

By Senator Posey

24-03318A-08

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Senate Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 3 of Article III and the creation of Section 27 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 of the State Constitution is 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 only such legislative business may be transacted as is within the purview

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30 of the proclamation, or of a communication from the governor, or
31 is introduced by consent of two-thirds of the membership of each
32 house.

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

35 (d) LENGTH OF SESSIONS. A regular session of the
36 legislature shall not exceed sixty consecutive days, and a
37 special session shall not exceed twenty consecutive days, unless
38 extended beyond such limit by a three-fifths vote of each house.

39 During such an extension no new business may be taken up in
40 either house without the consent of two-thirds of its membership.

41 (e) ADJOURNMENT. Neither house shall adjourn for more than
42 seventy-two consecutive hours except pursuant to concurrent
43 resolution.

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

53 ARTICLE XII

54 SCHEDULE

55 SECTION 27. Legislative sessions.--The amendment to Section
56 3 of Article III changing the date for convening regular sessions
57 of the legislature shall apply beginning with the regular session
58 in 2010.

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59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
60 placed on the ballot:

61 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

62 ARTICLE III, SECTION 3

63 ARTICLE XII, SECTION 27

64 DATE FOR CONVENING REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS.--Proposing
65 an amendment to the State Constitution to change the date on
66 which regular sessions of the Legislature will convene (unless
67 otherwise specified by law for an even-numbered year) from the
68 first Tuesday after the first Monday in March to the first
69 Tuesday after the first Monday in June.