
DIGEST

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HB 156 Original

2016 Regular Session

Richard

Abstract: Reduces from five to two the number of matters that a legislator may file that are not within the subject matter limitations of a regular session in an odd-numbered year.

Present constitution (Art. III, §2) provides for regular sessions of the legislature. Provides time limitations and procedures for filing bills.

Present constitution provides that regular sessions convening in even-numbered years are general in nature. Prohibits the introduction or enactment of any measure levying or authorizing a new tax by the state or by any statewide political subdivision whose boundaries are coterminous with the state; increasing an existing tax by the state or by any statewide political subdivision whose boundaries are coterminous with the state; or legislating with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, or credits during a regular session held in an even-numbered year.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution.

Present constitution provides that during a regular session convening in an odd-numbered year, no matter intended to have the effect of law, including any suspension of law, shall be introduced or considered unless its object is to enact the General Appropriation Bill; enact the comprehensive capital budget; 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. However, provides that a matter not within these subject matter restrictions may be considered if its object is to enact a local or special law which is required to be and has been advertised in accordance with present constitution and which is not prohibited by the provisions of present constitution concerning prohibited local and special laws.

Present constitution provides additionally that a matter not within the above subject matter restrictions may be considered if it is prefiled. Limits the number of such matters that a member may prefile.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution.

Present constitution provides that no member may prefile more than five such matters.

Proposed constitutional amendment reduces from five to two the number of such matters that a member may file.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 8, 2016.

(Amends Const. Art. III, § 2(A)(4)(b)(i))