

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RIDGEWAY.

Read 1st time January 25, 2010, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

4179S.021

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## JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the qualified voters of Missouri, an amendment repealing sections 20, 20(a), 22, and 25 of article III of the Constitution of Missouri, and adopting four new sections in lieu thereof relating to the adjournment of the legislative session.

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*Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring therein:*

That at the next general election to be held in the state of Missouri, on  
2 Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 2010, or at a special  
3 election to be called by the governor for that purpose, there is hereby submitted  
4 to the qualified voters of this state, for adoption or rejection, the following  
5 amendment to article III of the Constitution of the state of Missouri:

Section A. Sections 20, 20(a), 22, and 25, article III, Constitution of  
2 Missouri, is repealed and four new sections adopted in lieu thereof, to be known  
3 as section 20, 20(a), 22, and 25, to read as follows:

Section 20. The general assembly shall meet on the first Wednesday after  
2 the first Monday in January following each general election. The general  
3 assembly may provide by law for the introduction of bills during the period  
4 between the first day of December and the first Wednesday after the first Monday  
5 of January.

6 The general assembly shall reconvene on the first Wednesday after the  
7 first Monday of January after adjournment at midnight on [May thirtieth] **April**  
8 **fifteenth** of the preceding year. A majority of the elected members of each house  
9 shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from  
10 day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner  
11 and under such penalties as each house may provide. The sessions of each house  
12 shall be held with open doors, except in cases which may require secrecy but not

**EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

13 including the final vote on bills, resolutions and confirmations. Neither house  
14 shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than ten days at any one  
15 time, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses may be sitting.

Section 20(a). The general assembly shall adjourn at midnight on [May  
2 thirtieth] **April fifteenth** until the first Wednesday after the first Monday of  
3 January of the following year, unless it has adjourned prior thereto. All bills in  
4 either house remaining on the calendar after 6:00 p.m. on the first Friday  
5 following the [second] **third** Monday in [May] **March** are tabled. The period  
6 between the first Friday following the [second] **third** Monday in [May] **March**  
7 and [May thirtieth] **April fifteenth** shall be devoted to the enrolling, engrossing,  
8 and the signing in open session by officers of the respective houses of bills passed  
9 prior to 6:00 p.m. on the first Friday following the [second] **third** Monday in  
10 [May] **March**.

11 The general assembly shall automatically stand adjourned sine die at 6:00  
12 p.m. on the sixtieth calendar day after the date of its convening in special session  
13 unless it has adjourned sine die prior thereto.

Section 22. Every bill shall be referred to a committee of the house in  
2 which it is pending. After it has been referred to a committee, one-third of the  
3 elected members of the respective houses shall have power to relieve a committee  
4 of further consideration of a bill and place it on the calendar for  
5 consideration. Each committee shall keep such record of its proceedings as is  
6 required by rule of the respective houses and this record and the recorded vote  
7 of the members of the committee shall be filed with all reports on bills.

8 Each house of the general assembly may provide by rule for such  
9 committees of that house as it deems necessary to meet to consider bills or to  
10 perform any other necessary legislative function during the interim between the  
11 session ending on the [thirtieth day of May] **fifteenth day of April** and the  
12 session commencing on the first Wednesday after the first Monday of January.

Section 25. No bill other than an appropriation bill shall be introduced  
2 in either house after the [sixtieth] **thirtieth** legislative day unless consented to  
3 by a majority of the elected members of each house or the governor shall request  
4 a consideration of the proposed legislation by a special message. No  
5 appropriation bill shall be taken up for consideration after 6:00 p.m. on the first  
6 Friday following the [first] **second** Monday in [May] **March** of each year.