

LD1939488

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 623

Offered January 23, 1995

Proposing an amendment to Section 6 of Article IV of the Constitution of Virginia, relating to legislative sessions.

Patrons—Wilkins, Albo, Crouch, Dudley, Newman, Nixon, Sherwood and Way

Referred to Committee on Rules

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, a majority of the members elected to each house agreeing, That the following amendment to the Constitution of Virginia be, and the same hereby is, proposed and referred to the General Assembly at its first regular session held after the next general election of members of the House of Delegates for its concurrence in conformity with the provisions of Section 1 of Article XII of the Constitution of Virginia, namely:

Amend Section 6 of Article IV of the Constitution of Virginia as follows:

ARTICLE IV.

LEGISLATURE.

Section 6. Legislative sessions.

The General Assembly shall meet once each year on the second Wednesday in January. Except as herein provided for reconvened sessions, no regular session of the General Assembly convened in an even-numbered year shall continue longer than sixty days; no regular session of the General Assembly convened in an odd-numbered year shall continue longer than thirty days; but with the concurrence of two-thirds of the members elected to each house, any regular session may be extended for a period not exceeding thirty days. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn to another place, nor for more than three days.

No bill shall be prefiled for, or introduced at, any odd-numbered year regular session except (i) those relating to appropriations or revenue; (ii) those relating to legislative reapportionment or redistricting; (iii) those requested in writing by the Governor; or (iv) emergency measures, each of which shall require the consent for introduction of three-fourths of the members elected to the house of introduction.

The Governor may convene a special session of the General Assembly when, in his opinion, the interest of the Commonwealth may require and shall convene a special session upon the application of two-thirds of the members elected to each house.

The General Assembly shall reconvene on the sixth Wednesday after adjournment of each regular or special session for the purpose of considering bills which may have been returned by the Governor with recommendations for their amendment and bills and items of appropriation bills which may have been returned by the Governor with his objections. No other business shall be considered at a reconvened session. Such reconvened session shall not continue longer than three days unless the session be extended, for a period not exceeding seven additional days, upon the vote of the majority of the members elected to each house.

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