Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the Arkansas Constitution.

State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H4/15/21 H4/19/21*
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021 HJR 1001

By: Representatives Cavenaugh, Vaught, M. Gray, Lundstrum, Payton, B. Smith, Rye, Bentley, Brown, Furman, Underwood, Lowery, Wooten, Beatty Jr., Gonzales, M. Berry, Dotson, McCollum, Gazaway, Bryant, Evans, Richmond, C. Cooper
By: Senators B. Davis, T. Garner, Hill

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION TO ALLOW THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CONVENE IN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION UPON THE ISSUANCE OF A JOINT WRITTEN PROCLAMATION OF THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE OR UPON THE SUBMISSION OF A WRITTEN PROCLAMATION CONTAINING THE SIGNATURES OF AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS (2/3) OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS (2/3) OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE REQUESTING THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENE IN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION; PROVIDING THAT NO BUSINESS OTHER THAN THE PURPOSE SET FORTH IN THE JOINT WRITTEN PROCLAMATION OF THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE OR THE WRITTEN PROCLAMATION CONTAINING THE SIGNATURES OF AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS (2/3) OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS (2/3) OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE SHALL BE CONSIDERED AT AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION CONVENED UNDER THIS AMENDMENT; REQUIRING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ESTABLISH BY JOINT RULE DURING EACH REGULAR SESSION PROCEDURES FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION UNDER THIS AMENDMENT; AND PROVIDING THAT THIS AMENDMENT DOES NOT RESTRICT THE AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNOR TO

CONVENE AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY UNDER ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE 6, § 19.

Subtitle

AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION CONCERNING EXTRAORDINARY SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, AND BY THE SENATE, A MAJORITY OF ALL MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:

THAT the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state for approval or rejection at the next general election for Representatives and Senators, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the election adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, to wit:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Constitution, Article 5, § 5, is amended to read as follows:

§ 5. Regular and fiscal sessions — Extraordinary sessions.

(a) The General Assembly shall meet at the seat of government every year.

(b) The General Assembly shall meet in regular session on the second Monday in January of each odd-numbered year to consider any bill or resolution. The General Assembly may alter the time at which the regular session begins.

(c)(1) Beginning in 2010, the General Assembly shall meet in fiscal session on the second Monday in February of each even-numbered year to consider only appropriation bills. The General Assembly may alter the time at which the fiscal session begins.

(2) A bill other than an appropriation bill may be considered in a fiscal session if two-thirds (2/3) of the members of each house of the General Assembly approve consideration of the bill.

(d) The General Assembly, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly, may alter the dates of the regular session and fiscal session so that regular sessions occur in even numbered years and the fiscal sessions occur in odd-numbered years.

(e)(1) The General Assembly shall convene in extraordinary session upon the:

(A)(i) Issuance of a joint written proclamation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

(ii) The joint written proclamation under subdivision (e)(1)(A)(i) of this section shall include without limitation the purpose for which the General Assembly shall convene in extraordinary session and the date on which the General Assembly shall convene; or

(B)(i) Submission of a written proclamation containing the signatures of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the House of Representatives and at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Senate to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate requesting that the General Assembly convene in extraordinary session.

(ii) The written proclamation under subdivision (e)(1)(B)(i) of this section shall include without limitation the purpose for which the General Assembly shall convene in extraordinary session.

(iii) Upon the submission of a written proclamation under subdivision (e)(1)(B)(i) of this section, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall specify a date on which the General Assembly shall convene in extraordinary session.

(2) No business other than the purpose set forth in the joint written proclamation under subdivision (e)(1)(A)(i) of this section or the written proclamation under subdivision (e)(1)(B)(i) of this section shall be considered at an extraordinary session under subdivision (e)(1) of this section.

(3)(A) During each regular session, the General Assembly shall establish by joint rule procedures for an extraordinary session under

subdivision (e)(1) of this section.

(B) Joint rules established under subdivision *(e)(3)(A)* of *this section may include without limitation:*

(i) A limitation on the duration of an extraordinary session under subdivision (e)(1) of this section;

(ii) The format and required content for a written proclamation requesting that the General Assembly convene in extraordinary session under subdivision (e)(1)(B)(i) of this section; and

(iii) A provision permitting the General Assembly, after having disposed of the purpose for which the extraordinary session was convened under subdivision (e)(1) of this section, to remain in session for a period not exceeding fifteen (15) days if remaining in session is approved by a vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the House of Representatives and at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Senate and entered upon their journals.

(C) Rules established under subdivision *(e)(3)(A)* of this section may be amended by the General Assembly.

(4) This section does not restrict the authority of the Governor to convene an extraordinary session of the General Assembly under Arkansas Constitution, Article 6, § 19.

SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment shall be effective on and after November 9, 2022.

SECTION 3. BALLOT TITLE AND POPULAR NAME. When this proposed amendment is submitted to the electors of this state on the general election ballot:

(1) The title of this Joint Resolution shall be the ballot title; and

(2) The popular name shall be "A Constitutional Amendment to *Allow the General Assembly to Convene in Extraordinary Session Upon the Issuance of a Joint Written Proclamation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate or Upon the Submission of a Written Proclamation Containing the Signatures of At Least Two-Thirds (2/3) of the Members of the House of Representatives and At Least Two-Thirds (2/3) of the Members of the Senate to the Speaker of the House of*

Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate Requesting that the General Assembly Convene in Extraordinary Session".

/s/Cavenaugh