



General Assembly

***Proposed Senate Joint
Resolution No. 3***

January Session, 2001

LCO No. 691

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and
Elections

Introduced by:

SEN. GUGLIELMO, 35th Dist.

***RESOLUTION PROPOSING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
PROVIDING FOR DIRECT INITIATIVE.***

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 That the third and eleventh articles of the state Constitution be
2 amended to grant to the electors of this state, independent of the
3 General Assembly, the power to propose laws by initiative and to
4 enact or reject them at an election, as follows: (1) A proposed initiative
5 shall be registered with the Secretary of the State between January
6 second and August first, inclusive, in the calendar year in which it
7 would be voted on by the electorate, (2) after a proposed initiative has
8 been registered with the Secretary of the State, petitions may be
9 circulated and shall be presented to the registrars of voters of the
10 towns in which they were circulated, by September first of such
11 calendar year, (3) the registrars of voters shall certify the total number
12 of valid signatures to the Secretary of the State, by September thirtieth
13 of such calendar year, (4) if the total number of signatures on such
14 petitions is equal to at least four per cent of the total number of votes
15 cast for Governor in the preceding gubernatorial election, the Secretary

16 of the State shall so certify and the proposed initiative shall appear on
17 the ballot at the November election, (5) if a majority of those voting on
18 the initiative approve it and such majority is equal to at least fifteen
19 per cent of the total votes cast for Governor in the current or preceding
20 gubernatorial election, the initiative shall be deemed approved and
21 shall take effect the following March fifteenth unless otherwise
22 specified in the initiative, (6) an approved initiative may be amended,
23 modified, or repealed by the General Assembly, and (7) no initiative,
24 or part of an initiative, may limit or otherwise inhibit the ability of a
25 city, town, or borough to levy or collect taxes.

Statement of Purpose:

To provide a means whereby the voters may directly enact a law on election day in November.