

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION T

April 12, 2011, Introduced by Rep. LeBlanc and referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution of 1963, by amending sections 12, 13, 16, 22, and 31 of article IV and section 15 of article V and repealing section 54 of article IV, to limit the legislative session, to reduce salaries of members of the legislature, to impose limits on the number of legislative committees individuals can serve on, to limit the number of bills members of the legislature may request, to provide that certain state budget bills be presented to the governor by a certain date, to repeal term limits, and to limit the governor's ability to call for extraordinary sessions.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the

state of Michigan, That the following amendment to the state constitution of 1963, to limit the legislative session, to reduce salaries of members of the legislature, to impose limits on the number of legislative committees individuals can serve on, to limit the number of bills members of the legislature may request, to provide that certain state budget bills be presented to the governor by a certain date, to repeal term limits, and to limit the governor's ability to call for extraordinary sessions, is proposed, agreed to, and submitted to the people of the state:

ARTICLE IV

Sec. 12. The state officers compensation commission is created which subject to this section shall determine the salaries and expense allowances of ~~the members of the legislature,~~ the governor, the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the secretary of state, and the justices of the supreme court. The commission shall consist of 7 members appointed by the governor whose qualifications may be determined by law. Subject to the legislature's ability to amend the commission's determinations as provided in this section, the commission shall determine the salaries and expense allowances of ~~the members of the legislature,~~ the governor, the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the secretary of state, and the justices of the supreme court which determinations shall be the salaries and expense allowances only if the legislature by concurrent resolution adopted by a majority of the members elected to and serving in each house of the legislature approve them. The senate and house of representatives shall alternate on which house of the legislature shall originate the concurrent resolution, with

1 the senate originating the first concurrent resolution.

2 The concurrent resolution may amend the salary and expense
3 determinations of the state officers compensation commission to
4 reduce the salary and expense determinations by the same proportion
5 for ~~members of the legislature,~~ the governor, the lieutenant
6 governor, the attorney general, the secretary of state, and the
7 justices of the supreme court. The legislature shall not amend the
8 salary and expense determinations to reduce them to below the
9 salary and expense level that ~~members of the legislature,~~ the
10 governor, the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the
11 secretary of state, and the justices of the supreme court receive
12 on the date the salary and expense determinations are made. If the
13 salary and expense determinations are approved or amended as
14 provided in this section, the salary and expense determinations
15 shall become effective for the legislative session immediately
16 following the next general election. The commission shall meet each
17 2 years for no more than 15 session days. The legislature shall
18 implement this section by law. **BEGINNING IN 2013, THE SALARY OF A**
19 **MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE SHALL BE \$35,000.00 ADJUSTED ANNUALLY TO**
20 **REFLECT THE CHANGE IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX. THE SPEAKER OF THE**
21 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE MAJORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE, THE**
22 **MINORITY LEADERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE,**
23 **THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY FLOOR LEADERS OF THE HOUSE OF**
24 **REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE OF THE**
25 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, AND THE APPROPRIATIONS**
26 **CHAIR OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE MAY RECEIVE A**
27 **SUPPLEMENTAL SALARY OF UP TO 34% OF A MEMBER'S BASE SALARY.**

1 BEGINNING IN 2013, EXPENSE ALLOWANCES FOR MEMBERS OF THE
2 LEGISLATURE SHALL BE 50% OF WHAT THOSE EXPENSE ALLOWANCES WERE IN
3 2009. AN INDIVIDUAL WHO FIRST BECOMES A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE
4 AFTER 2012 SHALL NOT RECEIVE ANY STATE-PAID RETIREMENT OR INSURANCE
5 BENEFITS BASED ON HIS OR HER LEGISLATIVE SERVICE.

