



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 2

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

Citations Affected: Article 4 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana.

Synopsis: Legislative terms. Defines the term of a general assembly for purposes of the Constitution of the State of Indiana. Provides that the term of office of a state senator is six years. Staggers the terms of senators so that approximately one-third of the senators are elected every two years. Provides that the term of office of a state representative is four years. Staggers the terms of state representatives so that one-half of the state representatives are elected every two years. This proposed amendment has not been previously agreed to by a general assembly.

Effective: This proposed amendment must be agreed to by two consecutive general assemblies and ratified by a majority of the state's voters voting on the question to be effective.

Saunders

January 23, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary.



Introduced

First Regular Session 120th General Assembly (2017)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2016 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 2

A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to Article 4 of the Indiana Constitution concerning the general assembly.

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of the
2 State of Indiana is proposed and agreed to by this, the One Hundred
3 Twentieth General Assembly of the State of Indiana, and is referred to
4 the next General Assembly for reconsideration and agreement.

5 SECTION 2. ARTICLE 4, SECTION 1 OF THE CONSTITUTION
6 OF THE STATE OF INDIANA IS AMENDED TO READ AS
7 FOLLOWS: Section 1. (a) The Legislative authority of the State shall
8 be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and
9 a House of Representatives.

10 (b) **The term of a General Assembly begins on the first**
11 **Wednesday after the first Monday in November of each**
12 **even-numbered year and ends on the first Wednesday after the**
13 **first Monday of November of the following even-numbered year.**

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1 (c) The style of every law shall be: "Be it enacted by the General
2 Assembly of the State of Indiana"; and no law shall be enacted, except
3 by bill.

4 SECTION 3. ARTICLE 4, SECTION 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION
5 OF THE STATE OF INDIANA IS AMENDED TO READ AS
6 FOLLOWS: Section 3. (a) Senators shall be elected and serve as
7 follows:

8 (1) Senators elected before November 8, 2022, shall be elected
9 for the a term of four years, and beginning the day after the
10 general election.

11 (2) At the general election held November 8, 2022, successors
12 to Senators elected at the 2018 general election shall be
13 elected and serve as follows:

14 (A) Seventeen Senators, chosen by lot as provided by law,
15 shall be elected for a term of four years, beginning the day
16 after the general election.

17 (B) Eight Senators, chosen by lot as provided by law, shall
18 be elected for a term of six years, beginning the day after
19 the general election.

20 (3) At the general election held November 5, 2024, successors
21 to Senators elected at the 2020 general election shall be
22 elected and serve as follows:

23 (A) Nine Senators, chosen by lot as provided by law, shall
24 be elected for a term of four years, beginning the day after
25 the general election.

26 (B) Sixteen Senators, chosen by lot as provided by law,
27 shall be elected for a term of six years, beginning the day
28 after the general election.

29 (4) At the general election held November 3, 2026, successors
30 of Senators elected under subdivision (2)(A) shall be elected
31 for a term of six years, beginning the day after the general
32 election.

33 (5) At the general election held November 7, 2028, successors
34 of Senators elected under subdivision (2)(B) and the
35 successors of Senators elected under subdivision (3)(A) shall
36 be elected for a term of six years, beginning the day after the
37 general election.

38 (6) At each general election held after 2028, Senators shall be
39 elected for a term of six years, beginning the day after the
40 general election.

41 (b) Representatives shall be elected and serve as follows:

42 (1) Representatives elected before November 8, 2022, shall be



- 1 **elect**ed for ~~the~~ a term of two years, ~~from beginning~~ the day next
2 after ~~their~~ the general election. ~~One~~ half of the Senators, as nearly
3 as possible, shall be elected biennially.
- 4 **(2) At the general election held November 8, 2022,**
5 **Representatives shall be elected and serve as follows:**
- 6 **(A) Fifty Representatives, chosen by lot as provided by**
7 **law, shall be elected for a term of four years, beginning the**
8 **day after the general election.**
- 9 **(B) The remaining Representatives, chosen by lot as**
10 **provided by law, shall be elected for a term of two years,**
11 **beginning the day after the general election.**
- 12 **(3) At the general election held November 5, 2024, successors**
13 **to the Representatives elected under subdivision (2)(B) shall**
14 **be elected for a term of four years, beginning the day after the**
15 **general election.**
- 16 **(4) At each general election held after 2024, Representatives**
17 **shall be elected for a term of four years, beginning the day**
18 **after the general election.**

