HLS 24RS-566 ORIGINAL

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 241

1

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHAMERHORN

PUBLIC OFFICIALS: (Constitutional Amendment) Requires voter approval of compensation increases for certain local officials

A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to amend Article V, Section 31 of the Constitution of Louisiana and to add Article 3 VII, Section 24(D) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to provide relative to 4 compensation of certain elected officials; to provide for submission of the proposed 5 amendment to the 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 9 amend Article V, Section 31 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows: 10 §31. Reduction of Salaries and Benefits Prohibited 11 Section 31.(A) The salary and retirement benefits of an attorney general, 12 district attorney, sheriff, coroner, or clerk of the district court shall not be diminished 13 during his term of office. 14 (B) If the legislature authorizes an increase in the compensation of district 15 attorneys, sheriffs, coroners, or clerks of the district court, the authorized increase shall apply to an office in a parish or multiparish jurisdiction only if and only to the 16 17 extent that a proposition authorizing the receipt of the increase is approved by a 18 majority of the voters who vote on the proposition authorizing the increase in the 19 parish or multiparish jurisdiction of the official.

1	(2) The provisions of this Paragraph apply only to an increase in	
2	compensation authorized by the legislature after the effective date of this Paragraph.	
3	(3) The provisions of this Paragraph do not apply to modifications of a	
4	retirement plan of which the official is a member.	
5	Section 2. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members	
6	elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of	
7	Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add	
8	Article VII, Section 24(D) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:	
9	§24. Tax Assessors	
10	Section 24.	
11	* * *	
12	(D)(1) If the legislature authorizes an increase in the compensation of	
13	assessors, the authorized increase shall apply to the office of assessor in a parish only	
14	if and only to the extent that a proposition authorizing the receipt of the increase is	
15	approved by a majority of the voters who vote on the proposition authorizing the	
16	increase in the parish.	
17	(2) The provisions of this Paragraph apply only to an increase in	
18	compensation authorized by the legislature after the effective date of this Paragraph.	
19	(3) The provisions of this Paragraph do not apply to modifications of a	
20	retirement plan of which the assessor is a member.	
21	Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted	
22	to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 5,	
23	2024.	
24	Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,	
25	there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted	
26	to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as	
27	follows:	

1	Do you support an amendment to require local voter approval of authorized
2	compensation increases for district attorneys, sheriffs, coroners, clerks of
3	district court, and assessors? (Amends Article V, Section 31; Adds Article
4	VII, Section 24(D))

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)]

HB 241 Original

2024 Regular Session

Schamerhorn

Abstract: Requires local voter approval of legislatively authorized compensation increases for district attorneys, sheriffs, coroners, clerks of district court, and assessors.

<u>Present constitution</u> provides for the election of a district attorney in each judicial district and a sheriff, coroner, clerk of district court, and assessor in each parish.

<u>Present constitution</u> provides that the salary and retirement benefits of a district attorney, sheriff, coroner, or clerk of the district court shall not be diminished during his term of office. Provides that the compensation of assessors shall be as provided by law.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> provides that a legislatively authorized increase in compensation for such officials is applicable in a local jurisdiction only if and only to the extent that the increase is approved by the voters of the jurisdiction. Provides that <u>proposed constitutional amendment</u> does not apply to modifications of a retirement plan.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held November 5, 2024.

(Amends Const. Art. V, §31; Adds Const. Art. VII, §24(D))