6 Sec. 13. EXCEPT WHEN THE LEGISLATURE IS CALLED TO CONVENE ON
7 EXTRAORDINARY OCCASIONS, THE LEGISLATURE SHALL ONLY MEET AS
8 PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION. The legislature shall meet at the seat of
9 government on the second Wednesday in January of each year at
10 twelve o'clock noon. Each regular session shall adjourn without
11 day, on a day determined by concurrent resolution, at twelve
12 o'clock noon. Any business, bill or joint resolution pending at the
13 final adjournment of a regular session held in an odd numbered year
14 shall carry over with the same status to the next regular session.
15 IN 2013 AND EVERY YEAR AFTER 2013, THE LEGISLATURE SHALL ONLY MEET
16 FOR NOT MORE THAN THIRTY-ONE CALENDAR DAYS BEGINNING ON THE SECOND
17 WEDNESDAY IN JANUARY OF EACH YEAR AND FOR NOT MORE THAN THIRTY-ONE
18 CALENDAR DAYS BEGINNING ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY IN MAY OF EACH
19 YEAR. THE LEGISLATURE MAY MEET FOR NOT MORE THAN FIVE ADDITIONAL
20 DAYS EACH YEAR FOR RECONSIDERING BILLS THAT THE GOVERNOR VETOED.
21 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE HEARINGS MAY BE HELD WHEN THE LEGISLATURE IS
22 NOT IN SESSION.

23 Sec. 16. Each house, except as otherwise provided in this
24 constitution, shall choose its own officers and determine the rules
25 of its proceedings, but shall not adopt any rule that will prevent
26 a majority of the members elected thereto and serving therein from
27 discharging a committee from the further consideration of any

1 measure. Each house shall be the sole judge of the qualifications,
2 elections and returns of its members, and may, with the concurrence
3 of two-thirds of all the members elected thereto and serving
4 therein, expel a member. The reasons for such expulsion shall be
5 entered in the journal, with the votes and names of the members
6 voting upon the question. No member shall be expelled a second time
7 for the same cause.

8 **A LEGISLATOR SHALL NOT SERVE ON MORE THAN FOUR LEGISLATIVE**
9 **COMMITTEES DURING THE SAME LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**

10 Sec. 22. (1) All legislation shall be by bill and may
11 originate in either house.

12 (2) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, A MEMBER OF
13 THE LEGISLATURE SHALL NOT REQUEST MORE THAN TWO BILLS PER MONTH
14 FROM THE LEGISLATIVE SERVICE BUREAU.

15 (3) THE LIMITATION ON BILL REQUESTS IN SUBSECTION (2) DOES NOT
16 APPLY TO REQUESTS SUBMITTED BY THE MAJORITY LEADER OF THE SENATE OR
17 THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OR TO REQUESTS FOR
18 GENERAL APPROPRIATION BILLS.

19 Sec. 31. The general appropriation bills for the succeeding
20 fiscal period covering items set forth in the budget shall be
21 passed or rejected in either house of the legislature before that
22 house passes any appropriation bill for items not in the budget
23 except bills supplementing appropriations for the current fiscal
24 year's operation. Any bill requiring an appropriation to carry out
25 its purpose shall be considered an appropriation bill. One of the
26 general appropriation bills as passed by the legislature shall
27 contain an itemized statement of estimated revenue by major source

1 in each operating fund for the ensuing fiscal period, the total of
 2 which shall not be less than the total of all appropriations made
 3 from each fund in the general appropriation bills as passed. **THE**
 4 **LEGISLATURE SHALL PRESENT ALL GENERAL APPROPRIATION BILLS FOR THE**
 5 **SUCCEEDING FISCAL PERIOD TO THE GOVERNOR ON OR BEFORE JUNE 1 OF**
 6 **EACH YEAR.**

7 ~~Sec. 54. No person shall be elected to the office of state~~
 8 ~~representative more than three times. No person shall be elected to~~
 9 ~~the office of state senate more than two times. Any person~~
 10 ~~appointed or elected to fill a vacancy in the house of~~
 11 ~~representatives or the state senate for a period greater than one~~
 12 ~~half of a term of such office, shall be considered to have been~~
 13 ~~elected to serve one time in that office for purposes of this~~
 14 ~~section. This limitation on the number of times a person shall be~~
 15 ~~elected to office shall apply to terms of office beginning on or~~
 16 ~~after January 1, 1993.~~

17 ~~This section shall be self-executing. Legislation may be~~
 18 ~~enacted to facilitate operation of this section, but no law shall~~
 19 ~~limit or restrict the application of this section. If any part of~~
 20 ~~this section is held to be invalid or unconstitutional, the~~
 21 ~~remaining parts of this section shall not be affected but will~~
 22 ~~remain in full force and effect.~~

23 ARTICLE V

24 Sec. 15. The governor may convene the legislature on
 25 extraordinary occasions **FOR NO MORE THAN FIVE DAYS PER YEAR.**

26 Resolved further, That the foregoing amendment shall be
 27 submitted to the people of the state at the next general election

1 in the manner provided by law.