

INITIATIVE PETITION AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

A proposal to amend the state constitution of 1963 by amending Article IV, section 12 and Article IV, section 13, to require a part-time legislature that must complete its regular session each year by April 15, to reduce salaries for legislators to be calculated in a manner commensurate with the average salary of public school teachers in this state, and to eliminate pensions, and health care after the term of office, for legislators.

The proposal would amend Article IV, section 12 and Article IV, section 13 of the state constitution as follows (language added in capital letters):

Article IV, section 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, AND THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH, 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.

WHEN MAKING ITS DETERMINATION AS TO THE SALARY PAID BY THE STATE OF MICHIGAN TO MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE FOR THEIR SERVICE, THE COMMISSION SHALL BASE THAT DETERMINATION ON THE AVERAGE PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER SALARY IN THIS STATE, AND APPLY IT PRO-RATED TO THE NUMBER OF DAYS IN SESSION RELATIVE TO THE NUMBER OF DAYS PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS ARE REQUIRED TO BE IN THE CLASSROOM. UNLESS ALREADY ACCRUED OR OTHERWISE VESTED, BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1, 2019, LEGISLATORS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE COVERAGE BEYOND THEIR TERM IN OFFICE, OR PENSIONS, PAID BY THE STATE FOR THEIR LEGISLATIVE SERVICE. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH, THE COMMISSION SHALL MEET AS SOON AS IS PRACTICABLE TO DETERMINE THE SALARY FOR LEGISLATORS FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2019 AND 2020 CONSISTENT WITH THIS PARAGRAPH.

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

Article IV, section 13

The legislature shall meet at the seat of government on the second Wednesday in January of each year at twelve o'clock noon. Each regular session shall adjourn without day, on a day determined by concurrent resolution, at twelve o'clock noon, BUT BEGINNING IN 2019, AND CONTINUING EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, EACH REGULAR SESSION SHALL ADJOURN WITHOUT DAY NO LATER THAN APRIL 15, ON A DAY DETERMINED BY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, AT TWELVE O'CLOCK NOON. Any business, bill or joint resolution pending at the final adjournment of a regular session held in an odd numbered year shall carry over with the same status to the next regular session. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO PRECLUDE THE CONVENING OF A SPECIAL SESSION AS OTHERWISE PERMITTED BY THIS CONSTITUTION OR TO DIMINISH THE LEGISLATURE'S POWERS UNDER OTHER ARTICLES OR SECTIONS OF THIS CONSTITUTION.

Provisions of existing constitution altered or abrogated by the proposal if adopted:

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

Article IV, section 13

The legislature shall meet at the seat of government on the second Wednesday in January of each year at twelve o'clock noon. Each regular session shall adjourn without day, on a day determined by concurrent resolution, at twelve o'clock noon. Any business, bill or joint resolution pending at the final adjournment of a regular session held in an odd numbered year shall carry over with the same status to the next regular session.