
DIGEST

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HB 31 Original

2015 Regular Session

Richard

Abstract: Removes the provision that allows a majority of the elected members of either house of the legislature to declare a veto session unnecessary.

Present constitution provides that if the governor does not approve a bill, he may veto it. Provides that a bill becomes 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. Specifies 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. Provides that if the governor returns a vetoed bill after the legislature adjourns, he shall return it, with his veto message, as provided by law. (Present law provides that the governor must return a statement regarding each such vetoed bill, including the veto message, not later than midnight of the 23rd calendar day after adjournment.)

Present constitution provides that a bill vetoed and returned and subsequently approved by 2/3 of the elected members of each house shall become law. Requires the legislature to meet in veto session in the state capital at noon on the 40th day following final adjournment of the most recent session to consider all bills vetoed by the governor. Provides if 40th day falls on Sunday, the session shall convene at noon on the succeeding Monday. Limits a veto session to no more than five calendar days, and provides that any veto session may be finally adjourned prior to the end of the fifth day upon a vote of 2/3 of the elected members of each house.

Present constitution provides however that no veto session shall be held if a majority of the elected members of either house declare in writing that a veto session is unnecessary. The declaration must be received by the presiding officer of the respective houses at least five days prior to the day on which the veto session is to convene. Proposed constitutional amendment removes this provision and otherwise retains present constitution.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Oct. 24, 2015.

(Amends Const. Art. III, §18(C))