

063190508

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4

Offered January 11, 2006

Prefiled December 5, 2005

Proposing amendments to Sections 2 and 3 of Article IV, Sections 1 and 2 of Article V, and Section 1 of Article XII of the Constitution of Virginia, relating to election and terms of office for General Assembly members and the Governor and to future amendments of the Constitution.

Patron—Shuler

Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, a majority of the members elected to each house agreeing, That the following amendments to the Constitution of Virginia be, and the same hereby are, 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 Sections 2 and 3 of Article IV, Sections 1 and 2 of Article V, and Section 1 of Article XII of the Constitution of Virginia as follows:

ARTICLE IV
LEGISLATURE

Section 2. Senate.

The Senate shall consist of not more than forty and not less than thirty-three members, who shall be elected ~~quadrennially~~ by the voters of the several senatorial districts on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November *in 2011 and every sixth year thereafter.*

Section 3. House of Delegates.

The House of Delegates shall consist of not more than one hundred and not less than ninety members, who shall be elected ~~biennially~~ by the voters of the several house districts on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November *in 2009 and every fourth year thereafter.*

ARTICLE V
EXECUTIVE

Section 1. Executive power; Governor's term of office.

The chief executive power of the Commonwealth shall be vested in a Governor. He shall hold office for a term commencing upon his inauguration on the Saturday after the second Wednesday in January, next succeeding his election, and ending in the ~~fourth~~ *sixth* year thereafter immediately upon the inauguration of his successor. He shall be ineligible to the same office for the term next succeeding that for which he was elected, and to any other office during his term of service.

Section 2. Election of Governor.

The Governor shall be elected by the qualified voters of the Commonwealth ~~at the time and place of choosing members of the General Assembly~~ *on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November in 2009 and every sixth year thereafter.* Returns of the election shall be transmitted, under seal, by the proper officers, to the State Board of Elections, or such other officer or agency as may be designated by law, which shall cause the returns to be opened and the votes to be counted in the manner prescribed by law. The person having the highest number of votes shall be declared elected; but if two or more shall have the highest and an equal number of votes, one of them shall be chosen Governor by a majority of the total membership of the General Assembly. Contested elections for Governor shall be decided by a like vote. The mode of proceeding in such cases shall be prescribed by law.

ARTICLE XII
FUTURE CHANGES

Section 1. Amendments.

Any amendment or amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in the Senate or House of Delegates, and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each of the two houses, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered on their journals, the name of each member and how he voted to be recorded, and referred to the General Assembly at its ~~first next~~ regular session held ~~after the next general election of members of the House of Delegates~~ *at least six months after such agreement.* If at such regular session or any subsequent special session of that General Assembly ~~held in the same calendar year~~ the proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by a majority of all the members elected to each house, then it shall be the duty of the General Assembly

INTRODUCED

HJ4

59 to submit such proposed amendment or amendments to the voters qualified to vote in elections by the
60 people, in such manner as it shall prescribe and not sooner than ninety days after final passage by the
61 General Assembly. If a majority of those voting vote in favor of any amendment, it shall become part of
62 the Constitution on the date prescribed by the General Assembly in submitting the amendment to the
63 voters.