Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE BILL NO. 171

BY REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD

LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS: (Constitutional Amendment) Prohibits introduction or consideration of nonfiscal matters during sessions convening in odd-numbered years

1   A JOINT RESOLUTION

2   Proposing to add Article III, Section 2(A)(3)(c) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to limit the

3   number of matters that a member may introduce during a regular session held in an

4   even-numbered year; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the

5   electors; and to provide for related matters.

6   Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members

7   elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of

8   Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add

9   Article III, Section 2(A)(3)(c) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

10   §2. Sessions

11   Section 2.(A) Annual Session.

12   *   *   *

13   (3)

14   *   *   *

15   (c)   No member of the legislature shall introduce more than ten

16   matters intended to have the effect of law, including a matter proposing a

17   suspension of law, during a regular session held in an even-numbered year.

18   The following bills shall not be counted in determining the number of matters

19   that a member may introduce for purposes of this Subsubparagraph:

20   (i) The general appropriation bill.

21   (ii) The bill appropriating funds for the judicial branch.

1   (iii) The bill appropriating funds for the legislative branch.

2   (iv) The capital outlay bill.

3   (v) The omnibus bond authorization bill.

4   (vi) Appropriation bills supplementing the General Appropriation

5 Act.

6   (vii) The bill appropriating funds from the Revenue Sharing Fund

7 pursuant to Article VII, Section 26 of this Constitution.

8   (viii) The bill establishing and reestablishing agency ancillary funds.

9   (ix) A bill to enact a local or special law which is required to be and

10 has been advertised in accordance with Section 13 of this Article and which

11 is not prohibited by the provisions of Section 12 of this Article.

12   *   *   *

13   Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted

14 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 2,

15 2010.

16   Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at said election

17 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted

18 to vote FOR or AGAINST, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall

19 read as follows:

20   To limit to ten the number of matters that a legislator may introduce during

21   a regular session held in an even-numbered year, subject to exceptions for

22   certain bills. (Adds Article III, Section 2(A)(3)(c))

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute
part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Richard   HB No. 171

Abstract: Limits to 10 the number of matters that a legislator may introduce during a
regular session held in an even-numbered year, subject to exceptions for certain bills.

Present constitution (Art. III, §2) provides for regular sessions of the legislature. Provides
time limitations and procedures for filing bills.

Present constitution provides that any bill to be introduced in either house shall be prefiled no later than 5:00 pm of the 10th calendar day prior to the first day of a regular session. Provides that thereafter no member of the legislature may introduce more than five bills, except as provided in the joint rules of the legislature. Authorizes the legislature to provide by joint rule for the procedures for passage of duplicate or companion instruments.

Present constitution provides that regular sessions convening in even-numbered years are general in nature. Prohibits the introduction or enactment of any measure levying or authorizing a new tax by the state or by any statewide political subdivision whose boundaries are coterminous with the state; increasing an existing tax by the state or by any statewide political subdivision whose boundaries are coterminous with the state; or legislating with regard to tax exemptions, exclusions, deductions, or credits during a regular session held in an even-numbered year.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution and additionally provides that no member of the legislature shall introduce more than 10 matters intended to have the effect of law, including a matter proposing a suspension of law, during a regular session held in an even-numbered year. Provides that the following bills shall not be counted in determining the number of matters that a member may introduce for purposes of proposed constitutional amendment:

(1)   The general appropriation bill.

(2)   The bill appropriating funds for the judicial branch.

(3)   The bill appropriating funds for the legislative branch.

(4)   The capital outlay bill.

(5)   The omnibus bond authorization bill.

(6)   Appropriation bills supplementing the General Appropriation Act.

(7)   The bill appropriating funds from the Revenue Sharing Fund pursuant to Article VII, Section 26 of this Constitution.

(8)   The bill establishing and reestablishing agency ancillary funds.

(9)   A bill to enact a local or special law which is required to be and has been advertised in accordance with Section 13 of this Article and which is not prohibited by the provisions of Section 12 of this Article.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 2, 2010.

(Adds Const. Art. III, §2(A)(3)(c))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

    Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill.

    1.   Removes provisions of proposed constitutional amendment prohibiting introduction or consideration of matters not within certain subject matter restrictions during sessions convening in odd-numbered years.

2. Adds provisions limiting to 10 the number of matters that a legislator may introduce during a regular session held in an even-numbered year, subject to exceptions for certain bills.