

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 278 (HB 166)

2022 Regular Session

Gregory Miller

Existing constitution provides that if governor does not approve a bill, he may veto it. Provides that a bill shall become law if the governor signs it or if he fails to sign or veto it within 10 days after delivery to him if the legislature is in session on the 10th day after such delivery, or within 20 days after delivery if the 10th day after delivery occurs after the legislature is adjourned. Provides that if the governor vetoes a bill, he shall return it to the legislature, with his veto message, within 12 days after delivery to him if the legislature is in session and if the governor returns a vetoed bill after the legislature adjourns, he shall return it, with his veto message, as provided by law.

Proposed constitutional amendment relates the deadline for gubernatorial action on a bill and the deadline for the governor returning a vetoed bill to the legislature to the session in which the bill passed.

Existing constitution provides that unless a majority of the elected members of either house has declared in writing that a veto session is unnecessary, the legislature shall meet in veto session in the state capital. Further provides that no veto session shall exceed five calendar days, and any veto session may be finally adjourned prior to the end of the fifth day upon the vote of two-thirds of the elected members of each house.

Present constitution provides that the veto session convenes at noon on the 40th day following final adjournment of the most recent session to consider all vetoed bills.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that the veto session convenes at noon on the 40th day following final adjournment of each session in which a bill was vetoed. Specifies that the purpose of a veto session is to consider all vetoed bills that were not reconsidered by the house of origin during the session in which the bill passed. Further authorizes the legislature, if a veto session is to be held and the time period for the conduct of the veto session occurs during a regular or extraordinary session, to reconsider the vetoed bills not previously reconsidered as part of the business of the regular or extraordinary session without the necessity of convening or adjourning a separate veto session.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 18, 2023.

Provides that if approved by a majority of the voters voting thereon in the state, the proposed constitutional amendment shall become effective on January 8, 2024.

(Amends La. Const. Art. III, §18)