

2018 -- H 7745

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LC004941  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

JOINT RESOLUTION

TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF  
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Marshall, Cunha, Casey, Costantino, and Bennett

Date Introduced: February 28, 2018

Referred To: House Judiciary

1           RESOLVED, That a majority of all members elected to each house of the general  
2 assembly voting therefor, the following amendment to the Constitution of the state be proposed to  
3 the qualified electors of the state in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV of the  
4 Constitution for their approval and that this amendment take the place of ~~Article IX, Section 14~~  
5 Article IX Section 9, which is hereby amended, effective on January 1, 2019, to read as follows:

6           **Section 9. Vacancy in office of governor.**

7           If the office of the governor shall be vacant by reason of death, resignation, impeachment  
8 or inability to serve, the lieutenant governor shall temporarily fill the office of governor, and  
9 exercise the powers and authority appertaining thereto, until a new governor is elected at a special  
10 election which election shall be held within six (6) months of the vacancy and the newly elected  
11 governor shall serve ~~qualified to act, or~~ until the office is filled at the next general election.

12           RESOLVED, That this amendment take, in the Constitution of the state, the place of  
13 Article IX, Section 9, of the Constitution; and be it further

14           RESOLVED, That the said proposition of amendment shall be submitted to the electors  
15 for their approval or rejection at the next statewide general election to be held in November,  
16 2018. The voting places in the several cities and towns shall be kept open during the hours  
17 required by law for voting therein for members of the state general assembly; and be it further

18           RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause the said proposition of amendment to  
19 be published as a part of this resolution in the newspapers of the state prior to the date of the said

1 meetings of said electors; and the said proposition shall be inserted in the warrants or notices to  
2 be issued previous to said meetings of the electors for the purpose of warning the town, ward or  
3 district meetings, and said proposition shall be read by the town, ward or district meetings to be  
4 held as aforesaid; and be it further

5           RESOLVED, That the town, ward and district meetings to be held aforesaid shall be  
6 warned, and the list of voters shall be canvassed and made up, and the said town, ward and  
7 district meetings shall be conducted in the same manner as now provided by law for the town,  
8 ward and district meetings for the next general election of members to the state general assembly  
9 and such other general officers of the state as may be up for election.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

J O I N T R E S O L U T I O N

TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF  
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

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- 1 This proposed constitution amendment, if adopted, would provide for a special election to
- 2 fill any vacancy in the office of the governor.

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