

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 49th Legislature (2003)

HOUSE JOINT
RESOLUTION HJR1007

By: Sullivan

AS INTRODUCED

A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State to refer to the people for their approval or rejection a proposed amendment to Section 21 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma; abolishing the Board on Legislative Compensation; modifying method of setting the compensation of members of the Legislature; providing ballot title; and directing filing.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law, the following proposed amendment to Section 21 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma to read as follows:

Section 21. A. The Legislature shall enact laws to prohibit members of the Legislature from engaging in activities or having interests which conflict with the proper discharge of their duties and responsibilities. ~~The Board on Legislative Compensation is hereby created. Said Board shall be composed of five members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The members appointed by the Governor shall be from religious organizations, communications media, nonstate-supported educational institutions, labor organizations, and retail business; the members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall be from agricultural and civic organizations; and the members appointed by the Speaker of the~~

~~House of Representatives shall be from manufacturing and from professional fields not otherwise specified. No member of the Legislature may be appointed to or serve on the Board. In addition to the members above provided for, the Chairman of the Tax Commission and the Director of State Finance shall serve as ex officio nonvoting members of said Board. The Chairman of said Board shall be designated by the Governor. Members of the Legislature shall receive such compensation as shall be fixed by the Board on Legislative Compensation. Said Board shall each two years review the compensation paid to the members of the Legislature and shall be empowered to change such compensation; such change to become effective on the fifteenth day following the succeeding general election. The members of the Board shall serve without compensation, but shall be entitled to receive necessary travel and subsistence expense as provided by law for other state officers.~~

B. 1. Beginning with the 1st Session of the 50th Oklahoma Legislature, the base compensation of members of the Legislature shall be equal to the average salary of a first-year teacher in this state. The State Board of Education shall certify to the Office of State Finance, the Chief Clerk of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, and the Secretary of State Senate what the average salary of a first-year teacher is in this state.

2. The base compensation of members of the Legislature shall be calculated in the manner specified in paragraph 1 of this subsection every two (2) years thereafter to take effect at the beginning of each new Legislature.

3. In addition to base compensation, legislators shall receive a general benefits allowance in the manner and amount provided by law for state employees.

SECTION 2. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional amendment as set forth in SECTION 1 of this resolution shall be in the following form:

BALLOT TITLE

Legislative Referendum No. _____

State Question No. _____

THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

This measure amends the Oklahoma Constitution. It amends Section 21 of Article 5. It does away with the Board on Legislative Compensation. It changes the way compensation of members of the Legislature is set. Members' salaries would be set at the average salary of a first-year teacher in this state. It provides that legislative salaries be adjusted every two years. The adjustment would be based on the average salary of a first-year teacher in this state at the time of the adjustment. Members' salaries could go up or down. The average salary of a first-year teacher would be determined by the State Board of Education. Members would also receive a general benefits allowance. It would be equal in amount to that received by state employees.

SHALL THIS AMENDMENT BE APPROVED BY THE PEOPLE?

YES, FOR THE AMENDMENT

NO, AGAINST THE AMENDMENT

SECTION 3. The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, immediately after the passage of this resolution, shall prepare and file one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 2 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney General.

49-1-5063

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