

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

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H3/1/21*

2 93rd General Assembly

3 Regular Session, 2021

HJR 1005

4

5 By: Representatives Ray, Gonzales, *Vaught, Barker, Beaty Jr., Bentley, M. Berry, Boyd, Bragg, Breaux,*
6 *Brooks, Brown, Bryant, Cavanaugh, M. Davis, Dotson, L. Fite, Furman, M. Gray, Hollowell, L. Johnson,*
7 *Lundstrum, Lynch, McCollum, McGrew, Milligan, Payton, Penzo, Pilkington, Richmond, Rye, B. Smith,*
8 *Underwood*

9 By: Senators Hester, *Gilmore*

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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*AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION, TO BE
13 KNOWN AS THE "CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND BALLOT
14 INITIATIVE REFORM AMENDMENT", CONCERNING THE NUMBER
15 OF VOTES REQUIRED FOR APPROVAL OF CERTAIN MEASURES
16 PRESENTED TO VOTERS; REQUIRING THAT INITIATIVES
17 PROPOSED UNDER ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE 5, § 1,
18 AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED UNDER ARKANSAS
19 CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE 19, § 22, AND ARKANSAS
20 CONSTITUTION, AMENDMENT 70, § 2, SHALL BE APPROVED
21 WHEN RECEIVING AT LEAST SIXTY PERCENT (60%) OF THE
22 VOTES CAST ON THE PROPOSED INITIATIVE OR PROPOSED
23 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT; AND REQUIRING THAT A
24 MEASURE SUBJECT TO A REFERENDUM SHALL BE REPEALED IF
25 THE MEASURE IS REJECTED BY A MAJORITY OF THE ELECTORS
26 VOTING UPON THE MATTER.*

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28

29

Subtitle

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*A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO BE KNOWN AS
31 THE "CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND BALLOT
32 INITIATIVE REFORM AMENDMENT".*

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL
36 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, AND BY THE SENATE, A MAJORITY OF ALL



1 MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:

2
3 THAT the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of
4 the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state
5 for approval or rejection at the next general election for Representatives
6 and Senators, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the election
7 adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the Constitution of
8 the State of Arkansas, to wit:

9 SECTION 1. TITLE. This amendment shall be known and may be cited as
10 the "Constitutional Amendment and Ballot Initiative Reform Amendment".

11
12 SECTION 2. The subsection of Arkansas Constitution, Article 5, § 1,
13 titled "Majority", is amended to read as follows:

14 Majority Approval. Any measure submitted to the people as herein
15 provided shall take effect and become a law when approved by a majority at
16 least sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast upon such measure, and not
17 otherwise, and shall not be required to receive a majority of the electors
18 voting at such election. Such measures shall be operative on and after the
19 thirtieth day after the election at which it is approved, unless otherwise
20 specified in the Act measure. However, a measure subject to a referendum
21 shall be repealed if it is rejected by a majority of the electors voting upon
22 the matter.

23 *This section shall not be construed to deprive any member of the*
24 *General Assembly of the right to introduce any measure, but no measure shall*
25 *be submitted to the people by the General Assembly, except a proposed*
26 *constitutional amendment or amendments as provided for in this Constitution.*
27

28 SECTION 3. The subsection of Arkansas Constitution, Article 5, § 1,
29 titled "Conflicting Measures", is amended to read as follows:

30 Conflicting Measures. If conflicting measures initiated or referred to
31 the people shall be approved by a majority at least sixty percent (60%) of
32 the votes severally cast for and against the same at the same election, the
33 one receiving the highest number of affirmative votes shall become law.
34

35 SECTION 4. Arkansas Constitution, Article 19, § 22, is amended to read
36 as follows:

1 § 22. Constitutional amendments.

2 Either branch of the General Assembly, at a regular session thereof,
3 may propose amendments to this Constitution; and if the same be agreed to by
4 a majority of all members elected to each house, such proposed amendments
5 shall be entered on the journals with the yeas and nays, and published in at
6 least one newspaper in each county, where a newspaper is published, for six
7 months immediately preceding the next general election for Senators and
8 Representatives, at which time the same shall be submitted to the electors of
9 the State, for approval or rejection; and if ~~a majority~~ at least sixty
10 percent (60%) of the electors voting at such election adopt such amendments,
11 the same shall become a part of this Constitution. But no more than three
12 amendments shall be proposed or submitted at the same time. They shall be so
13 submitted as to enable the electors to vote on each amendment separately.
14

15 SECTION 5. Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 70, § 2, is amended to
16 read as follows:

17 § 2. Additional Constitutional amendments authorized.

18 In addition to the three amendments to the Constitution allowed
19 pursuant to Article 19, § 22, either branch of the General Assembly at a
20 regular session thereof may propose an amendment to the Constitution to
21 change the salaries for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
22 Attorney General, Secretary of State, Treasurer of State, Commissioner of
23 State Lands, and Auditor of State and for members of the General Assembly.
24 If the same be agreed to by a majority of all members elected to each house,
25 such proposed amendment shall be entered on the journals with the yeas and
26 nays, and published in at least one newspaper in each county, where a
27 newspaper is published, for six months immediately preceding the next general
28 election for Senators and Representatives, at which time the same shall be
29 submitted to the electors of the State for approval or rejection. If a
30 ~~majority~~ at least sixty percent (60%) of the electors voting at such election
31 adopt the amendment the same shall become a part of this Constitution. Only
32 one amendment to the Constitution may be referred pursuant to this section.
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34 SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment shall be effective on and
35 after January 1, 2023.
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1 SECTION 7. BALLOT TITLE AND POPULAR NAME. When this proposed
2 amendment is submitted to the electors of this state on the general election
3 ballot:

4 (1) The title of this joint resolution shall be the ballot
5 title; and

6 (2) The popular name shall be "A Constitutional Amendment to
7 Reform Certain Measures Presented to Voters, to be Known as the
8 "Constitutional Amendment and Ballot Initiative Reform Amendment".

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10 /s/Ray
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