

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Ethics and Elections

BILL: SB 72

INTRODUCER: Senator Flores

SUBJECT: Legislature

DATE: September 12, 2013

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Carlton	Roberts	EE	Favorable
2.	_____	_____	JU	_____
3.	_____	_____	RC	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

SB 72 would require that the Regular Session of the Legislature convene on the first Tuesday after the second Monday in January of each even-numbered year beginning in 2016.

This bill creates a new unnumbered section of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

The time to convene the 60-day Regular Session¹ of the Legislature is prescribed by the State Constitution. Specifically, Subsection (b) of Section 3 of Article III of the State Constitution provides:

A regular session of the legislature shall convene on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of each odd-numbered year, and on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March, or such other date as may be fixed by law, of each even-numbered year.²

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 72 would require that the Regular Session of the Legislature convene on the first Tuesday after the second Monday in January of each even-numbered year beginning in 2016.

¹ The length of the Regular Session is prescribed in Article III, s. 3(d), Florida Constitution.

² Article III, s. 3(b), Florida Constitution.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

This bill would require the Legislature to enact the state budget 6 weeks earlier than otherwise would be required.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.