

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE JOINT
RESOLUTION 7

By: Paxton

AS INTRODUCED

A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State to refer to the people for their approval or rejection proposed amendments to Sections 1 and 23 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, which relate to executive officers; making language gender neutral; directing the Governor to appoint the Insurance Commissioner; providing procedures; requiring consent of the Senate; removing term limit provisions; updating language; providing ballot title; and directing filing.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 60TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law, the following proposed amendments to Sections 1 and 23 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution to read as follows:

Section 1. A. The Executive authority of the state shall be vested in a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor and Inspector, Attorney General, State Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Commissioner of Labor, Insurance Commissioner ~~of Insurance~~, and other officers provided by

1 law and this Constitution, each of whom shall keep his or her office
2 and public records, books, and papers at the seat of government, and
3 shall perform such duties as may be designated in this Constitution
4 or prescribed by law.

5 B. The Secretary of State shall be appointed by the Governor by
6 and with the consent of the Senate for a term of four (4) years to
7 run concurrently with the term of the Governor.

8 C. Upon expiration of the term of the Insurance Commissioner
9 elected in 2026, the Insurance Commissioner shall be appointed by
10 the Governor by and with the consent of the Senate and shall serve
11 at the pleasure of the Governor.

12 Section 23. ~~A. There shall be elected by the qualified~~
13 ~~electors of the State, at the first general election, a chief~~
14 ~~officer of the Insurance Department, who shall be styled the~~
15 ~~"Insurance Commissioner", whose term of office shall be four years:~~
16 ~~Provided, That the first term of the Insurance Commissioner so~~
17 ~~elected, shall expire at the time of the expiration of the term of~~
18 ~~office of the first Governor elected~~ The Insurance Commissioner
19 shall be appointed by the Governor by and with the consent of the
20 Senate as provided in Section 1 of this article. The Insurance
21 Commissioner shall be at least twenty-five (25) years of age and
22 well versed in insurance matters.

23 ~~B. No person shall be eligible to serve as Insurance~~
24 ~~Commissioner for a period of time in excess of eight (8) years.~~

1 ~~Such years need not be consecutive. Any years served by a person~~
2 ~~elected or appointed to serve less than a full term to fill a~~
3 ~~vacancy in such office shall not be included in the limitation set~~
4 ~~forth herein. Any person serving in such position at the time of~~
5 ~~passage of this amendment shall be eligible to complete the term for~~
6 ~~which he or she has been elected and shall be eligible to serve an~~
7 ~~additional eight (8) years thereafter, notwithstanding the~~
8 ~~provisions of this amendment. The Legislature is hereby authorized~~
9 to enact laws to implement the provisions of this subsection.

10 SECTION 2. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional
11 amendments as set forth in SECTION 1 of this resolution shall be in
12 the following form:

13 BALLOT TITLE

14 Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

15 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

16 This measure amends the Oklahoma Constitution. It amends
17 Sections 1 and 23 of Article 6. It directs the Governor to
18 appoint the Insurance Commissioner by and with the consent of
19 the Senate. The Commissioner would serve at the pleasure of the
20 Governor. The first appointment would be made upon expiration
21 of the term of the person elected in 2026. It removes the term
22 limits for the Insurance Commissioner.

23 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

24 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES _____
25

1 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL — NO _____

2 SECTION 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall,
3 immediately after the passage of this resolution, prepare and file
4 one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 2
5 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney
6 General.

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