

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. SJ0002

General session appropriations-constitutional amendment.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) James, Biteman, Bouchard and
Steinmetz and Representative(s) Edwards,
Gray, Jennings, Laursen, Miller and Salazar

A JOINT RESOLUTION

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION to amend the Wyoming Constitution by
2 limiting appropriations made in a general appropriations bill
3 introduced during a general session in an odd numbered year
4 to only emergency appropriations and by making conforming
5 amendments.

6

7 *BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING,*
8 *two-thirds of all the members of the two houses, voting*
9 *separately, concurring therein:*

10

11 **Section 1.** The following proposal to amend Wyoming
12 Constitution, Article 3, Sections 6, 7(a) and 34 is proposed
13 for submission to the electors of the State of Wyoming at the
14 next general election for approval or rejection to become

1 valid as a part of the Constitution if ratified by a majority
2 of the electors at the election:

3

4 **Article 3, Section 6. Compensation of members; duration**
5 **of sessions.**

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7 The legislature shall not meet for more than sixty (60)
8 legislative working days excluding Sundays during the term
9 for which members of the house of representatives are elected,
10 except when called into special session. The legislature
11 shall determine by statute the number of days not to exceed
12 sixty (60) legislative working days to be devoted to general
13 and budget session, respectively. The legislature shall meet
14 on odd-numbered years for a general ~~and budget~~ session. The
15 legislature may meet on even-numbered years for budget
16 session. During the budget session no bills except the budget
17 bill may be introduced unless placed on call by a two-thirds
18 vote of either house. The legislature shall meet for no more
19 than forty (40) legislative working days excluding Sundays in
20 any (1) calendar year, except when called into special
21 session. The compensation of the members of the legislature
22 shall be as provided by law; but no legislature shall fix its
23 own compensation.

1

2 **Article 3, Section 7. Time and place of sessions.**

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4 (a) The legislature shall meet at the seat of government
5 at twelve o'clock noon, on the second Tuesday of January of
6 the odd-numbered years for general ~~and budget~~ session and may
7 meet on the second Tuesday of January of the even-numbered
8 years for budget session, and at other times when convened by
9 the governor or upon call of the legislature as herein
10 provided. The governor by proclamation may also, in times of
11 war or grave emergency by law defined, temporarily convene
12 the legislature at a place or places other than the seat of
13 government. The legislature may convene a special session not
14 to last longer than twenty (20) working days as follows:

15

16 **Article 3, Section 34. General appropriation bills;**
17 **other appropriations.**

18

19 (a) The general appropriation bills shall embrace
20 nothing but appropriations for the ordinary expenses of the
21 legislative, executive and judicial departments of the state,
22 interest on the public debt, and for public schools. All

1 other appropriations shall be made by separate bills, each
2 embracing but one subject.

3

4 (b) A general appropriations bill introduced during a
5 general session in an odd-numbered year shall embrace nothing
6 but appropriations for the ordinary expenses of the
7 legislative, executive and judicial departments of the state,
8 interest on the public debt, and for public schools, the need
9 for which the governor has declared as necessary for the
10 immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety or
11 welfare.

12

13 **Section 2.** That the Secretary of State shall endorse
14 the following statement on the proposed amendment:

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16 The adoption of this amendment would limit general
17 appropriations bills introduced by the legislature in a
18 session during an odd-numbered year (currently referred to as
19 a "general session") to only those appropriations for which
20 the governor has declared an emergency need and which are
21 otherwise permissible to include in a general appropriations
22 bill. The proposed amendment further amends language to label

1 sessions occurring during an odd-numbered year as "general
2 sessions."

3

4

(END)