

1                                    **Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Legislative Duties**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Daniel McCay**

House Sponsor:

---



---

2                                    **LONG TITLE**

3                                    **General Description:**

4                                    This joint resolution of the Utah Legislature proposes to amend the Utah Constitution to  
5  
6 modify provisions related to the annual general session.

7                                    **Highlighted Provisions:**

8                                    This resolution proposes to amend the Utah Constitution to:

- 9                                    ▶ authorize the Legislature to convene in an annual general session on nonconsecutive days;  
10                                    ▶ require both houses of the Legislature to meet in general session on the same days; and  
11                                    ▶ make conforming changes.

12                                    **Other Special Clauses:**

13                                    This resolution directs the lieutenant governor to submit this proposal to voters.

14                                    This resolution provides a contingent effective date of January 1, 2028 for this proposal.

15                                    **Utah Constitution Sections Affected:**

16                                    AMENDS:

17                                    **Article VI, Section 2**

18                                    **Article VI, Section 15**

19                                    **Article VI, Section 16**

20                                    **Article IX, Section 1**

---



---

22                                    *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, two-thirds of all members elected to each*  
23                                    *of the two houses voting in favor thereof:*

24                                    Section 1. It is proposed to amend Utah Constitution, Article VI, Section 2, to read:

25                                    **Article VI, Section 2 . [Time and location of annual general sessions -- Location**  
26                                    **of sessions convened by the Governor or Legislature -- Sessions convened by the**  
27                                    **Legislature.]**

28                                    (1)(a) Annual general sessions of the Legislature shall be held at the seat of government  
29                                    and shall begin on the day in January designated by statute.

30                                    (b) An annual general session may occur on nonconsecutive days throughout the

31 calendar year, provided the time period described in Article VI, Section 16, is not  
 32 exceeded.

33 (c) Both houses shall meet in annual general session on the same days of the calendar  
 34 year.

35 (2) A session convened by the Governor under Article VII, Section 6 and a session  
 36 convened by the Legislature under Subsection (3) shall be held at the seat of  
 37 government, unless convening at the seat of government is not feasible due to epidemic,  
 38 natural or human-caused disaster, enemy attack, or other public catastrophe.

39 (3)(a) The President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives shall by  
 40 joint proclamation convene the Legislature into session if a poll conducted by the  
 41 President and Speaker of their respective houses indicates that two-thirds of all  
 42 members elected to each house are in favor of convening the Legislature into session  
 43 because in their opinion a persistent fiscal crisis, war, natural disaster, or emergency  
 44 in the affairs of the State necessitates convening the Legislature into session.

45 (b) The joint proclamation issued by the President and Speaker shall specify the business  
 46 for which the Legislature is to be convened, and the Legislature may not transact any  
 47 business other than that specified in the joint proclamation, except that the  
 48 Legislature may provide for the expenses of the session and other matters incidental  
 49 to the session.

50 (c) The Legislature may not be convened into session under this Subsection (3) during  
 51 the 30 calendar days immediately following the adjournment sine die of an annual  
 52 general session of the Legislature.

53 (d) In a session convened under this Subsection (3), the cumulative amount of  
 54 appropriations that the Legislature makes may not exceed an amount equal to 1% of  
 55 the total amount appropriated by the Legislature for the immediately preceding  
 56 completed fiscal year.

57 (e) Nothing in this Subsection (3) affects the Governor's authority to convene the  
 58 Legislature under Article VII, Section 6.

59 Section 2. It is proposed to amend Utah Constitution, Article VI, Section 15, to read:

60 **Article VI, Section 15 . [Sessions to be public.]**

61 All sessions of the Legislature, except those of the Senate while sitting in executive  
 62 session, shall be public~~[-; and neither house, without the consent of the other, shall adjourn for~~  
 63 ~~more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which it may be holding session].~~

64 Section 3. It is proposed to amend Utah Constitution, Article VI, Section 16, to read:

65           **Article VI, Section 16 . [Duration of sessions.]**

66           Except in cases of impeachment:

- 67           (1) no annual general session of the Legislature may exceed 45 calendar days, excluding [  
68           ~~state holidays and federal holidays~~] days provided by statute;
- 69           (2) no session of the Legislature convened by the Governor under Article VII, Section 6  
70           may exceed 30 calendar days; and
- 71           (3) no session of the Legislature convened by the Legislature under Article VI, Section 2,  
72           Subsection (3) may exceed 10 calendar days.

73           Section 4. It is proposed to amend Utah Constitution, Article IX, Section 1, to read:

74           **Article IX, Section 1 . [Dividing the state into districts.]**

75           No later than the start of the annual general session next following the Legislature's  
76           receipt of the results of an enumeration made by the authority of the United States, the  
77           Legislature shall divide the state into congressional, legislative, and other districts accordingly.

78           Section 5. **Submittal to voters.**

79           The lieutenant governor is directed to submit this proposed amendment to the voters of  
80           the state at the next regular general election in the manner provided by law.

81           Section 6. **Contingent effective date.**

82           If the amendment proposed by this joint resolution is approved by a majority of those  
83           voting on it at the next regular general election, the amendment shall take effect on January 1,  
84           2028.