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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 547

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled January 5, 2015

Proposing an amendment to Section 4 of Article II of the Constitution of Virginia, relating to powers and duties of the General Assembly with respect to elections and a uniform schedule of elections.

Patron—Simon

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 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 4 of Article II of the Constitution of Virginia as follows:

ARTICLE II**FRANCHISE AND OFFICERS**

Section 4. Powers and duties of General Assembly.

The General Assembly shall establish a uniform system for permanent registration of voters pursuant to this Constitution, including provisions for appeal by any person denied registration, correction of illegal or fraudulent registrations, penalties for illegal, fraudulent, or false registrations, proper transfer of all registered voters, and cancellation of registrations in other jurisdictions of persons who apply to register to vote in the Commonwealth. The General Assembly shall provide for maintenance of accurate and current registration records and may provide for the cancellation of registrations for such purpose.

The General Assembly shall provide for the nomination of candidates, shall regulate the time, place, manner, conduct, and administration of primary, general, and special elections, and shall have power to make any other law regulating elections not inconsistent with this Constitution.

Beginning in 2030, there shall be a uniform schedule for general elections of state and local officers that coincides with federal elections held in November of even-numbered years. The General Assembly shall provide by law for the transition to the uniform schedule for general elections held in November of even-numbered years. For the purpose of transitioning to the uniform schedule, terms of office for state elected officers may be extended, but shall not be shortened, and terms of office for local elected officers may be shortened, but by no more than one year.

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