

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

HOUSE JOINT  
RESOLUTION 1047

By: Jenkins

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; eliminating Board on Legislative Compensation; setting legislator salaries based on certain date; providing exception; providing procedures for referral of question to voters; prescribing certain General Elections for voting; 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.

~~B. 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 Oklahoma 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. If a member of the Legislature is incarcerated due to being charged with a criminal offense and subsequently is found guilty of the offense or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to the offense, the legislator shall return to the state any compensation the legislator received from the state while the legislator was incarcerated prior to the guilty verdict or plea or nolo contendere~~

~~plea and shall not receive any compensation from the state during any incarceration following such verdict or plea. 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.~~

SECTION 2. 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 the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma by adding a new Section 21A to Article V thereof, to read as follows:

A. Except as otherwise provided by this section, compensation for legislators shall be fixed at the amount in effect as of November 1, 2025.

B. The Legislature may submit a question for modifications to the salary amounts for legislators to a vote of the people to occur in the year of a General Election which also occurs during the year of the election for the office of President of the United States.

C. The question shall be submitted using either a Joint Resolution or a bill, but the measure shall not be presented to the Governor for action.

1 D. If a majority of the people approve the proposal at the  
2 applicable General Election, the salary of legislators shall remain  
3 in effect until any further modification to such salary amount in  
4 the manner prescribed by this section.

5 E. The methods prescribed by this section shall be exclusive  
6 and the salary of legislators shall not be modified using any other  
7 procedure.

8 SECTION 3. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional  
9 amendment as set forth in SECTIONS 1 and 2 of this resolution shall  
10 be in the following form:

11 BALLOT TITLE

12 Legislative Referendum No. \_\_\_\_\_ State Question No. \_\_\_\_\_

13 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

14 This measure amends the Oklahoma Constitution. It amends Section  
15 21 of Article 5 and it would create a new Section 21A of Article  
16 5. It would eliminate the Board on Legislative Compensation.  
17 Salaries for legislators would be fixed at the amount in effect  
18 as of November 1, 2025, unless modified using a new process. In  
19 any year in which the General Election is also the year of the  
20 Presidential Election, the Legislature could submit a question  
21 to modify the salary of legislators to a vote of the people.  
22 The proposal could be contained in either a joint resolution or  
23 a bill, but it would not be sent to the Governor. Instead the  
24 measure would always be a state question. If a majority of

1 voters approve the modification, the salary amount would be in  
2 effect until any other changes were made. All changes to  
3 legislator salaries would have to be approved using this method.

4 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

5 FOR THE PROPOSAL — YES \_\_\_\_\_

6 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL — NO \_\_\_\_\_

7 SECTION 4. The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives,  
8 immediately after the passage of this resolution, shall prepare and  
9 file one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in  
10 SECTION 3 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the  
11 Attorney General.

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