

1 HB313
2 147529-1
3 By Representative Wren (Constitutional Amendment)
4 RFD: Constitution, Campaigns and Elections
5 First Read: 19-FEB-13

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill proposes a self-executing
9 amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901,
10 relative to setting the dates, times, and length of
11 organizational, annual regular, annual budget, and
12 special sessions of the Legislature.

13 This bill would propose the nature of
14 legislation that may be considered in regular and
15 budget sessions of the Legislature.

16 This bill would propose the time within
17 which the Governor shall submit to the Legislature
18 the proposed budget plans of the state.

19 This bill would also propose to repeal
20 Amendment 339 to the Constitution of Alabama of
21 1901, now appearing as Section 76 of Article IV of
22 the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of
23 Alabama of 1901, as amended, and Amendment 448 to
24 the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing
25 as Section 71.01 of Article IV of the Official
26 Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of
27 1901, as amended.

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2 A BILL
3 TO BE ENTITLED
4 AN ACT
5

6 To propose a self-executing amendment to the Alabama
7 Constitution of 1901, relative to setting the dates, times,
8 and length of organizational, annual regular, annual budget,
9 and special sessions of the Legislature; to provide for the
10 nature of legislation that may be considered in regular and
11 budget sessions of the Legislature; to specify the time when
12 the Governor shall submit to the Legislature the proposed
13 budget plans of the state; and to repeal Amendment 339 to the
14 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 76
15 of Article IV of the Official Recompilation of the
16 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, and Amendment 448
17 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as
18 Section 71.01 of Article IV of the Official Recompilation of
19 the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended.

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

21 Section 1. The following amendment to the
22 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, is proposed and
23 shall become valid as a part thereof when approved by a
24 majority of the qualified electors voting thereon and in
25 accordance with Sections 284, 285, and 287 of the Constitution
26 of Alabama of 1901, as amended:

27 PROPOSED AMENDMENT

1 Section I. The Legislature shall convene in
2 organizational session as provided for in Amendment 57 to the
3 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section
4 48.01 of Article IV of the Official Recompilation of the
5 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended. Beginning with
6 the first regular session after January 1, 2014, the annual
7 regular session of the Legislature shall commence on the first
8 Tuesday in March of the first year of the term of office of
9 legislators, on the first Tuesday of February of the second
10 and third years of the term, and on the second Tuesday in
11 January of the fourth year of the term, or on such other day
12 as may be prescribed by law, and shall be limited to 60
13 calendar days and 20 legislative days. During the annual
14 regular session, legislation of any nature may be considered
15 by the Legislature with the exception of the following:
16 General appropriation bills for the ordinary expenses of the
17 executive, legislative, and judicial departments of the state;
18 bills whose primary purpose is to increase or decrease
19 revenues; bills for interest on the public debt; bills
20 authorizing bond issues; appropriation bills for the support
21 and maintenance of public education; nonstate and other
22 appropriation bills; and any other appropriation bills. On the
23 second Tuesday after the final adjournment of the annual
24 regular session of the Legislature, the annual budget session
25 of the Legislature shall commence, and shall be limited to 45
26 calendar days and 10 legislative days. During the budget
27 session, only bills whose primary purpose is to increase or

1 decrease revenues; general appropriation bills for the
2 ordinary expenses of the executive, legislative, and judicial
3 departments of the state; bills for interest on the public
4 debt; bills authorizing bond issues; bills for the support and
5 maintenance of public education; nonstate and other
6 appropriation bills; any other legislation dealing with
7 emergency financial needs of the state; or local legislation
8 may be considered by the Legislature. When the Legislature
9 shall be convened in special session, there shall be no
10 legislation upon subjects other than those designated in the
11 proclamation of the Governor calling the session, except by
12 vote of two-thirds of each house. Special sessions of the
13 Legislature convened in the manner provided by this
14 constitution shall be limited to 12 legislative days and 30
15 calendar days.

16 Section II. On or before the first legislative day
17 of each annual regular session of the Legislature, the
18 Governor shall transmit to the Legislature the proposed budget
19 plans of the state for consideration by the Legislature in the
20 next ensuing budget session.

21 Section III. This amendment shall be self-executing.
22 Amendment 339 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now
23 appearing as Section 76 of Article IV of the Official
24 Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as
25 amended, and Amendment 448 to the Constitution of Alabama of
26 1901, now appearing as Section 71.01 of Article IV of the

1 Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901,
2 as amended, are repealed.

3 Section 2. An election upon the proposed amendment
4 shall be held in accordance with Sections 284 and 285 of the
5 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Sections 284
6 and 285 of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of
7 Alabama of 1901, as amended, and the election laws of this
8 state.

9 Section 3. The appropriate election official shall
10 assign a ballot number for the proposed constitutional
11 amendment on the election ballot and shall set forth the
12 following description of the substance or subject matter of
13 the proposed constitutional amendment:

14 "Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of
15 Alabama of 1901, relative to the dates, times, and length of
16 organizational, annual regular, annual budget, and special
17 sessions of the Legislature; to provide for the nature of
18 legislation that may be considered in regular and budget
19 sessions of the Legislature; to specify when the Governor
20 shall submit to the Legislature the proposed budget plans of
21 the state; and to repeal Amendment 339 to the Constitution of
22 Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 76 of Article IV of
23 the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of
24 1901, as amended, and Amendment 448 to the Constitution of
25 Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 71.01 of Article IV
26 of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama
27 of 1901, as amended.

1 "Proposed by Act _____."

2 This description shall be followed by the following

3 language:

4 "Yes () No ()."