

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 57th Legislature (2020)

3 HOUSE JOINT
4 RESOLUTION 1029

By: Perryman

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6 AS INTRODUCED

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8 A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State
9 to refer to the people for their approval or
10 rejection a proposed amendment to Section 15 of
11 Article IX of the Constitution of the State of
12 Oklahoma; providing for additional members of the
13 Oklahoma Corporation Commission; providing for
14 duration of initial terms; providing for duration of
15 terms after expiration of initial terms; providing
16 ballot title; and directing filing.

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19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE
20 2ND SESSION OF THE 57TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

21 SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for
22 their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law,
23 the following proposed amendment to Section 15 of Article IX of the
24 Constitution of the State of Oklahoma to read as follows:

25 Section 15. A. A Corporation Commission is hereby created, to
26 be composed of ~~three~~ five (5) persons, who shall be elected by the
27 people at a general election for State officers, and, except as
28 otherwise provided by subsection C of this section, their terms of
29 office shall be six (6) years. In case of a vacancy in said office,

1 the Governor of the State shall fill such vacancy by appointment
2 until the next general election, when a successor shall be elected
3 to fill out any unexpired term.

4 B. No person shall be eligible to serve as Corporation
5 Commissioner for a period of time in excess of twelve (12) years.
6 Such years need not be consecutive. Any years served by a person
7 elected or appointed to serve less than a full term to fill a
8 vacancy in such office shall not be included in the limitation set
9 forth herein. Any person serving in such position at the time of
10 passage of this amendment shall be eligible to complete the term for
11 which he or she has been elected and shall be eligible to serve an
12 additional twelve (12) years thereafter, notwithstanding the
13 provisions of this amendment. The Legislature is hereby authorized
14 to enact laws to implement the provisions of this subsection.

15 C. At the general election held in November 2022, two
16 additional members shall be elected to the Oklahoma Corporation
17 Commission. The term of office of one of the additional members
18 shall be for a period of six (6) years. The term of office of the
19 other additional member shall be for a period of four (4) years.
20 After the expiration of that initial four-year term, the
21 commissioner occupying that position shall serve for a period of six
22 (6) years.

23 D. For purposes of this section, and for the determination of
24 the initial term of office for each of the two additional members of

1 the Corporation Commission authorized by this section, the following
2 designations shall be used:

3 1. Position One: The member of the Oklahoma Corporation
4 Commission who was elected to a six-year term at the general
5 election in 2016 or who was unopposed at such election;

6 2. Position Two: The member of the Oklahoma Corporation
7 Commission who was elected to a six-year term at the general
8 election in 2018 or who was unopposed at such election;

9 3. Position Three: The member of the Oklahoma Corporation
10 Commission who was elected to a six-year term at the general
11 election in 2014 or who was unopposed at such election;

12 4. Position Four: The additional member of the Oklahoma
13 Corporation Commission elected pursuant to the provisions of this
14 amendment who will serve an initial four-year term; and

15 5. Position Five: The additional member of the Oklahoma
16 Corporation Commission elected pursuant to the provisions of this
17 amendment who will serve an initial two-year term.

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

21 BALLOT TITLE
22 Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

23 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:
24

1 This measure amends the Oklahoma Constitution. It amends
2 Section 15 of Article 9. The Oklahoma Corporation Commission
3 has three (3) members. This measure would add two additional
4 members. The term of office for both of the new positions would
5 begin after the general election in November 2022. One of the
6 new commissioners would serve an initial four-year term. The
7 other new commissioner would serve an initial two-year term of
8 office. After this general election, there would be no more
9 than two open seats on the Corporation Commission at each
10 General Election.

11 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

12 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES _____

13 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO _____

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

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