

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL NO. 621

By: Aldridge

6 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

7 An Act directing the Secretary of State to refer to
8 the people for their approval or rejection a proposed
9 amendment to Section 4 of Article VII-B of the
10 Oklahoma Constitution; requiring Senate confirmation
11 of certain judicial appointments; providing ballot
12 title; and directing filing.

13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for
15 their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law,
16 the following proposed amendment to Section 4 of Article VII-B of
17 the Oklahoma Constitution to read as follows:

18 Section 4. When a vacancy in any Judicial Office, however
19 arising, occurs or is certain to occur, the Judicial Nominating
20 Commission shall choose and submit to the Governor and the Chief
21 Justice of the Supreme Court three (3) nominees, each of whom has
22 previously notified the Commission in writing that he will serve as
23 a Judicial Officer if appointed. The Governor shall appoint one (1)
24 of the nominees to fill the vacancy, but if ~~he~~ the Governor fails to
do so within sixty (60) days the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

1 shall appoint one (1) of the nominees, the appointment to be
2 certified by the Secretary of State. Any appointment or
3 reappointment by the Governor to fill a Judicial Office shall be
4 confirmed by a majority of the Senate.

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

8 BALLOT TITLE

9 Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

10 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

11 This measure would amend the Oklahoma Constitution. It would
12 amend Section 4 of Article 7-B. This section provides for
13 filling vacancies for judges. This measure will require that
14 the Senate approve any person chosen by the Governor to fill a
15 vacancy.

16 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

17 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES _____

18 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO _____

19 SECTION 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall,
20 immediately after the passage of this act, prepare and file one copy
21 thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 2 hereof,
22 with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney General.

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