

## Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1603

By Senator Holland

2-2

1 A PROPOSITION to amend section 8 of article 2 of the constitution of  
2 the state of Kansas, relating to annual sessions of the legislature.

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4 *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of*  
5 *the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate and two-*  
6 *thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House*  
7 *of Representatives concurring therein:*

8 Section 1. The following proposition to amend the constitution of  
9 the state of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state  
10 for their approval or rejection: Section 8 of article 2 of the constitution of  
11 the state of Kansas is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 "**§ 8. Organization and sessions.** The legislature shall meet  
13 in regular session annually commencing on the second Monday in  
14 January, and all sessions shall be held at the state capital. The  
15 duration of regular sessions held *in odd-numbered years beginning*  
16 *with the year 2019 shall not exceed 90 calendar days. Such*  
17 *sessions may be extended beyond 90 calendar days by an*  
18 *affirmative vote of 2/3 of the members elected or appointed to each*  
19 *house. The duration of regular sessions held in even-numbered*  
20 *years shall not exceed ~~ninety~~ 60 calendar days beginning with the*  
21 *year 2020. Such sessions may be extended beyond ~~ninety~~ 60*  
22 *calendar days by an affirmative vote of ~~two-thirds~~ 2/3 of the*  
23 *members elected or appointed to each house. Bills and concurrent*  
24 *resolutions under consideration by the legislature upon*  
25 *adjournment of a regular session held in an odd-numbered year*  
26 *may be considered at the next succeeding regular session held in an*  
27 *even-numbered year, as if there had been no such adjournment.*

28 The legislature shall be organized concurrently with the terms  
29 of representatives except that the senate shall remain organized  
30 during the terms of senators. The president of the senate shall  
31 preside over the senate, and the speaker of the house of  
32 representatives shall preside over the house of representatives. A  
33 majority of the members then elected (or appointed) and qualified  
34 of the house of representatives or the senate shall constitute a  
35 quorum of that house. Neither house, without the consent of the  
36 other, shall adjourn for more than two days, Sundays excepted.

1 Each house shall elect its presiding officer and determine the rules  
2 of its proceedings, except that the two houses may adopt joint rules  
3 on certain matters and provide for the manner of change thereof.  
4 Each house shall provide for the expulsion or censure of members  
5 in appropriate cases. Each house shall be the judge of elections,  
6 returns and qualifications of its own members."

7 Sec. 2. The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with  
8 the amendment as a whole:

9 "*Explanatory statement.* This amendment would limit the length  
10 of regular sessions of the legislature in even-numbered years  
11 to 60 calendar days unless the session is extended beyond 60  
12 days by a vote of  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the members elected to each house.  
13 The length of regular sessions of the legislature in odd-  
14 numbered years would remain at 90 calendar days unless the  
15 session is extended beyond 90 days by a vote of  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the  
16 members elected or appointed to each house.

17 "A vote for this proposition would limit the length of the regular  
18 sessions of the legislature in even-numbered years to 60  
19 calendar days unless extended by a vote of  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the  
20 members of each house. The length of regular sessions of the  
21 legislature in odd-numbered years would remain at 90  
22 calendar days unless the session is extended beyond 90 days  
23 by a vote of  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the members elected or appointed to each  
24 house.

25 "A vote against this proposition favors retaining current  
26 constitutional provisions which provide for legislative  
27 sessions each year of not to exceed 90 calendar days unless  
28 such sessions are extended by an affirmative vote of  $\frac{2}{3}$  of  
29 the members of each house "

30 Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members  
31 elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate, and two-thirds of the  
32 members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of  
33 Representatives shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas  
34 and nays. The secretary of state shall cause this resolution to be published  
35 as provided by law and shall cause the proposed amendment to be  
36 submitted to the electors of the state at the general election in November  
37 in the year 2018 unless a special election is called at a sooner date by  
38 concurrent resolution of the legislature, in which case it shall be  
39 submitted to the electors of the state at the special election.