

By: Representative Shepherd

By: Senator Hickey

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

PROVIDING THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY RECESS ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021, AND RECONVENE ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021; TO AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL RECESSES OF FOUR (4) OR MORE CONSECUTIVE DAYS; AND TO EXTEND BILL AND RESOLUTION INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION DEADLINES IN THE EVENT OF A RECESS OF FOUR (4) OR MORE CONSECUTIVE DAYS DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES RELATED TO THE CORONAVIRUS 2019 (COVID-19) PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.

Subtitle

PROVIDING FOR RECESSES OF FOUR (4) OR MORE CONSECUTIVE DAYS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

WHEREAS, Arkansas Constitution, Article 5, § 28, provides that neither house of the General Assembly may adjourn for more than three (3) days without the consent of the other house; and

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives and the Senate may complete their work of the first week of the 2021 Regular Session of the Ninety-Third



General Assembly on Thursday, January 14, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas Code § 10-2-128 provides that in respect to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and in observation of his birthday, neither the House of Representatives nor the Senate shall convene in session nor shall any of their committees meet on the third Monday in January; and

WHEREAS, Monday, January 18, 2021, is the third Monday in January of 2021; and

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives and the Senate wish to resume their work on Tuesday, January 19, 2021; and

WHEREAS, due to the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency, there is a possibility that the House of Representatives and the Senate may need to recess for four (4) or more consecutive days in order to safeguard the health and safety of all members of the Ninety-Third General Assembly, their staff, and members of the public,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

(a) That the House of Representatives and the Senate may recess at the close of business on Thursday, January 14, 2021, and reconvene on Tuesday, January 19, 2021;

(b) That the House of Representatives and the Senate may, by declaration of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, respectively, recess for periods of four (4) or more consecutive days;

(c) That if the House of Representatives and the Senate recess for four (4) or more consecutive days during the first fifteen (15) days of the 2021 Regular Session of the Ninety-Third General Assembly due to circumstances related to the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) public health

emergency, the fifteen-day introduction deadline for any proposed legislation affecting the licensure of any profession, occupation, or class of healthcare providers, not currently licensed, or expanding the scope of practice of any profession, occupation, or class of healthcare providers, shall be extended for a time period equal to the recess. If this introduction deadline is extended, the Senate and House and committees of the Senate and House, shall take no action on any such bill for an additional fifteen (15) calendar days after the extended deadline for introduction of such bills has passed;

(d) That if the House of Representatives and the Senate recess for four (4) or more consecutive days during the first thirty-one (31) days of the 2021 Regular Session of the Ninety-Third General Assembly due to circumstances related to the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency, the thirty-first-day introduction deadline for a resolution proposing a constitutional amendment shall be extended for a time period equal to the recess; and

(e) That if the House of Representatives and the Senate recess for four (4) or more consecutive days during the first fifty (50) days of the 2021 Regular Session of the Ninety-Third General Assembly due to circumstances related to the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency, the fiftieth-day introduction deadline for appropriation bills shall be extended for a time period equal to the recess.