



General Assembly

**House Joint
Resolution No. 113**

January Session, 2009

LCO No. 4601

04601_____GAE

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by:
(GAE)

**RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE
CONSTITUTION CONCERNING THE LENGTH OF TERM FOR
MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 That the following be proposed as an amendment to the
2 Constitution of the State, which, when approved and adopted in the
3 manner provided by the Constitution, shall, to all intents and
4 purposes, become a part thereof:

5 Section 1. Section 8 of article third of the constitution is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 A general election for members of the general assembly shall be
8 held on the Tuesday after the first Monday of November, biennially, in
9 the even-numbered years. Starting with the general election held in
10 2012, members of the general assembly shall be elected to hold office
11 for terms of four years, except that in the general election held in 2012,
12 and in every fifth general election thereafter, members of the general
13 assembly from odd-numbered districts shall be elected to hold office

14 for terms of two years, and in the fourth general election after the
15 general election in 2012, and in every fifth general election thereafter,
16 members of the general assembly from even-numbered districts shall
17 be elected to hold office for terms of two years. The general assembly
18 shall have power to enact laws regulating and prescribing the order
19 and manner of voting for such members, for filling vacancies in either
20 the house of representatives or the senate, and providing for the
21 election of representatives or senators at [some] a time subsequent to
22 the Tuesday after the first Monday of November in all cases when it
23 shall so happen that the electors in any district shall fail on that day to
24 elect a representative or senator.

25 Sec. 2. Section 10 of article third of the constitution is amended to
26 read as follows:

27 The members of the general assembly shall hold their offices from
28 the Wednesday following the first Monday of the January next
29 succeeding their election until the Wednesday after the first Monday of
30 the third January next succeeding their election for two-year terms or
31 until the Wednesday after the first Monday of the fifth January next
32 succeeding their election for four-year terms, and until their successors
33 are duly qualified.

34 RESOLVED: That the foregoing proposed amendment to the
35 Constitution be continued to the next session of the general assembly
36 elected at the general election to be held on November 2, 2010, and
37 published with the laws passed at the present session, or be presented
38 to the electors at the general election to be held on November 2, 2010,
39 whichever the case may be, according to article sixth of the
40 amendments to the constitution. The designation of said proposed
41 amendment to be used on the voting machine ballot labels and
42 absentee ballots at such election shall be "Shall the Constitution of the
43 state be amended to provide for four-year staggered terms for
44 members of the General Assembly?"