

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 77

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE CUPPS.

2520H.011

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the qualified voters of Missouri an amendment repealing Sections 50 and 52(b) of Article III of the Constitution of Missouri, and adopting two new sections in lieu thereof relating to constitutional amendments.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring therein:

That at the next general election to be held in the state of Missouri, on Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 2026, or at a special election to be called by the governor for that purpose, there is hereby submitted to the qualified voters of this state, for adoption or rejection, the following amendment to Article III of the Constitution of the state of Missouri:

Section A. Sections 50 and 52(b), Article III, Constitution of Missouri, are repealed and two new sections adopted in lieu thereof, to be known as Sections 50 and 52(b), to read as follows:

Section 50. **For the purpose of this article, only citizens of the United States who are residents of the state of Missouri and who are properly registered to vote in the state of Missouri shall be considered legal voters.** Initiative petitions proposing amendments to the constitution shall be signed by ~~eight~~ **seven** percent of the legal voters in each of two-thirds of the congressional districts in the state, and petitions proposing laws shall be signed by five percent of such voters. Every such petition shall be filed with the secretary of state not less than six months before the election and shall contain an enacting clause and the full text of the measure. Petitions for constitutional amendments shall not contain more than one

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

9 amended and revised article of this constitution, or one new article which shall not contain
10 more than one subject and matters properly connected therewith, and the enacting clause
11 thereof shall be "Be it resolved by the people of the state of Missouri that the Constitution be
12 amended:". Petitions for laws shall contain not more than one subject which shall be
13 expressed clearly in the title, and the enacting clause thereof shall be "Be it enacted by the
14 people of the state of Missouri:".

Section 52(b). The veto power of the governor shall not extend to measures referred
2 to the people. All elections on measures referred to the people shall be had at the general state
3 elections, except when the general assembly shall order a special election. Any measure
4 referred to the people **by the general assembly** shall take effect when approved by a majority
5 of the votes cast thereon, and not otherwise. **Notwithstanding Section 2(b) of Article XII,**
6 **any constitutional measure proposed by the initiative shall take effect at the end of**
7 **thirty days after the election if approved by a number of votes greater than or equal to a**
8 **majority of the registered voters in the state, and not otherwise. For the purposes of this**
9 **section, the number of registered voters shall be determined by the number of registered**
10 **voters entitled to vote at the general, municipal, or primary election, whichever is most**
11 **recent, immediately preceding the election at which the proposed constitutional**
12 **amendment is to appear on the ballot.** This section shall not be construed to deprive
13 any member of the general assembly of the right to introduce any measure.

Section B. Pursuant to chapter 116, and other applicable constitutional provisions and
2 laws of this state allowing the general assembly to adopt ballot language for the submission of
3 this joint resolution to the voters of this state, the official summary statement of this
4 resolution shall be as follows:

5 "Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:
6 • Limit voting on initiative petitions to United States citizens;
7 • Reduce the number of signatures needed to place a proposed constitutional
8 amendment on the ballot by initiative petition; and
9 • Require a majority of Missouri registered voters to amend the constitution by
10 initiative petition?".

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