



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2013

LCO No. 6746

HJ0003606746SR0

Offered by:
SEN. MARKLEY, 16th Dist.

To: House Joint Resolution No. 36 File No. 44 Cal. No. 421

**"RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE
CONSTITUTION TO GRANT INCREASED AUTHORITY TO THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGARDING ELECTION
ADMINISTRATION."**

1 After line 91, insert the following:

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

6 Sec. 501. Section 1 of article third of the Constitution is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 The legislative power of this state, except for the powers of initiative
9 and referendum reserved by the people, shall be vested in two distinct
10 houses or branches; the one to be styled the senate, the other the house
11 of representatives, and both together the general assembly. The style of
12 their laws shall be: Be it enacted by the Senate and House of

13 Representatives in General Assembly convened.

14 Sec. 502. Article sixth of the Constitution is amended by adding
15 sections 12 and 13 as follows:

16 (NEW) Sec. 12. An initiative measure may be proposed by
17 presenting to the Secretary of the State a petition that sets forth the text
18 of the proposed law and that is certified to have been signed by a
19 number of electors equal to at least five per cent of those registered to
20 vote in the preceding gubernatorial election. The initiative shall be
21 voted on in the next general election after certifying the petition, and
22 shall be valid if it receives a majority of "yes" votes with at least sixty
23 per cent of the eligible voters casting ballots. No initiative measure
24 may be introduced that (1) names an individual to hold any office, (2)
25 names a private corporation to perform any function or to have any
26 power, (3) creates or abolishes courts, prescribes their rules or alters
27 their decisions, (4) proposes special legislation affecting municipalities,
28 (5) increases spending without increasing taxes, or (6) was the subject
29 of an initiative proposal within the three preceding calendar years. The
30 General Assembly may amend an initiative passed by the public, but
31 only after three years after its implementation date.

32 (NEW) Sec. 13. A referendum measure may be proposed by
33 presenting to the Secretary of the State a petition that sets forth the law
34 or part thereof to be submitted to the electors for approval or rejection
35 and that is certified to have been signed by a number of electors equal
36 to at least five per cent of those registered to vote in the preceding
37 gubernatorial election. The referendum shall be voted on in the next
38 general election after certifying the petition, and shall be valid if it
39 receives a majority of "yes" votes with at least sixty per cent of the
40 eligible voters casting ballots. No referendum shall be allowed that (1)
41 changes laws necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
42 peace, (2) changes health or safety standards, (3) changes laws
43 requiring elections, (4) names a private corporation to perform any
44 function or to have any power, (5) creates or abolishes courts,
45 prescribes their rules or alters their decisions, (6) proposes special

46 legislation affecting municipalities, (7) increases spending without
47 increasing taxes, or (8) was the subject of a referendum in the three
48 preceding calendar years. The General Assembly may amend a
49 referendum passed by the public, but only after three years after its
50 implementation date.

51 RESOLVED: That the foregoing proposed amendment to the
52 Constitution be continued to the next session of the General Assembly
53 elected at the general election to be held on November 4, 2014, and
54 published with the laws passed at the present session, or be presented
55 to the electors at the general election to be held on November 4, 2014,
56 whichever the case may be, according to article sixth of the
57 amendments to the Constitution. The designation of said proposed
58 amendment to be used on ballots at such election shall be "Shall the
59 Constitution of the State be amended to grant the powers of initiative
60 and referendum to the people of Connecticut?"