SENATE SUBSTITUTE

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 79

JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the qualified voters of Missouri, an amendment repealing section 50 of article III of the Constitution of Missouri, and adopting one new section in lieu thereof relating to procedures for ballot measures that are submitted to the people.

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

That at the next general election to be held in the

- 2 state of Missouri, on Tuesday next following the first Monday
- 3 in November, 2022, or at a special election to be called by
- 4 the governor for that purpose, there is hereby submitted to
- 5 the qualified voters of this state, for adoption or
- 6 rejection, the following amendment to article III of the
- 7 Constitution of the state of Missouri:

Section A. Section 50, article III, Constitution of

- 2 Missouri, is repealed and one new section adopted in lieu
- 3 thereof, to be known as section 50, to read as follows:

Section 50. 1. Initiative petitions proposing

- 2 amendments to the constitution shall be signed by eight
- 3 percent of the legal voters in each of two-thirds of the
- 4 congressional districts in the state, and petitions
- 5 proposing laws shall be signed by five percent of such
- 6 voters. Every such petition shall be filed with the
- 7 secretary of state not less than six months before the
- 8 election and shall contain an enacting clause and the full

- 9 text of the measure. Voters in each congressional district
- 10 shall have the opportunity to review and comment upon all
- 11 initiative petitions proposing amendments to the
- 12 constitution following the filing of the petition with the
- 13 secretary of state and not less than fifteen days before the
- 14 measure appears on the ballot. Such review and comment
- 15 process shall be administered by the secretary of state in a
- 16 public forum. Petitions for constitutional amendments shall
- 17 not contain more than one amended and revised article of
- 18 this constitution, or one new article which shall not
- 19 contain more than one subject and matters properly connected
- 20 therewith, and the enacting clause thereof shall be "Be it
- 21 resolved by the people of the state of Missouri that the
- 22 Constitution be amended:". Petitions for laws shall contain
- 23 not more than one subject which shall be expressed clearly
- in the title, and the enacting clause thereof shall be "Be
- 25 it enacted by the people of the state of Missouri:". For
- 26 purposes of this section, only citizens of the United States
- 27 of America who are residents of the State of Missouri and
- 28 who are properly registered to vote in the State of Missouri
- 29 shall be considered legal voters.
- 30 2. Notwithstanding Section 2(b) of Article XII of this
- 31 Constitution, or any other provisions of this Constitution
- 32 or laws to the contrary, if sixty percent or more of the
- 33 votes cast thereon are in favor of any constitutional
- 34 amendment, whether proposed by the general assembly or by
- 35 initiative, that would impose or increase taxes or fees, or
- 36 obligate the state to appropriate funds of ten million
- 37 dollars or more in any of the first five fiscal years after
- 38 enactment, the same shall take effect at the end of thirty
- 39 days after the certification of the election. Such ten
- 40 million dollar threshold shall be annually adjusted for
- 41 inflation as provided by law. For all other constitutional

- 42 amendments, whether proposed by the general assembly or by
- 43 initiative, if a majority of the votes cast thereon are in
- 44 favor of the constitutional amendment, the same shall take
- 45 effect at the end of thirty days after the certification of
- 46 the election. This subsection shall only apply to
- 47 constitutional amendments submitted to the people after
- 48 January 1, 2023.
 - Section B. Under chapter 116, RSMo, and other
- 2 applicable constitutional provisions and laws of this state
- 3 allowing the general assembly to adopt ballot language for
- 4 the submission of a joint resolution to the voters of this
- 5 state, the official ballot title of the amendment proposed
- 6 in Section A shall be as follows:
- 7 "Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:
- Allow only American citizens to sign
- 9 initiative petitions; and
- Require initiative petitions to be reviewed
- 11 by voters; and
- 12 Require constitutional amendments imposing or
- increasing taxes or fees, or obligating the
- state to appropriate more than \$10 million be
- approved by sixty percent of the vote?".