

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CALLING
OF SPECIAL SESSIONS BY THE
LEGISLATURE**

2002 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: John W. Hickman

This joint resolution proposes to amend the Utah Constitution to allow the Legislature to be called into special session by either the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House jointly or a majority of both houses. The joint resolution authorizes the Legislature to conduct other legislative business in a special session called by the President and Speaker upon the concurrence of a majority of all members of each house. The joint resolution directs the lieutenant governor to submit the proposal to voters, makes clarifying and technical changes, and provides an effective date.

This resolution proposes to change the Utah Constitution as follows:

AMENDS:

ARTICLE VI, SECTION 16

ENACTS:

ARTICLE VI, SECTION 34

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

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Utah Constitution Article VI, Section 16, to read:

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

(1) No annual general session of the Legislature [~~shall~~] may exceed 45 calendar days, except in cases of impeachment.

(2) No special session [~~shall~~] may exceed 30 calendar days, except in cases of impeachment, including impeachment in a special session convened under Article VI, Section 34.

(3) When any session of the Legislature trying cases of impeachment exceeds the number



28 of days it may remain in session as provided in this section, the members shall receive
29 compensation only for expenses and mileage for those days in excess of 45, for a general session,
30 or 30, for a special session.

31 Section 2. It is proposed to enact Utah Constitution Article VI, Section 34, to read:

32 **Article VI, Section 34. [Legislature may call special session.]**

33 (1) In addition to the manner of convening the Legislature under Article VII, Section 6,
34 and the reconvening of the Legislature under Article VII, Section 8 to reconsider a bill or item
35 returned by the Governor, the Legislature may be called into special session, not to exceed ten
36 days:

37 (a) jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
38 to conduct legislative business specified jointly by them; or

39 (b) by a majority of all the members elected to each house, to conduct legislative business
40 specified by the majority.

41 (2) During a special session convened under Subsection (1)(a), the Legislature may, with
42 the concurrence of a majority of all the members elected to each house, conduct legislative
43 business other than that specified by the President and Speaker.

44 Section 3. **Submittal to voters.**

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

47 Section 4. **Effective date.**

48 If the amendment proposed by this joint resolution is approved by a majority of those
49 voting on it at the next regular general election, the amendment shall take effect on January 1,
50 2003.

Legislative Review Note
as of 10-5-01 1:37 PM

A limited legal review of this legislation raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel