

STATE OF ILLINOIS
96th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TRANSCRIPTION DEBATE

67th Legislative Day

6/22/2009

Clerk Mahoney: "House Perfunctory Session will come to order. Introduction and reading of Senate Bills-First Reading. Senate Bill 744, offered by Representative Lang, a Bill for an Act concerning gaming. First Reading of this Senate Bill. Introduction and reading of House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment-First Reading. Offered by Representative Fortner is House Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment 32.

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the State for adoption or rejection at the general election next occurring at least 6 months after the adoption of this resolution a proposition to amend Article 4 of the Illinois Constitution by changing Sections 2 and 3 as follows:

ARTICLE IV
THE LEGISLATURE

SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE COMPOSITION

(a) One Senator shall be elected from each Legislative District. Immediately following each decennial redistricting, the Senate, by resolution, shall divide the Legislative Districts as equally as possible into three groups. Senators from one group shall be elected for terms of four years, four years and two years; Senators from the second group, for terms of four years, two years and four

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years; and Senators from the third group, for terms of two years, four years and four years. The Legislative Districts in each group shall be distributed substantially equally over the State.

- (b) In 2012 and every two years thereafter one Representative shall be elected from each Representative District for a term of two years.
- (c) To be eligible to serve as a member of the General Assembly, a person must be a United States citizen, at least 21 years old, and for the two years preceding his election or appointment a resident of the district which he is to represent. In the general election following a redistricting, a candidate for the General Assembly may be elected from any district which contains a part of the district in which he resided at the time of the redistricting and reelected if a resident of the new district he represents for 18 months prior to reelection.
- (d) Within thirty days after a vacancy occurs, it shall be filled by appointment as provided by law. If the vacancy is in a Senatorial office with more than twenty-eight months remaining in the term, the appointed Senator shall serve until the next general election, at which time a Senator shall be elected to serve for the remainder of the term. If the vacancy is in a Representative office or in any other Senatorial office, the appointment shall be for the remainder of the term. An appointee to fill a vacancy shall be a member of the same political party as the person he succeeds.

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(e) No member of the General Assembly shall receive compensation as a public officer or employee from any other governmental entity for time during which he is in attendance as a member of the General Assembly.

No member of the General Assembly during the term for which he was elected or appointed shall be appointed to a public office which shall have been created or the compensation for which shall have been increased by the General Assembly during that term.

SECTION 3. LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING

(a) Legislative Districts shall be compact, be contiguous, be substantially equal in population, reflect minority voting strengths, promote competition, and consider political boundaries. Representative Districts shall be compact, be contiguous, be substantially equal in population, reflect minority voting strengths, promote competition, and consider political boundaries. A Representative District need not be entirely within a single Legislative District. The General Assembly shall establish by law a method to determine a score for any map for Legislative or Representative Districts.

(b) A Legislative Redistricting Commission shall be constituted by March 1 of the year following each Federal decennial census year. The Commission shall consist of eight members, no more than four of whom shall be members of the same political party.

The Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives shall each appoint two persons to the

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Commission. The President and Minority Leader of the Senate shall each appoint two persons to the Commission.

The members shall be certified to the Secretary of State by the appointing authorities. A vacancy on the Commission shall be filled within five days by the authority that made the original appointment. A Chairman and Vice Chairman shall be chosen by a majority of all members of the Commission. The Commission shall provide to the public data and tools to create Legislative and Representative Districts not later than April 7. The Commission shall accept maps for the redistricting of Legislative and Representative Districts through May 7.

The Commission shall evaluate all submitted maps according to criteria set forth in subsection (a) as implemented by law and assign each map a score. The Commission shall eliminate maps that fail to meet federal and State law and shall eliminate maps that are substantially the same as other maps of equal or better score. Not later than May 22 the Commission shall give to the Senate the maps for Legislative Districts with the best three scores. Not later than May 22 the Commission shall give to the House of Representatives the maps for Representative Districts with the best three scores.

- (c) The Senate by a record vote of three-fifths of the members elected may adopt a redistricting resolution from the three maps for Legislative Districts submitted by the Commission. If the Senate has failed to file a redistricting resolution with the Secretary of State by June 30, the Secretary of

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State shall certify the redistricting map for Legislative Districts that received the best score from the Commission. The House by a record vote of three-fifths of the members elected may adopt a redistricting resolution from the three maps for Representative Districts submitted by the Commission. If the House has failed to file a redistricting resolution with the Secretary of State by June 30, the Secretary of State shall certify the redistricting map for Representative Districts that received the best score from the Commission.

- (d) A redistricting resolution or redistricting map filed with the Secretary of State shall be presumed valid, shall have the force and effect of law and shall be published promptly by the Secretary of State.

The Supreme Court shall have original and exclusive jurisdiction over actions concerning redistricting the House and Senate, which shall be initiated in the name of the People of the State by the Attorney General.

SCHEDULE

This Constitutional Amendment takes effect upon being declared adopted in accordance with Section 7 of the Illinois Constitutional Amendment Act and applies to redistricting beginning in 2011 and to the election of General Assembly members beginning in 2012. This has been the First Reading and Introduction of House Joint Resolution constitutional Amendment 32. There being no further business, the House Perfunctory Session will stand adjourned."