S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

3972

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

April 7, 2009

Introduced by Sen. OPPENHEIMER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Judiciary

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY

proposing amendments to article 7 of the constitution, in relation to requiring estimates of budget expenditures by state departments to be made available to the public; and providing for the use of conference committees

Section 1. Resolved (if the Assembly concur), That section 1 of article 7 of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

Section 1. For the preparation of the budget, the head of each department of state government, except the legislature and judiciary, shall furnish the governor such estimates and information in such form and at such times as the governor may require, copies of which shall forthwith be furnished to the appropriate committees of the legislature. COPIES SHALL ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC. The governor shall hold hearings thereon at which the governor may require the attendance of heads of departments and their subordinates. Designated representatives of such committees shall be entitled to attend the hearings thereon and to make inquiry concerning any part thereof. SUCH HEARINGS SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Itemized estimates of the financial needs of the legislature, certified by the presiding officer of each house, and of the judiciary, approved by the court of appeals and certified by the chief judge of the court of appeals, shall be transmitted to the governor not later than the first day of December in each year for inclusion in the budget without revision but with such recommendations as the governor may deem proper. Copies of the itemized estimates of the financial needs of the judiciary also shall forthwith be transmitted to the appropriate committees of the legislature.

S 2. Resolved (if the Assembly concur), That article 7 of the constitution be amended by adding a new section 1-a to read as follows:

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

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S 1-A. WHENEVER AN APPROPRIATIONS BILL OR OTHER BILL SUBMITTED BY THE GOVERNOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ARTICLE, WITH OR WITHOUT ALTERATIONS, IS PASSED BY ONE HOUSE OF THE LEGISLATURE, SUCH APPROPRIATIONS BILL SHALL BE REFERRED TO A COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE. THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY SHALL JOINTLY CONVENE A COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCE TO REPORT UPON SAID APPROPRIATIONS BILL. SUCH CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

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