



HJ0068

LRB100 13049 MST 27408 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Illinois has debated and adopted four state
3 constitutions since its founding, the original 1818 document,
4 one in 1848, one in 1870, and one in 1970; and

5 WHEREAS, Illinois citizens and elected officials have come
6 together to discuss the future of the Land of Lincoln in six
7 constitutional conventions in 1818, 1846, 1860, 1868, 1918, and
8 1968; and

9 WHEREAS, Forty-nine years have passed since the last
10 constitutional convention was called, resulting in the
11 current, 1970 Illinois Constitution; and

12 WHEREAS, Subsection (b) of Section 1 of Article XIV of the
13 Illinois Constitution provides that if the question of whether
14 a State Constitutional Convention should be called is not
15 submitted during any 20-year period, the Secretary of State
16 shall submit that question at the general election in the 20th
17 year following the last submission; and

18 WHEREAS, The question of whether a State Constitutional
19 Convention should be called was placed before the voters on the
20 general election ballot on November 4, 2008; and

1 WHEREAS, Since November 4, 2008, more than 400 resolutions
2 have been submitted by Illinois legislators to amend the
3 Illinois Constitution; and

4 WHEREAS, Members of the General Assembly who represent a
5 cross section of Illinois geography and Illinois politics have
6 sought to amend the Illinois Constitution to address challenges
7 including taxes and revenue; term limits and recall of elected
8 officials; voting and elections; home rule governance and
9 unfunded mandates; education funding and public pension
10 reform; and, consolidation of constitutional officers and
11 legislative redistricting; and

12 WHEREAS, The upcoming Illinois Bicentennial year of 2018
13 provides the appropriate opportunity for Illinois citizens and
14 elected officials to reflect upon the condition and contemplate
15 the future of our Great State; and

16 WHEREAS, Ten years will have passed since Illinois voters
17 have been asked to approve a State Constitutional Convention;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Subsection (a) of Section 1 of Article XIV of the
20 Illinois Constitution states: "Whenever three-fifths of the
21 members elected to each house of the General Assembly so
22 direct, the question of whether a Constitutional Convention

1 should be called shall be submitted to the electors at the
2 general election next occurring at least six months after such
3 legislative direction"; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE
6 CONCURRING HEREIN, that the proposition on whether a State
7 Constitutional Convention should be called be submitted to the
8 electors of this State at the general election next occurring
9 at least six months after the adoption of this resolution, as
10 provided in Article XIV, Section 1, of the Illinois
11 Constitution; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
13 presented to the Secretary of State and the State Board of
14 Elections.