

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR LAMPING.

Pre-filed December 1, 2011, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

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## JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the qualified voters of Missouri, an amendment repealing sections 20, 20(a), 22, 25 and 32 of article III of the Constitution of Missouri, and adopting five 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, 2012, 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, 25 and 32, article III, Constitution of  
2 Missouri, is repealed and five new sections adopted in lieu thereof, to be known  
3 as sections 20, 20(a), 22, 25 and 32, 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 of the  
8 preceding year. **Beginning with the ninety-eighth general assembly, the**  
9 **general assembly shall reconvene on the first Wednesday after the first**  
10 **Monday of January after adjournment at midnight on April sixth of the**  
11 **preceding year.** A majority of the elected members of each house shall  
12 constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day  
13 to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and

14 under such penalties as each house may provide. The sessions of each house  
15 shall be held with open doors, except in cases which may require secrecy but not  
16 including the final vote on bills, resolutions and confirmations. Neither house  
17 shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than ten days at any one  
18 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 until the first Wednesday after the first Monday of January of the  
3 following year, unless it has adjourned prior thereto. All bills in either house  
4 remaining on the calendar after 6:00 p.m. on the first Friday following the second  
5 Monday in May are tabled. The period between the first Friday following the  
6 second Monday in May and May thirtieth shall be devoted to the enrolling,  
7 engrossing, and the signing in open session by officers of the respective houses  
8 of bills passed prior to 6:00 p.m. on the first Friday following the second Monday  
9 in May. **Beginning with the ninety-eighth general assembly, the general**  
10 **assembly shall adjourn at midnight on April sixth until the first**  
11 **Wednesday after the first Monday of January of the following year,**  
12 **unless it has adjourned prior thereto. All bills in either house**  
13 **remaining on the calendar after 6:00 p.m. on the first Friday following**  
14 **the third Monday in March are tabled. The period between the first**  
15 **Friday following the third Monday in March and April sixth shall be**  
16 **devoted to the enrolling, engrossing, and the signing in open session by**  
17 **officers of the respective houses of bills passed prior to 6:00 p.m. on the**  
18 **first Friday following the third Monday in March.**

19 The general assembly shall automatically stand adjourned sine die at 6:00  
20 p.m. on the sixtieth calendar day after the date of its convening in special session  
21 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 **or, beginning with the ninety-**  
12 **eighth general assembly, the sixth day of April** and the session commencing  
13 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 legislative day unless consented to by a majority  
3 of the elected members of each house or the governor shall request a  
4 consideration of the proposed legislation by a special message. No appropriation  
5 bill shall be taken up for consideration after 6:00 p.m. on the first Friday  
6 following the first Monday in May of each year. **Beginning with the ninety-**  
7 **eighth general assembly, no bill other than an appropriation bill shall**  
8 **be introduced in either house after the thirtieth legislative day unless**  
9 **consented to by a majority of the elected members of each house or the**  
10 **governor shall request a consideration of the proposed legislation by**  
11 **a special message. No appropriation bill shall be taken up for**  
12 **consideration after 6:00 p.m. on the first Friday following the second**  
13 **Monday in March of each year.**

Section 32. Every bill presented to the governor and returned with his  
2 objections shall stand as reconsidered in the house to which it is returned. If the  
3 governor returns any bill with his objections on or after the fifth day before the  
4 last day upon which a session of the general assembly may consider bills, the  
5 general assembly shall automatically reconvene on the first Wednesday following  
6 the second Monday in September **or, beginning with the ninety-eighth**  
7 **general assembly, the second Monday in June**, for a period not to exceed  
8 ten calendar days for the sole purpose of considering bills returned by the  
9 governor. The objections of the governor shall be entered upon the journal and  
10 the house shall proceed to consider the question pending, which shall be in this  
11 form: "Shall the bill pass, the objections of the governor thereto  
12 notwithstanding?" The vote upon this question shall be taken by yeas and nays  
13 and if two-thirds of the elected members of the house vote in the affirmative the  
14 presiding officer of that house shall certify that fact on the roll, attesting the  
15 same by his signature, and send the bill with the objections of the governor to the  
16 other house, in which like proceedings shall be had in relation thereto. The bill  
17 thus certified shall be deposited in the office of the secretary of state as an  
18 authentic act and shall become a law.

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