

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 76

BY REPRESENTATIVE BISHOP

ELECTIONS: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides relative to special elections for statewide elected offices

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article IV, Section 16(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to repeal the requirement that the governor call a special election to fill a vacancy in a statewide elective office under certain circumstances; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article IV, Section 16(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§16. Vacancies in Statewide Elective Offices

Section 16.

* * *

(B) If the unexpired term exceeds one year, the office shall be filled by election at the next regularly scheduled congressional or statewide election; ~~however, if no such election date is available within one year of the vacancy, the office shall be filled by election at a special election called by the governor for such purpose.~~

Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 6, 2018.

1 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,
2 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted
3 to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as
4 follows:

5 Do you support an amendment to repeal the requirement that the governor
6 call a special election to fill a vacancy in a statewide elective office when the
7 next regularly scheduled congressional or statewide election is more than a
8 year from the vacancy? (Amends Article IV, Section 16(B))

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 76 Original

2018 Regular Session

Bishop

Abstract: Repeals the requirement that the governor call a special election to fill a vacancy in a statewide elective office when the next regularly scheduled congressional or statewide election is more than a year from the vacancy.

Present constitution requires a vacancy in a statewide elective office other than the office of governor to be filled by election when the unexpired term exceeds one year. Requires the election to be held at the next regularly scheduled congressional or statewide election.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution.

Present constitution requires the vacancy to be filled at a special election called by the governor if there is no regularly scheduled congressional or statewide election within one year of the vacancy.

Proposed constitutional amendment repeals present constitution.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held November 6, 2018.

(Amends Const. Art. IV, §16(B))