

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION H

March 20, 2007, Introduced by Reps. Hoogendyk, Meltzer, Sheen and Caswell and referred to the Committee on Oversight and Investigations.

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 and section 43 to article IX, to limit the legislative session, to reduce salaries and expense allowances of members of the legislature, to reduce compensation of state legislators who have absences from legislative session, to prohibit state-paid retirement and health care for legislators, and to limit spending on the legislative budget.

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 and expense allowances of members of the legislature, to

reduce compensation of state legislators who have absences from legislative session, to prohibit state-paid retirement and health care for legislators, and to limit spending on the legislative budget, is proposed, agreed to, and submitted to the people of the state:

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ARTICLE IV

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

1 for ~~members of the legislature,~~ the governor, the lieutenant
2 governor, the attorney general, the secretary of state, and the
3 justices of the supreme court. The legislature shall not amend the
4 salary and expense determinations to reduce them to below the
5 salary and expense level that ~~members of the legislature,~~ the
6 governor, the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the
7 secretary of state, and the justices of the supreme court receive
8 on the date the salary and expense determinations are made. If the
9 salary and expense determinations are approved or amended as
10 provided in this section, the salary and expense determinations
11 shall become effective for the legislative session immediately
12 following the next general election. The commission shall meet each
13 2 years for no more than 15 session days. **EXPENSE ALLOWANCES FOR**
14 **MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE SHALL ONLY BE PAID FOR REASONABLE AND**
15 **ACTUAL EXPENSES FOR TRANSPORTATION, LODGING, AND MEALS DURING THE**
16 **PERIODS THAT THE LEGISLATURE IS IN SESSION. AN INDIVIDUAL WHO FIRST**
17 **BECAME A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE AFTER 2008 SHALL NOT RECEIVE ANY**
18 **STATE-PAID RETIREMENT OR INSURANCE BENEFITS BASED ON HIS OR HER**
19 **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE.** The legislature shall implement this section
20 by law.

21 Sec. 13. **EXCEPT WHEN THE LEGISLATURE IS CALLED TO CONVENE ON**
22 **EXTRAORDINARY OCCASIONS, THE LEGISLATURE SHALL ONLY MEET AS**
23 **PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION.** The legislature shall meet at the seat of
24 government on the second Wednesday in January of each year at
25 twelve o'clock noon. Each regular session shall adjourn without
26 day, on a day determined by concurrent resolution, at twelve
27 o'clock noon. Any business, bill or joint resolution pending at the

1 final adjournment of a regular session held in an odd numbered year
2 shall carry over with the same status to the next regular session.
3 IN 2009 AND EVERY YEAR AFTER 2009, THE LEGISLATURE SHALL MEET FOR
4 NOT MORE THAN 90 CONSECUTIVE DAYS.

5 SEC. 55. THE SALARY OF A LEGISLATOR WHO DOES NOT ATTEND
6 SESSION ON ANY DAY THE LEGISLATIVE BODY IS IN SESSION SHALL BE
7 REDUCED ON A PRO RATA BASIS. THE SALARY OF A LEGISLATOR SHALL NOT
8 EXCEED 25% OF THE PER CAPITA SALARY OF A PRIVATE SECTOR FULL-TIME
9 MICHIGAN WORKER AS CALCULATED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. IF A
10 SPECIAL SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE IS CALLED, LEGISLATORS MAY BE
11 PAID AN ADDITIONAL PER DIEM BASED ON THEIR BASE SALARY.

12 ARTICLE IX

13 SEC. 43. BEGINNING WITH THE 2009-2010 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE
14 LEGISLATURE SHALL NOT APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET
15 IN ANY YEAR THAT WOULD RESULT IN THAT BUDGET EXCEEDING 1% OF THE
16 GENERAL FUND/GENERAL PURPOSE BUDGET.

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