
DIGEST

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HB 752 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Green

Abstract: Provides that the regular sessions of the legislature will begin each year on the second Monday in Jan. and end no later than May first; removes provisions for organizational sessions and subject matter restrictions and deadlines for prefiling, introduction, and final passage of legislative instruments in the provisions for sessions; and authorizes the legislature to provide for sessions by joint rule adopted by a two-thirds vote.

Present constitution provides that in even-numbered years the regular session of the legislature convenes at noon on the second Monday in March, in which the legislature shall meet for not more than 60 legislative days during a period of 85 calendar days.

Present constitution prohibits the introduction or enactment of any measure levying or authorizing a new tax or increasing an existing tax by the state or any statewide political subdivision, or legislating with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, dedications, or credits during a regular session convening in an even-numbered year.

Present constitution provides that in odd-numbered years the legislature shall convene at noon on the second Monday in April, in which the legislature shall meet for not more than 45 legislative days during a period of 60 calendar days.

Present constitution provides that during any session convening in an odd-numbered year, no matter shall be introduced or considered unless its object is to enact the General Appropriation Bill or the comprehensive capital budget, to make an appropriation, levy or authorize a new tax, increase an existing tax, levy, authorize, increase, decrease, or repeal a fee, dedicate revenue, legislate with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, reductions, repeals, or credits, or legislate with regard to the issuance of bonds. Provides exceptions to this subject matter limitation, including allowing members to prefile up to five "general" matters and local and special bills which are required to be advertised.

Present constitution requires a bill that is to be prefiled for introduction to be prefiled no later than 5 p.m. of the 10th calendar day prior to the first day of a regular session. Provides that a bill to effect a change in a retirement system for public employees to be prefiled for introduction shall be prefiled no later than 5 p.m. of the 45th calendar day prior to the first day of a regular session.

Present constitution provides deadlines for introduction of matters intended to have the effect of law in each regular session. Provides deadlines for consideration on third reading and final passage of such matters in each regular session, except by a two-thirds vote of each house.

Proposed constitutional amendment repeals present constitution and provides instead that the legislature shall meet in regular session at least once in every year and such session shall begin at noon on the second Monday in Jan. and adjourn sine die no later than May first, unless the legislature provides otherwise by joint rule adopted by a favorable vote of two-thirds of the elected members of each house.

Present constitution provides that the legislature by a favorable record vote of two-thirds of the elected members of each house, may extend a regular session in increments of two legislative or calendar days for the purpose to finally pass a bill appropriating money. Provides that during the time that a regular session has been extended, the legislature shall not consider any matter having the effect of law other than those contained in a bill appropriating money. Further provides that no regular session shall be extended more than six calendar days beyond the original time and day for the session to adjourn sine die.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution.

Present constitution provides that the legislature shall meet in an organizational session in the state capitol to be convened at 10:00 a.m. on the day the members are required to take office. Provides that no such session shall exceed three legislative days. Further provides that the session shall be for the primary purpose of judging the qualifications and elections of the members, taking the oath of office, organizing the two houses, and selecting officers and provides that no matter intended to have the effect of law shall be introduced at an organizational session.

Proposed constitutional amendment repeals present constitution.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held on November 3, 2026.

(Amends Const. Art. III, §2(A); Repeals Const. Art. III, §2(D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Add repeal of provisions providing for organizational sessions.
3. Provides that the legislature shall convene at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin on the second Monday in January, unless the legislature provides otherwise by joint rule adopted by a favorable vote of 2/3rds of the elected members of each house appointing a different day, and adjourn sine die no later than May first and provide that the legislature may provide for sessions by joint rule adopted by a favorable vote of

2/3rds of the elected members of each house.

4. Make conforming changes to ballot language.