

**Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the Arkansas  
Constitution.**

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: S3/12/03 S3/31/03*

2 84th General Assembly

3 Regular Session, 2003

SJR 5

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5 By: Senators J. Bookout, *Womack, Baker, Laverty*

6 By: Representative P. Bookout

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION**

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PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS

11

CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE FOR ANNUAL SESSIONS OF

12

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND TO AUTHORIZE

13

*EXTRAORDINARY* SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS

14

MAY BE PROVIDED BY LAW.

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**Subtitle**

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PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS

18

CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE FOR ANNUAL

19

SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND TO

20

AUTHORIZE *EXTRAORDINARY* SESSIONS OF THE

21

GENERAL ASSEMBLY AS MAY BE PROVIDED BY

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LAW.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE

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STATE OF ARKANSAS AND BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, A MAJORITY OF ALL

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MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:

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That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of

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the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state

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for approval or rejection at the next general election for Senators and

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Representatives, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the

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election, adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the

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Constitution of the State of Arkansas, to wit:

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SECTION 1. Article 5, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of

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Arkansas is amended to read as follows:



1 § 5. Time of meeting.

2 (a) The General Assembly shall meet at the seat of government ~~every~~  
3 ~~two years on the first Tuesday after the second Monday in November until said~~  
4 ~~time be altered by law~~ at the time prescribed by law during each odd numbered  
5 year and each even numbered year.

6 (b)(1) The General Assembly may consider any issue within the  
7 legislative authority of the General Assembly during the regular session held  
8 in odd numbered years, including, but not limited to, bills enacting new  
9 laws, bills amending, revising, and changing present laws, bills  
10 appropriating funds, bills restricting the use of funds, bills raising or  
11 decreasing revenues, bills of an emergency nature, certifying the results of  
12 the general elections, proposing amendments to the Arkansas Constitution,  
13 confirming appointments made by the Governor, and impeachments.

14 (2) Only bills restricting the use of funds, bills to raise or  
15 decrease revenues, bills of an emergency nature, proposed amendments to the  
16 Arkansas Constitution, confirmation of appointments made by the Governor, and  
17 impeachments may be acted upon during the regular session held in even  
18 numbered years.

19 (c) In addition to extraordinary sessions called by the Governor,  
20 extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly may be convened as provided by  
21 law and subject only to such restrictions as provided by law.

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23 SECTION 2. Article 5, Section 17 of the Constitution of the State of  
24 Arkansas is amended to read as follows:

25 § 17. Duration of sessions.

26 (a)(1) The regular ~~biennial~~ sessions held during odd numbered years  
27 shall not exceed sixty (60) legislative days in duration during a period of  
28 eighty-five (85) calendar days, unless by a vote of two-thirds of the members  
29 elected to each house of ~~said~~ the General Assembly the number of legislative  
30 days, calendar days, or both are extended.

31 (2) A legislative day is a calendar day when either house of the  
32 General Assembly is in session.

33 (b) The regular sessions held during even numbered years shall not  
34 exceed thirty (30) legislative days in duration during a period of sixty (60)  
35 calendar days, unless by a vote of two-thirds of the members elected to each  
36 house of the General Assembly the number of legislative days, calendar days,

1 or both are extended.

2 (c) Provided, that this section shall not apply ~~to the first session~~  
3 ~~of the General Assembly under this Constitution,~~ or when impeachments are  
4 pending.

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6 SECTION 3. This amendment becomes effective January 1, 2005.

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*/s/ J. Bookout*

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