

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

HOUSE JOINT
RESOLUTION 1039

By: West (Rick)

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; requiring certain vote of people to change 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
2ND SESSION OF THE 60TH 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.

1 B. The Board on Legislative Compensation is hereby created.
2 Said Board shall be composed of five members appointed by the
3 Governor, two members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
4 Senate, and two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of
5 Representatives. The members appointed by the Governor shall be
6 from religious organizations, communications media, nonstate-
7 supported educational institutions, labor organizations, and retail
8 business; the members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the
9 Senate shall be from agricultural and civic organizations; and the
10 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives
11 shall be from manufacturing and from professional fields not
12 otherwise specified. No member of the Legislature may be appointed
13 to or serve on the Board. In addition to the members above provided
14 for, the Chairman of the Oklahoma Tax Commission and the Director of
15 State Finance shall serve as ex officio nonvoting members of said
16 Board. The Chairman of said Board shall be designated by the
17 Governor. Members of the Legislature shall receive such
18 compensation as shall be fixed by the Board on Legislative
19 Compensation. If a member of the Legislature is incarcerated due to
20 being charged with a criminal offense and subsequently is found
21 guilty of the offense or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to the
22 offense, the legislator shall return to the state any compensation
23 the legislator received from the state while the legislator was
24 incarcerated prior to the guilty verdict or plea or nolo contendere

1 plea and shall not receive any compensation from the state during
2 any incarceration following such verdict or plea. Said Board shall
3 each two years review the compensation paid to the members of the
4 Legislature and shall be ~~empowered~~ authorized to change such
5 compensation; ~~such change to become effective on the fifteenth day~~
6 ~~following the succeeding general election~~ pursuant to subsection C
7 of this section. The members of the Board shall serve without
8 compensation, but shall be entitled to receive necessary travel and
9 subsistence expense as provided by law for other state officers.

10 C. Any recommendation by the Board to change compensation paid
11 to the members of the Legislature shall be referred to a vote of the
12 people in the form of a state question at the next General Election
13 and shall take effect upon the approval of the question by a
14 majority vote. The Board may seek the advice and counsel of the
15 Attorney General and the Office of the Secretary of State to
16 implement the provisions of this subsection.

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

20 BALLOT TITLE

21 Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

22 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

23 This measure amends Section 21 of Article 5 of the Oklahoma
24 Constitution. The measure requires that a recommendation to

1 change compensation paid to members of the Legislature by the
2 Board on Legislative Compensation be referred to a vote of the
3 people in the form of a state question. The measure requires a
4 majority vote to make any change in compensation. The change in
5 compensation will be effective upon approval of the question at
6 the statewide ballot. The measure allows the Board to consult
7 with the Attorney General and Secretary of State to implement
8 the procedures.

9 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

10 FOR THE PROPOSAL — YES _____

11 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL — NO _____

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

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