

7772

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

May 27, 2015

---

Introduced by M. of A. JOHNS -- read once and referred to the Committee  
on Ways and Means

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY

proposing amendments to sections 1, 2 and 7 of article 7 of the constitution, in relation to providing for the establishment of a biennial budgeting system for the state replacing the state annual budget process

1     Section 1. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That section 1 of article  
2     7 of the constitution be amended to read as follows:  
3     Section 1. For the preparation of the budget, the head of each department  
4     of state government, except the legislature and judiciary, shall  
5     furnish the governor such estimates and information in such form and at  
6     such times as the governor may require, copies of which shall forthwith  
7     be furnished to the appropriate committees of the legislature. The  
8     governor shall hold hearings thereon at which the governor may require  
9     the attendance of heads of departments and their subordinates. Designated  
10    representatives of such committees shall be entitled to attend the  
11    hearings thereon and to make inquiry concerning any part thereof.  
12    Itemized estimates of the financial needs of the legislature, certified  
13    by the presiding officer of each house, and of the judiciary, approved  
14    by the court of appeals and certified by the chief judge of the court  
15    of appeals, shall be transmitted to the governor not later than  
16    the first day of December in each year IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE YEAR IN  
17    WHICH THE GOVERNOR TRANSMITS TO THE LEGISLATURE THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET  
18    DOCUMENT for inclusion in the budget without revision but with such  
19    recommendations as the governor may deem proper. Copies of the itemized  
20    estimates of the financial needs of the judiciary also shall forthwith  
21    be transmitted to the appropriate committees of the legislature. NOTHING  
22    HEREIN SHALL PRECLUDE THE ALTERATION, BY LAW, OF THE EXPENDITURES  
23    DURING THE PERIOD OF TIME WHICH THE BUDGET SHALL HAVE BEEN ADOPTED FOR.  
24    S 2. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That section 2 of article 7 of  
25    the constitution be amended to read as follows:

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

LBD89007-02-5

1 S 2. [Annually] BIENNIALY, on or before the first day of February in  
2 each year following the year fixed by the constitution for the election  
3 of governor and lieutenant governor, and on or before the second Tuesday  
4 following the first day of the annual meeting of the legislature, in all  
5 other ODD NUMBERED years, the governor shall submit to the legislature a  
6 budget containing a complete plan of expenditures proposed to be made  
7 [before the close of the ensuing fiscal year] DURING THE NEXT TWO FISCAL  
8 YEARS and all moneys and revenues estimated to be available therefor,  
9 together with an explanation of the basis of such estimates and recom-  
10 mendations as to proposed legislation, if any, which the governor may  
11 deem necessary to provide moneys and revenues sufficient to meet such  
12 proposed expenditures. It shall also contain such other recommendations  
13 and information as the governor may deem proper and such additional  
14 information as may be required by law.

15 S 3. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That section 7 of article 7 of  
16 the constitution be amended to read as follows:

17 S 7. No money shall ever be paid out of the state treasury or any of  
18 its funds, or any of the funds under its management, except in pursuance  
19 of an appropriation by law; nor unless such payment be made within [two]  
20 THREE years next after [the passage of] such appropriation act; and  
21 every such law making a new appropriation or continuing or reviving an  
22 appropriation, shall distinctly specify the sum appropriated, and the  
23 object or purpose to which it is to be applied; and it shall not be  
24 sufficient for such law to refer to any other law to fix such sum.

25 S 4. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That the foregoing amendments  
26 be referred to the first regular legislative session convening after the  
27 next succeeding general election of members of the assembly, and, in  
28 conformity with section 1 of article 19 of the constitution, be  
29 published for three months previous to the time of such election.