

2050--A

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N   S E N A T E

January 10, 2013

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Introduced by Sens. LATIMER, DILAN, PARKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Judiciary -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY

proposing an amendment to sections 5 and 6 of article 4 of the constitution, in relation to duties of and the appointment of lieutenant-governor

1     Section 1. RESOLVED (if the Assembly concur), That section 5 of arti-  
2     cle 4 of the constitution be amended to read as follows:  
3     S 5. In case of the removal of the governor from office or of his or  
4     her death or resignation, the lieutenant-governor shall become governor  
5     for the remainder of the term.  
6     In case the governor-elect shall decline to serve or shall die, the  
7     lieutenant-governor-elect shall become governor for the full term.  
8     In case the governor is impeached[, is absent from the state] or is  
9     otherwise unable to discharge the powers and duties of the office of  
10    governor, the lieutenant-governor shall act as governor until the  
11    inability shall cease or until the term of the governor shall expire.  
12    In case of the failure of the governor-elect to take the oath of  
13    office at the commencement of his or her term, the lieutenant-governor-  
14    elect shall act as governor until the governor shall take the oath.  
15    S 2. RESOLVED (if the Assembly concur), That section 6 of article 4 of  
16    the constitution be amended to read as follows:  
17    S 6. The lieutenant-governor shall possess the same qualifications of  
18    eligibility for office as the governor. The lieutenant-governor shall be  
19    the president of the senate but shall have only a casting vote therein.  
20    The lieutenant-governor shall receive for his or her services an annual  
21    salary to be fixed by joint resolution of the senate and assembly.  
22    In case of vacancy in the offices of both governor and lieutenant-gov-  
23    ernor, a governor and lieutenant-governor shall be elected for the  
24    remainder of the term at the next general election happening not less

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 than three months after both offices shall have become vacant. No  
2 election of a lieutenant-governor shall be had in any event except at  
3 the time of electing a governor.

4 In case of vacancy in the offices of both governor and lieutenant-gov-  
5 ernor or if both of them shall be impeached[, absent from the state] or  
6 otherwise unable to discharge the powers and duties of the office of  
7 governor, the temporary president of the senate shall act as governor  
8 until the inability shall cease or until a governor shall be elected.

9 In case of TEMPORARY vacancy in the office of lieutenant-governor  
10 alone, [or if the lieutenant-governor shall be impeached, absent] FOR  
11 ABSENCE from the state or otherwise [unable] INABILITY to discharge the  
12 duties of office, the temporary president of the senate shall perform  
13 all the duties of lieutenant-governor during such vacancy or inability.

14 IN CASE OF PERMANENT VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR  
15 ALONE, ON GROUNDS OF IMPEACHMENT, RESIGNATION, DEATH, OR OTHERWISE  
16 PERMANENT ABSENCE FROM THE STATE, THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT A LIEUTEN-  
17 ANT-GOVERNOR WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF SUCH PERMANENT VACANCY, SUBJECT TO  
18 THE CONFIRMATION BY A MAJORITY VOTE IN THE STATE SENATE AND A MAJORITY  
19 VOTE IN THE STATE ASSEMBLY WITHIN THIRTY DAYS OF SUCH APPOINTMENT BY THE  
20 GOVERNOR, TO PERFORM ALL DUTIES OF SUCH OFFICE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE  
21 TERM. IF EITHER THE SENATE OR THE ASSEMBLY FAILS TO CONFIRM SUCH  
22 APPOINTMENT THEN THE GOVERNOR SHALL MAKE A NEW APPOINTMENT SUBJECT TO  
23 THE CONFIRMATION BY A MAJORITY VOTE IN THE STATE SENATE AND A MAJORITY  
24 VOTE IN THE STATE ASSEMBLY.

25 If, when the duty of acting as governor devolves upon the temporary  
26 president of the senate, there be a vacancy in such office or the tempo-  
27 rary president of the senate shall be absent from the state or otherwise  
28 unable to discharge the duties of governor, the speaker of the assembly  
29 shall act as governor during such vacancy or inability.

30 The legislature may provide for the devolution of the duty of acting  
31 as governor in any case not provided for in this article.

32 S 3. RESOLVED (if the Assembly concur), That the foregoing amendments  
33 be referred to the first regular legislative session convening after the  
34 next succeeding general election of members of the assembly, and, in  
35 conformity with section 1 of article 19 of the constitution, be  
36 published for 3 months previous to the time of such election.