Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota

Introduced by

Senators Hogue, Dever, G. Lee
Representatives K. Koppelman, Louser, Nathe

A concurrent resolution to amend and reenact section 9 of article III of the Constitution of North Dakota, relating to the process for approving constitutional amendments.

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This measure requires an initiated constitutional measure approved by voters to be submitted to the subsequent legislative assembly. Under this measure, if the legislative assembly does not approve the constitutional measure, the measure will be placed on the ballot again, and, if approved by the voters, will become effective. The measure also requires constitutional amendments to be submitted to voters only at general elections.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the following proposed amendment to section 9 of article III of the Constitution of North Dakota is agreed to and must be submitted to the qualified electors of North Dakota at the general election to be held in 2020, in accordance with section 16 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota.

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 9 of article III of the Constitution of North Dakota is amended and reenacted as follows:

Section 9. A constitutional amendment may be proposed by initiative petition. If signed by electors equal in number to four percent of the resident population of the state at the last federal decennial census, the petition for a constitutional amendment may be submitted to the secretary of state. An initiative to amend the constitution may be placed on the ballot only at a general election. If electors approve an initiative for a constitutional amendment, the amendment must be submitted to the subsequent legislative assembly. If the initiative is approved by a majority of members of each house in the legislative assembly, the initiative is deemed enacted. If the legislative assembly does not approve the initiative, the initiative must be placed on the ballot at the next general election. If the majority of votes cast on the initiative
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1. are affirmative, the initiative is deemed enacted. All other provisions relating to initiative measures apply heretofore initiative measures for constitutional amendments.