

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

1 State of Arkansas
2 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007

SJR 10

4
5 By: Senator Bookout
6 By: Representatives Sumpter, Thyer

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

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

Subtitle

PROPOSING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO
CHANGE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FROM BIENNIAL TO ANNUAL SESSIONS AND TO
ESTABLISH THE LENGTH OF THE SESSIONS.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
STATE OF ARKANSAS AND BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, A MAJORITY OF ALL
MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:

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

SECTION 1. Section 5 of Article 5 of the Arkansas Constitution is
amended to read as follows:

§ 5. Time of meeting.

The General Assembly shall meet at the seat of government ~~every two~~



1 ~~years on the first Tuesday after the second Monday in November until said~~
 2 each year on the second Monday in January until the time be altered by law.

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

6 § 17. Duration of sessions.

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

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

15 29. Appropriations.

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

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

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

28 40. General appropriation bill - Enactment.

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

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

1 other appropriation bills may be enacted for the second year of the biennium.

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

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8 SECTION 5. This amendment becomes effective January 1, 2009.

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