SLS 13RS-9

ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2013

SENATE BILL NO. 41

BY SENATOR KOSTELKA

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

BESE. Constitutional amendment to require the statewide election of the state superintendent of education. (2/3 - CA13s1(A))

1	A JOINT RESOLUTION
2	Proposing to amend Article IV, Section 20 and Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution
3	of Louisiana, relative to certain state officials; to provide for the election of the state
4	superintendent of education in lieu of appointment; and to specify an election for
5	submission of the proposition to electors and provide a ballot proposition.
6	Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members
7	elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for
8	their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article IV,
9	Section 20 and Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:
10	ARTICLE IV. EXECUTIVE BRANCH
11	§20. Appointment of Officials; Merger, Consolidation of Offices and Departments
12	Section 20. After the first election of state officials following the effective
13	date of this constitution, the legislature may provide, by law enacted by two-thirds
14	of the elected members of each house, for appointment, in lieu of election, of the
15	commissioner of agriculture, the commissioner of insurance, the superintendent of
16	education, the commissioner of elections, or any of them. In that event, the
17	legislature shall prescribe qualifications and method of appointment and by similar

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1	vote, may provide by law for the merger or consolidation of any such office, its
2	department, and functions with any other office or department in the executive
3	branch. No action of the legislature pursuant hereto shall reduce the term or
4	compensation of any incumbent elected official. By law enacted by two-thirds of the
5	elected members of each house, the legislature may reestablish any such office as
6	elective and, in that event, shall prescribe qualifications.
7	ARTICLE VIII. EDUCATION
8	§2. State Superintendent of Education
9	Section 2.(1) There The term of an appointed state superintendent of
10	education holding office on the second Monday in January, 2016, shall expire
11	immediately before noon on that day. Thereafter, there shall be a state
12	superintendent of education for public elementary and secondary education who,
13	subject to provisions for appointment in lieu of election set forth in Article IV,

Section 2.(1) There The term of an appointed state superintendent of
education holding office on the second Monday in January, 2016, shall expire
immediately before noon on that day. Thereafter, there shall be a state
superintendent of education for public elementary and secondary education who;
subject to provisions for appointment in lieu of election set forth in Article IV,
Section 20, of this constitution, shall be elected for a term of four years. If the office
is made appointive, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall
make the appointment: He shall be the administrative head of the Department of
Education and shall implement the policies of the State Board of Elementary and
Secondary Education and the laws affecting schools under its jurisdiction. The
qualifications and other powers, functions, duties, and responsibilities of the

(2) The state superintendent of education to take office at noon on the second Monday in January, 2016, shall be elected at the time for election of statewide elected officials and members of the legislature in 2015.

Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 4,
26 2014.

27 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at said election 28 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted 29 to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as

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1	follows:	
2		Do you support an amendment to require the statewide election of the state
3		superintendent of education?
4		(Amends Article IV, Section 20 and Article VIII, Section 2)

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeanne C. Johnston.

DIGEST

Present constitution authorizes the legislature to provide for the appointment, in lieu of election, of specified elected officials, including the state superintendent of education, by a law enacted by a 2/3 vote of the legislature. Provides that the legislature shall prescribe qualifications and method of appointment, should the office become appointive. Further provides that the legislature, by a 2/3 vote, may reestablish the office as elective.

Proposed constitutional amendment removes the office of state superintendent of education from the list of elected offices which may be made appointive by legislative enactment.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that the term of an appointed state superintendent holding office on the second Monday in January, 2016, shall expire immediately before noon on that day. Provides that thereafter, the state superintendent of education shall be elected for a term of four years. Further provides that the state superintendent to take office at noon on the second Monday in January, 2016, shall be elected at the time for election of statewide elected officials and members of the legislature in 2015.

Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held on November 4, 2014.

(Amends Const. Art. IV, Sec. 20 and Art. VIII, Sec. 2)