

By Senator Posey

24-101-05

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Senate Joint Resolution No. _____

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 3 of Article III and the creation of Section 26 of Article XII of the State Constitution, relating to sessions of the Legislature, to change the date for convening regular sessions of the Legislature.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following amendment to Section 3 of Article III and creation of Section 26 of Article XII of the State Constitution are agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE III
LEGISLATURE

SECTION 3. Sessions of the legislature.--

(a) ORGANIZATION SESSIONS. On the fourteenth day following each general election the legislature shall convene for the exclusive purpose of organization and selection of officers.

(b) REGULAR SESSIONS. A regular session of the legislature shall convene on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June ~~March~~ of each odd-numbered year, and on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June ~~March~~, or such other date as may be fixed by law, of each even-numbered year.

(c) SPECIAL SESSIONS.

(1) The governor, by proclamation stating the purpose, may convene the legislature in special session during which

1 only such legislative business may be transacted as is within
2 the purview of the proclamation, or of a communication from
3 the governor, or is introduced by consent of two-thirds of the
4 membership of each house.

5 (2) A special session of the legislature may be
6 convened as provided by law.

7 (d) LENGTH OF SESSIONS. A regular session of the
8 legislature shall not exceed sixty consecutive days, and a
9 special session shall not exceed twenty consecutive days,
10 unless extended beyond such limit by a three-fifths vote of
11 each house. During such an extension no new business may be
12 taken up in either house without the consent of two-thirds of
13 its membership.

14 (e) ADJOURNMENT. Neither house shall adjourn for more
15 than seventy-two consecutive hours except pursuant to
16 concurrent resolution.

17 (f) ADJOURNMENT BY GOVERNOR. If, during any regular
18 or special session, the two houses cannot agree upon a time
19 for adjournment, the governor may adjourn the session sine die
20 or to any date within the period authorized for such session;
21 provided that, at least twenty-four hours before adjourning
22 the session, and while neither house is in recess, each house
23 shall be given formal written notice of the governor's
24 intention to do so, and agreement reached within that period
25 by both houses on a time for adjournment shall prevail.

26 ARTICLE XII

27 SCHEDULE

28 SECTION 26. Legislative sessions.--The amendment to
29 Section 3 of Article III changing the date for convening
30 regular sessions of the legislature shall apply beginning with
31 the regular session in 2008.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
2 placed on the ballot:
3 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
4 ARTICLE III, SECTION 3
5 ARTICLE XII, SECTION 26
6 DATE FOR CONVENING REGULAR LEGISLATIVE
7 SESSIONS.--Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to
8 change the date on which regular sessions of the Legislature
9 will convene (unless otherwise specified by law for an
10 even-numbered year) from the first Tuesday after the first
11 Monday in March to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in
12 June.
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