

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION LL

January 17, 2012, Introduced by Rep. Somerville and referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution of 1963, by amending sections 12 and 13 of article IV, and by adding section 55 to article IV, to limit the legislative session, to reduce salaries of members of the legislature, and to reduce compensation of state legislators who have absences from legislative session.

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, and to reduce compensation of state legislators who have absences from legislative session, is proposed, agreed to, and submitted to the people of the state:

ARTICLE IV

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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 the senate originating the first concurrent resolution.

The concurrent resolution may amend the salary and expense determinations of the state officers compensation commission to reduce the salary and expense determinations by the same proportion for ~~members of the legislature,~~ the governor, the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the secretary of state, and the justices of the supreme court. The legislature shall not amend the salary and expense determinations to reduce them to below the salary and expense level that ~~members of the legislature,~~ the

1 governor, the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the
2 secretary of state, and the justices of the supreme court receive
3 on the date the salary and expense determinations are made. If the
4 salary and expense determinations are approved or amended as
5 provided in this section, the salary and expense determinations
6 shall become effective for the legislative session immediately
7 following the next general election. The commission shall meet each
8 2 years for no more than 15 session days. The legislature shall
9 implement this section by law.

10 Sec. 13. **EXCEPT WHEN THE LEGISLATURE IS CALLED TO CONVENE ON**
11 **EXTRAORDINARY OCCASIONS, THE LEGISLATURE SHALL ONLY MEET AS**
12 **PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION.** The legislature shall meet at the seat of
13 government on the second Wednesday in January of each year at
14 twelve o'clock noon. Each regular session shall adjourn without
15 day, on a day determined by concurrent resolution, at twelve
16 o'clock noon. Any business, bill or joint resolution pending at the
17 final adjournment of a regular session held in an odd numbered year
18 shall carry over with the same status to the next regular session.
19 **IN 2013 AND EVERY YEAR AFTER 2013, THE LEGISLATURE SHALL MEET FOR**
20 **NOT MORE THAN 72 DAYS.**

21 **SEC. 55. BEGINNING IN 2013, THE BASE SALARY OF A MEMBER OF THE**
22 **LEGISLATURE IS \$52,000.00. IN ADDITION TO A MEMBER OF THE**
23 **LEGISLATURE'S BASE SALARY, A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE SHALL BE**
24 **PAID \$170.00 PER SESSION DAY. IF A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE**
25 **LEGISLATURE IS CALLED, A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE SHALL BE PAID**
26 **FOR THE ADDITIONAL DAYS AT THE RATE SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION. A**
27 **MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE WHO DOES NOT ATTEND SESSION ON ANY DAY**

1 THAT THE LEGISLATIVE BODY IS IN SESSION SHALL NOT RECEIVE
2 COMPENSATION FOR THAT DAY.

3 Resolved further, That the foregoing amendment shall be
4 submitted to the people of the state at the next general election
5 in the manner provided by law.