

Introduced by

Senators Unruh, Wardner

Representative Pollert

1 A concurrent resolution to amend and reenact section 9 of article III and section 16 of article IV
2 of the Constitution of North Dakota, relating to petitions, legislative measures, and voter
3 approval for constitutional amendments.

4 **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

5 This measure changes the deadline by which petitions for constitutional amendments must be
6 submitted, the number ~~and allocation~~ of signatures required for petitions for constitutional
7 amendments, ~~and~~ the percentage of votes required for the legislative assembly to place a
8 constitutional amendment on the ballot, and the percentage of votes required to approve
9 constitutional amendments.

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

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

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

18 **Section 9.** A constitutional amendment may be proposed by initiative petition. If signed by
19 electors equal in number to ~~four~~eight percent of the resident population of the state at the last
20 federal decennial census, the petition may be submitted to the secretary of state. ~~At least fifty-~~
21 ~~percent of the required signatures must be from residents of each county of the state and the~~
22 ~~number of required signatures from each county must be in proportion of the county's~~
23 ~~population to the total resident population of the state.~~ The petition must be submitted to the
24 secretary of state not less than two hundred forty days before the statewide election at which
25 the measure will appear on the ballot. If at least sixty percent of the votes cast on the

1 constitutional amendment are affirmative, the amendment is deemed enacted. All other
2 provisions relating to initiative measures apply hereto initiative measures for constitutional
3 amendments.

4 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 16 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota is
5 amended and reenacted as follows:

6 **Section 16.** Any amendment to this constitution may be proposed in either house of the
7 legislative assembly, and if agreed to upon a roll call by ~~a majority~~sixty percent of the members
8 elected to each house, must be submitted to the electors ~~and if a majority.~~ If at least sixty
9 percent of the votes cast ~~thereon~~ on the amendment are in the affirmative, the amendment is a
10 part of this constitution.