HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION W

June 16, 2009, Introduced by Rep. Moore and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution of 1963, by amending sections 12 and 13 of article IV and section 15 of article V, to limit the legislative session, to reduce salaries of members of the legislature, 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, 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

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- 1 which subject to this section shall determine the salaries and
- 2 expense allowances of the members of the legislature, the governor,
- 3 the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the secretary of
- 4 state, and the justices of the supreme court. The commission shall
- 5 consist of 7 members appointed by the governor whose qualifications
- 6 may be determined by law. Subject to the legislature's ability to
- 7 amend the commission's determinations as provided in this section,
- 8 the commission shall determine the salaries and expense allowances
- 9 of the members of the legislature, the governor, the lieutenant
- 10 governor, the attorney general, the secretary of state, and the
- 11 justices of the supreme court which determinations shall be the
- 12 salaries and expense allowances only if the legislature by
- 13 concurrent resolution adopted by a majority of the members elected
- 14 to and serving in each house of the legislature approve them. The
- 15 senate and house of representatives shall alternate on which house
- 16 of the legislature shall originate the concurrent resolution, with
- 17 the senate originating the first concurrent resolution.
- 18 The concurrent resolution may amend the salary and expense
- 19 determinations of the state officers compensation commission to
- 20 reduce the salary and expense determinations by the same proportion
- 21 for members of the legislature, the governor, the lieutenant
- 22 governor, the attorney general, the secretary of state, and the
- 23 justices of the supreme court. The legislature shall not amend the
- 24 salary and expense determinations to reduce them to below the
- 25 salary and expense level that members of the legislature, the
- 26 governor, the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the
- 27 secretary of state, and the justices of the supreme court receive

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- 1 on the date the salary and expense determinations are made. If the
- 2 salary and expense determinations are approved or amended as
- 3 provided in this section, the salary and expense determinations
- 4 shall become effective for the legislative session immediately
- 5 following the next general election. The commission shall meet each
- 6 2 years for no more than 15 session days. The legislature shall
- 7 implement this section by law. BEGINNING IN 2011, THE SALARY OF A
- 8 MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE SHALL BE \$40,000.00.
- 9 Sec. 13. EXCEPT WHEN THE LEGISLATURE IS CALLED TO CONVENE ON
- 10 EXTRAORDINARY OCCASIONS, THE LEGISLATURE SHALL ONLY MEET AS
- 11 PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION. The legislature shall meet at the seat of
- 12 government on the second Wednesday in January of each year at
- 13 twelve o'clock noon. Each regular session shall adjourn without
- 14 day, on a day determined by concurrent resolution, at twelve
- 15 o'clock noon. Any business, bill or joint resolution pending at the
- 16 final adjournment of a regular session held in an odd numbered year
- 17 shall carry over with the same status to the next regular session.
- 18 IN 2011 AND EVERY YEAR AFTER 2011, THE LEGISLATURE SHALL ONLY MEET
- 19 BETWEEN FEBRUARY 1 AND MAY 15. THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
- 20 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE MAJORITY LEADER SHALL DETERMINE THE
- 21 LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDAR.
- 22 ARTICLE V
- 23 Sec. 15. The governor may convene the legislature on
- 24 extraordinary occasions NO MORE THAN TWO TIMES PER YEAR. THE
- 25 EXTRAORDINARY SESSIONS SHALL NOT LAST MORE THAN SEVEN DAYS AND ONLY
- 26 ONE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION MAY BE HELD AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION IN
- 27 AN EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR.

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