
DIGEST

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Harrison

HB No. 125

Abstract: Provides that the state superintendent of education shall be elected rather than appointed; removes provisions authorizing the legislature, by 2/3 vote, to provide by law for appointment of the superintendent; and provides term limits for the state superintendent of education.

Present constitution provides that the state superintendent of education shall be elected by the state's electors for a term of four years but authorizes the legislature to provide for the appointment, in lieu of election, of specified elected officials, including the state superintendent of education, by a law enacted by a 2/3 vote of the legislature. Provides that the legislature shall prescribe qualifications and method of appointment, should the office become appointive. Further provides that the legislature, by a 2/3 vote, may reestablish the office as elective. (Note: Acts 1985, No. 444, which became effective March 14, 1988, made the office of state superintendent of education appointive and provided for appointment of the superintendent by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.)

Proposed constitutional amendment removes the office of state superintendent of education from the list of elected offices which may be made appointive by legislative enactment. Provides, however, that the office remains an appointive office until Jan. 11, 2016, when an elected superintendent will take office.

Proposed constitutional amendment further provides that no person who has served as state superintendent of education for more than two and one-half terms in three consecutive terms shall be elected to this office for the succeeding term.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 4, 2014.

(Amends Const. Art. IV, §20 and Art. VIII, §2)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill.

1. Adds term limits provision.