

2010 -- S 2095

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

JOINT RESOLUTION

TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE (LEGISLATIVE POWER)

Introduced By: Senators Ciccone, Ruggerio, Connors, DaPonte, and McBurney

Date Introduced: February 04, 2010

Referred To: Senate Constitutional & Regulatory Issues

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 it take the place of Article 6 Section 3 which is hereby
5 amended to read as follows:

6 Section 3. Sessions of general assembly – Compensation of general assembly members
7 and officers. ~~There shall be a session of the general assembly at Providence commencing on the~~
8 ~~first Tuesday of January in each year. Commencing in January 1995, senators and representatives~~
9 ~~shall be compensated at an annual rate of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). Commencing in 1996,~~
10 ~~the rate of compensation shall be adjusted annually to reflect changes in the cost of living, as~~
11 ~~determined by the United States government during a twelve (12) month period ending in the~~
12 ~~immediately preceding year. Commencing in 2003, the president of the senate and the speaker of~~
13 ~~the house shall be compensated at an annual rate of double that of other senators and~~
14 ~~representatives.~~

15 ~~Senators and representatives shall receive the same health insurance benefits as full-time~~
16 ~~state employees.~~

17 ~~Senators and representatives shall be reimbursed for traveling expenses in going to and~~
18 ~~from the general assembly at the same mileage paid to state workers as of the 31st day of~~
19 ~~December in the year preceding each session.~~

1 ~~No senator or representative shall be eligible for any pension on account of service in the~~
2 ~~general assembly after 1994; provided, however, that those senators and representatives first~~
3 ~~elected before 1994 who elect to receive compensation for legislative service in 1995 and~~
4 ~~thereafter, at the rate of five dollars (\$5.00) for every day of actual attendance and eight cents~~
5 ~~(.08) per mile for traveling expenses in going to and returning from the general assembly, for a~~
6 ~~maximum of sixty (60) days in any calendar year, shall be eligible for a pension on account of~~
7 ~~service in the general assembly after 1994. The amount of such pension shall be based upon the~~
8 ~~pension program in effect for legislators on January 1, 1994.~~

9 ~~The general assembly shall regulate the compensation of the governor and of all other~~
10 ~~officers, subject to limitations contained in the Constitution.~~

11 The general assembly shall be a continuing body during the term for which its members
12 are elected. It shall meet in Providence at twelve o'clock noon (12:00) commencing on the first
13 (1st) Tuesday of January each year. The members of the general assembly shall be compensated at
14 an annual rate of eighty-five thousand dollars (\$85,000). The president of the senate and the
15 speaker of the house shall be compensated at an annual rate of one hundred forty-five thousand
16 dollars (\$145,000). The rate of compensation shall be adjusted annually to reflect changes in the
17 cost of living, as determined by the United States government, during a twelve (12) month period
18 ending in the immediately preceding year.

19 Senators and representatives shall also be reimbursed for traveling expenses in going to
20 and from the general assembly at the same mileage paid to state workers as of the 31st day of
21 December in the year preceding each session.

22 Senators and representatives shall also receive the same health insurance benefits as full-
23 time state employees.

24 RESOLVED, That this amendment shall take, in the Constitution of the state, the place of
25 Article 6, Section 3, of the Constitution;

26 It is further

27 RESOLVED, That the said proposition of amendment shall be submitted to the electors
28 for their approval or rejection at the next statewide general election. The voting places in the
29 several cities and towns shall be kept open during the hours required by law for voting therein for
30 general officers of the state; and be it further

31 RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause the said proposition of amendment to
32 be published as a part of this resolution in the newspapers of the state prior to the date of the said
33 meetings of the said electors; and the said proposition shall be inserted in the warrants or notices
34 to be issued previous to said meetings of the electors for the purpose of warning the town, ward,

1 or district meetings, and said proposition shall be read by the town, ward, or district meetings to
2 be held as aforesaid; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the town, ward, and district meetings to be held aforesaid shall be
4 warned and the list of voters shall be canvassed and made up, and the said town, ward, and
5 district meetings shall be conducted in the same manner as now provided by law for the town,
6 ward, and district meetings for the election of general offices of the state.

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