
DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 541 Engrossed

2018 Regular Session

Stokes

Abstract: Allows each member of the legislature, during a regular general session in an even-numbered year, to prefile up to five bills that deal with certain tax matters and provides that companion bills for constitutional amendments do not count toward the number of bills that a member of the legislature may file that are outside of the applicable subject matter limitations of a regular session.

Present constitution provides that regular sessions convening in even-numbered years shall be general in nature and prohibits the introduction or enactment of any measure levying or authorizing a new tax or increasing an existing tax by the state or by any statewide political subdivision, or legislating with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, or credits.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution but provides an exception to allow each member of the legislature to prefile up to five otherwise prohibited measures.

Present constitution provides that during regular sessions convening in odd-numbered years 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; it is a local or special law; or if it is one of no more than five general bills prefiled by a member.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that bills to enact laws to carry into effect a proposed amendment to the constitution are not counted in determining whether a member has reached the maximum number of bills that he may file that are outside of the applicable subject matter limitations of a regular session provided in proposed law or present law.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held November 6, 2018.

(Amends Const. Art. III, §2(A)(3)(b); Adds Art. III, §2(A)(5))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Remove proposed provisions repealing present constitution provisions relative to regular sessions convening in odd-numbered years; proposed provisions repealing present constitution restrictions on the subject matter of items introduced or considered during a regular session; and proposed provisions making calendar and deadlines applicable to even-numbered years in present constitution applicable to all regular sessions.
2. Add provisions that allow each member of the legislature, during a regular general session in an even-numbered year, to prefile up to five bills that levy or authorize a new tax; increase an existing tax; or legislate with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, or credits.
3. Add provisions providing that companion bills for constitutional amendments do not count toward the number of bills that a member of the legislature may file that are outside of the applicable subject matter limitations of a regular session.