

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

1 State of Arkansas
2 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005
4
5 By: Senator J. Bookout
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SJR 12

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

9 PROPOSING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO CHANGE
10 SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM BIENNIAL TO
11 ANNUAL SESSIONS; AND TO ESTABLISH THE LENGTH OF
12 THE SESSIONS.

Subtitle

15 PROPOSING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO
16 CHANGE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
17 FROM BIENNIAL TO ANNUAL SESSIONS; AND TO
18 ESTABLISH THE LENGTH OF THE SESSIONS.

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21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
22 STATE OF ARKANSAS AND BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, A MAJORITY OF ALL
23 MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:
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25 That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of
26 the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state
27 for approval or rejection at the next general election for Senators and
28 Representatives, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the
29 election, adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the
30 Constitution of the State of Arkansas, to wit:
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32 SECTION 1. Section 5 of Article 5 of the Arkansas Constitution is
33 amended to read as follows:

34 § 5. Time of meeting.

35 The General Assembly shall meet at the seat of government ~~every two~~
36 ~~years on the first Tuesday after the second Monday in November until said~~



1 each year on the second Monday in January until the time be altered by law.

2
3 SECTION 2. Section 17 of Article 5 of the Constitution of the State of
4 Arkansas is amended to read as follows:

5 § 17. Duration of sessions.

6 The regular ~~biennial~~ annual sessions shall not exceed sixty days in
7 duration, unless by a vote of two-thirds of the members elected to each house
8 of ~~said~~ the General Assembly. This section shall not apply ~~to the first~~
9 ~~session of the General Assembly under this Constitution, or~~ when impeachments
10 are pending.

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12 SECTION 3. Section 29 of Article 5, of the Arkansas Constitution is
13 amended to read as follows:

14 29. Appropriations.

15 (a) No money shall be drawn from the treasury except in pursuance of
16 specific appropriation made by law, the purpose of which shall be distinctly
17 stated in the bill, and the maximum amount which may be drawn shall be
18 specified in dollars and cents; and no appropriations shall be for a longer
19 period than two years. An appropriation bill enacted in a regular session of
20 the General Assembly in an even-numbered year shall not extend beyond the
21 biennial period in which the bill is enacted.

22 (b) As used in this constitution, "biennial period" means July 1 of an
23 odd numbered year through June 30 of the next odd numbered year.

24
25 SECTION 4. Section 40 of Article 5 of the Arkansas Constitution is
26 amended to read as follows:

27 40. General appropriation bill - Enactment.

28 ~~§-4.~~ (a) In making appropriations for any biennial period, the General
29 Assembly shall first pass the General Appropriation Bill provided for in
30 Section 30 of Article 5 of the Constitution, and no other appropriation bill
31 may be enacted before that shall have been done.

32 (b)(1) If the General Appropriation Bill enacted during a regular
33 session held in an odd-numbered year is effective for both fiscal years of
34 the biennium, then in the regular session held in an even-numbered year, the
35 General Assembly is not required to enact a General Appropriation Bill before
36 other appropriation bills may be enacted for the second year of the biennium.

1 (2) If the General Appropriation Bill enacted during a regular
2 session held in an odd-numbered year is effective only for the first fiscal
3 year of the biennium, then during a regular session held in the subsequent
4 even-numbered year the General Appropriation Bill for the second year of the
5 biennium must be enacted before any other appropriation bill may be enacted.

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7 SECTION 5. This amendment becomes effective January 1, 2007.
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