with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, or credits during a regular session held in an even-numbered year.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> retains <u>present constitution</u>.

<u>Present constitution</u> provides that during a regular session convening in an odd-numbered year, no matter intended to have the effect of law, including any suspension of law, shall be introduced or considered unless its object is to enact the General Appropriation Bill; enact the comprehensive capital budget; 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

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credits; or legislate with regard to the issuance of bonds. However, provides that a matter not within these subject matter restrictions may be considered if its object is to enact a local or special law which is required to be and has been advertised in accordance with <u>present constitution</u> and which is not prohibited by the provisions of <u>present constitution</u> concerning prohibited local and special laws.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution.

<u>Present constitution</u> provides additionally that a matter not within the above subject matter restrictions may be considered if it is prefiled. Provides that no member may prefile more than five such matters.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> repeals <u>present constitution</u>. Provides further that the subject matter restrictions provided in <u>proposed constitutional amendment</u> shall not be construed to prevent the legislature from considering approval of the minimum foundation program formula pursuant to <u>present constitution</u>.

<u>Present constitution</u> provides that during a regular session convening in an odd-numbered year, the legislature shall meet for not more than 45 legislative days in a period of 60 calendar days.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> provides that the calendar day maximum for a regular session convening in an odd-numbered year is 50 calendar days instead of 60 calendar days. <u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> otherwise retains <u>present constitution</u>.

<u>Present constitution</u> provides that during a regular session convening in an odd-numbered year, no matter intended to have the effect of law, except a measure proposing a suspension of law, shall be considered on third reading and final passage in either house after six o'clock in the evening of the 42nd legislative day or 57th calendar day, whichever occurs first, except by a favorable record vote of 2/3rds of the elected members of each house.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> provides that the calendar day deadline for third reading and final passage is the 47th calendar day instead of the 57th calendar day. <u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> otherwise retains <u>present constitution</u>.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 4, 2014.

(Amends Const. Art. III, §2(A)(4))