
DIGEST

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HB 1139 Original

2016 Regular Session

Richard

Abstract: Shortens the maximum length of regular sessions in even-numbered years and removes subject matter restrictions for matters in regular sessions.

Present constitution provides that regular sessions in odd-numbered years convene at noon on the second Mon. in April and last for no more than 45 legislative days in a period of 60 calendar days. Provides related deadlines for introducing and considering certain matters.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution.

Present constitution provides that regular sessions in even-numbered years convene at noon on the second Mon. in March and last for no more than 60 legislative days in a period of 85 calendar days. Provides for related deadlines for introducing and considering certain matters.

Proposed constitutional amendment shortens the maximum length of regular sessions in even-numbered years from 60 legislative days in 85 calendar days to 45 legislative days in 60 calendar days, makes related changes to deadlines for introducing and considering certain matters in those sessions, and moves the date on which the session convenes, all to be the same as regular sessions in odd-numbered years.

Present constitution relative to regular sessions in odd-numbered years limits the introduction of matters to certain specified fiscal matters; provides exceptions for local and special matters and for up to five general matters that are prefiled. Provides that regular sessions in even-numbered years are general in nature. Prohibits the introduction of certain specified measures involving certain taxes.

Proposed constitutional amendment repeals present constitution.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 8, 2016.

(Amends Const. Art. III, § 2(A))