

# Senate Joint Resolution 4

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## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Proposes amendment to Oregon Constitution to require bills declaring emergency to receive at least two-thirds majority vote in each House of Legislative Assembly for passage. Provides exceptions for certain budget bills and bills enacted during periods of catastrophic disaster proclaimed by Governor under Article X-A of Oregon Constitution.

Refers proposed amendment to people for their approval or rejection at next regular general election.

## JOINT RESOLUTION

**Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

**PARAGRAPH 1.** Section 28, Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Oregon, is amended to read:

**Sec. 28. (1)** No act shall take effect, until ninety days from the end of the session at which the same shall have been passed, except in case of emergency; which emergency shall be declared in the preamble, or in the body of the law.

**(2)(a)** Two-thirds of the members of each House shall be necessary to pass a bill declaring an emergency.

**(b) Paragraph (a) of this subsection does not apply to:**

**(A)** Bills passed after the Governor has invoked the provisions of Article X-A of this Constitution and before Article X-A of this Constitution ceases to be operative;

**(B)** Bills that reduce appropriations in order to balance the state budget during a revenue shortfall and that do not undertake any other action; or

**(C)** Bills passed during an odd-numbered year regular session of the Legislative Assembly that set forth appropriations and expenditure limitations for the current and ordinary expenses of state government, including the kindergarten through 12th grade public school system, and that do not undertake any other action. For purposes of this subparagraph:

**(i)** A bill that authorizes capital expenditure projects for which bonds or other debt instruments are to be issued, the repayment of which is to occur over a period of more than two years, may not be considered a bill setting forth an appropriation or expenditure limitation; and

**(ii)** "Current and ordinary expenses" do not include:

**(I)** Expenditures for activities or programs of agencies, institutions, organizations, political subdivisions or other persons that were not funded in the prior biennial budget; or

**(II)** Biennial budget item increases that exceed the prior biennium's corresponding budget item amount by 12 percent or more.

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1        **PARAGRAPH 2.** The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the  
2 people for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election held throughout  
3 this state.

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