HLS 25RS-880 ORIGINAL

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 471

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BY REPRESENTATIVE EDMONSTON

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

CONSTITUTION/AMENDMENT: (Constitutional Amendment) Changes the process for amending the constitution

A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to amend Article XIII, Section 1(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana; to provide 3 that a constitutional amendment be clearly confined to one object and to remove the 4 ability of the legislature to propose a revision of an entire article of the constitution 5 as one amendment that contains multiple objects or changes; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related 6 7 matters. 8 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members 9 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of 10 Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to 11 amend Article XIII, Section 1(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows: 12 §1. Amendments 13 14

(B) Form of Proposal. A proposed amendment shall have a title containing a brief summary of the changes proposed; shall be <u>clearly</u> confined to one object; and shall set forth the entire article, or the sections or other subdivisions thereof, as proposed to be revised or only the article, sections, or other subdivisions proposed to be added. However, the legislature may propose, as one amendment, a revision of an entire article of this constitution which may contain multiple objects or changes. A section or other subdivision may be repealed by reference. When more

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1 than one amendment is submitted at the same election, each shall be submitted so as 2 to enable the electors to vote on them separately. 3 4 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted 5 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 6 2026. 7 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election. 8 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted 9 to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as 10 follows: 11 Do you support an amendment to provide that constitutional amendments be 12 clearly confined to one object and to remove the ability of the legislature to offer a constitutional amendment that provides for multiple objects in the 13 14 revision of an entire article? (Amends Article XIII, Section 1(B))

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)]

HB 471 Original

2025 Regular Session

Edmonston

Abstract: Removes the legislature's authority to propose a revision of an entire article of the constitution as one amendment that contains multiple objects or changes.

<u>Present constitution</u> (Art. XIII, §1) provides for the procedure to amend the constitution. Provides that an amendment to the constitution may be proposed by joint resolution at any regular session, or at any extraordinary session if the amendment is within the objects of the call. Provides that the proposed amendment will be submitted to the electors if two-thirds of the elected members of each house concur in the resolution. Requires that the joint resolution to specify the statewide election at which the proposed amendment will be submitted. <u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> retains <u>present constitution</u>.

<u>Present constitution</u> provides for the form of the proposed amendment. Provides that a proposed amendment shall have a title containing a brief summary of the changes proposed; shall be confined to one object; and shall set forth the entire article or the sections that are proposed to be revised or to be added. Provides that if an amendment revises an entire article of the constitution then it may contain multiple objects or changes. Further provides when multiple amendments are submitted at the same election, each amendment will be voted on separately by the electors.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> provides that a constitutional amendment be clearly confined to one object and removes the legislature's ability to offer a constitutional

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amendment that provides for multiple objects in the revision of an entire article. <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. 3, 2026.

(Amends Const. Art. XIII, §1(B))