Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

BY REPRESENTATIVE NORTON

JOINT RULES: Requires plain language in constitutional amendment ballot language

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To adopt Joint Rule No. 5 of the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives to require clear, concise, and unbiased language in constitutional amendment ballot language and to require such ballot language to be phrased in the form of a question.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of Louisiana that Joint Rule No. 5 of the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives is hereby adopted to read as follows:

Joint Rule No. 5. Constitutional amendment ballot language

All ballot language for constitutional amendments shall be drafted in clear, concise, and unbiased language and be phrased in the form of a question. The ballot language shall begin with the phrase "Do you support an amendment to".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the provisions of this Concurrent Resolution shall become effective on July 1, 2011.

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)]

Norton HCR No. 4

Proposed Joint Rule requires all constitutional amendment ballot language to be in clear, concise, and unbiased language and be phrased in the form of a question. Further requires the ballot language to begin with the phrase "Do you support an amendment to".

Effective July 1, 2011.

(Adds Joint Rule No. 5)

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Changes requirement from "plain" language to "clear, concise, and unbiased" language.

2. Requires ballot language to begin with the phrase "Do you support an amendment to".

3. Adds an effective date of July 1, 2011.

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.