HJR 16 -- General Assembly

Sponsor: Flook

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment allows only appropriation bills to be considered by the General Assembly during even-numbered years. Legislators will receive one-half of their current salary during even-numbered years. The General Assembly will continue to convene on the first Wednesday after the first Monday of January following adjournment of the previous year. However, in even-numbered years, the General Assembly will adjourn at midnight on March 31 instead of midnight on May 31 which will remain the deadline for adjournment during odd-numbered years.

During odd-numbered years, bills will be tabled if on the calendar after 6:00 p.m. on the first Friday following the second Monday in May. During even-numbered years, bills will be tabled if on the calendar after 6:00 p.m. on the first Friday following the first Monday in March.

During odd-numbered years, bills not tabled may be signed in open session between the first Friday following the second Monday in May and May 30. During even-numbered years, bills not tabled may be signed in open session between the first Friday following the first Monday in March and March 31.

No appropriation bill may be considered after 6:00 p.m. on the first Friday following the first Monday in March during even-numbered years.

Beginning in 2009, and every 10 years thereafter, a zero-based budgeting process will be used. No bill, other than an appropriation bill or a bill repealing a statute that has expired, sunset, terminated, or is otherwise considered appropriate to repeal, can be introduced or considered unless a special session is called.