

1 SB8  
2 147529-3  
3 By Senator Brewbaker (Constitutional Amendment)  
4 RFD: Constitution, Campaign Finance, Ethics, and Elections  
5 First Read: 14-JAN-14  
6 PFD: 06/25/2013

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill proposes a self-executing  
9 amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901,  
10 relative to setting the dates, times, and length of  
11 organizational, annual regular, annual budget, and  
12 special sessions of the Legislature.

13 This bill would propose the nature of  
14 legislation that may be considered in regular and  
15 budget sessions of the Legislature.

16 This bill would propose the time within  
17 which the Governor shall submit to the Legislature  
18 the proposed budget plans of the state.

19 This bill would also propose to repeal  
20 Amendment 339 to the Constitution of Alabama of  
21 1901, now appearing as Section 76 of Article IV of  
22 the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of  
23 Alabama of 1901, as amended, and Amendment 448 to  
24 the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing  
25 as Section 71.01 of Article IV of the Official  
26 Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of  
27 1901, as amended.

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2 A BILL  
3 TO BE ENTITLED  
4 AN ACT  
5

6 To propose a self-executing amendment to the Alabama  
7 Constitution of 1901, relative to setting the dates, times,  
8 and length of organizational, annual regular, annual budget,  
9 and special sessions of the Legislature; to provide for the  
10 nature of legislation that may be considered in regular and  
11 budget sessions of the Legislature; to specify the time when  
12 the Governor shall submit to the Legislature the proposed  
13 budget plans of the state; and to repeal Amendment 339 to the  
14 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 76  
15 of Article IV of the Official Recompilation of the  
16 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, and Amendment 448  
17 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as  
18 Section 71.01 of Article IV of the Official Recompilation of  
19 the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended.

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

21 Section 1. The following amendment to the  
22 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, is proposed and  
23 shall become valid as a part thereof when approved by a  
24 majority of the qualified electors voting thereon and in  
25 accordance with Sections 284, 285, and 287 of the Constitution  
26 of Alabama of 1901, as amended:

27 PROPOSED AMENDMENT

1           Section I. The Legislature shall convene in  
2           organizational session as provided for in Amendment 57 to the  
3           Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section  
4           48.01 of Article IV of the Official ReCompilation of the  
5           Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended. Beginning with  
6           the first regular session after January 1, 2015, the annual  
7           regular session of the Legislature shall commence on the first  
8           Tuesday in March of the first year of the term of office of  
9           legislators, on the first Tuesday of February of the second  
10          and third years of the term, and on the second Tuesday in  
11          January of the fourth year of the term, or on such other day  
12          as may be prescribed by law, and shall be limited to 60  
13          calendar days and 20 legislative days. During the annual  
14          regular session, legislation of any nature may be considered  
15          by the Legislature with the exception of the following:  
16          General appropriation bills for the ordinary expenses of the  
17          executive, legislative, and judicial departments of the state;  
18          bills whose primary purpose is to increase or decrease  
19          revenues; bills for interest on the public debt; bills  
20          authorizing bond issues; appropriation bills for the support  
21          and maintenance of public education; nonstate and other  
22          appropriation bills; and any other appropriation bills. On the  
23          second Tuesday after the final adjournment of the annual  
24          regular session of the Legislature, the annual budget session  
25          of the Legislature shall commence, and shall be limited to 45  
26          calendar days and 10 legislative days. During the budget  
27          session, only bills whose primary purpose is to increase or

1 decrease revenues; general appropriation bills for the  
2 ordinary expenses of the executive, legislative, and judicial  
3 departments of the state; bills for interest on the public  
4 debt; bills authorizing bond issues; bills for the support and  
5 maintenance of public education; nonstate and other  
6 appropriation bills; any other legislation dealing with  
7 emergency financial needs of the state; or local legislation  
8 may be considered by the Legislature. When the Legislature  
9 shall be convened in special session, there shall be no  
10 legislation upon subjects other than those designated in the  
11 proclamation of the Governor calling the session, except by  
12 vote of two-thirds of each house. Special sessions of the  
13 Legislature convened in the manner provided by this  
14 constitution shall be limited to 12 legislative days and 30  
15 calendar days.

16 Section II. On or before the first legislative day  
17 of each annual regular session of the Legislature, the  
18 Governor shall transmit to the Legislature the proposed budget  
19 plans of the state for consideration by the Legislature in the  
20 next ensuing budget session.

21 Section III. This amendment shall be self-executing.  
22 Amendment 339 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now  
23 appearing as Section 76 of Article IV of the Official  
24 Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as  
25 amended, and Amendment 448 to the Constitution of Alabama of  
26 1901, now appearing as Section 71.01 of Article IV of the

1 Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901,  
2 as amended, are repealed.

3 Section 2. An election upon the proposed amendment  
4 shall be held in accordance with Sections 284 and 285 of the  
5 Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Sections 284  
6 and 285 of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of  
7 Alabama of 1901, as amended, and the election laws of this  
8 state.

9 Section 3. The appropriate election official shall  
10 assign a ballot number for the proposed constitutional  
11 amendment on the election ballot and shall set forth the  
12 following description of the substance or subject matter of  
13 the proposed constitutional amendment:

14 "Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of  
15 Alabama of 1901, relative to the dates, times, and length of  
16 organizational, annual regular, annual budget, and special  
17 sessions of the Legislature; to provide for the nature of  
18 legislation that may be considered in regular and budget  
19 sessions of the Legislature; to specify when the Governor  
20 shall submit to the Legislature the proposed budget plans of  
21 the state; and to repeal Amendment 339 to the Constitution of  
22 Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 76 of Article IV of  
23 the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of  
24 1901, as amended, and Amendment 448 to the Constitution of  
25 Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 71.01 of Article IV  
26 of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama  
27 of 1901, as amended.

1 "Proposed by Act \_\_\_\_\_."

2 This description shall be followed by the following

3 language:

4 "Yes ( ) No ( )."