

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 2

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

**Citations Affected:** Article 4 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana.

**Synopsis:** Legislative terms of office. Defines the term of a general assembly for purposes of the Constitution of the State of Indiana. Provides for a term of office for a state senator of six years beginning November 5, 2002. Staggers the terms of senators so that one-third of the senators are elected every two years. Provides that beginning with the general election held November 5, 2002, the term of a state representative is four years. Provides that the general assembly shall reapportion its legislative districts before January 1 of the third year after the year of the federal decennial census. (The Constitution of the State of Indiana currently requires the Indiana general assembly elected during the year in which the federal decennial census is taken to reapportion legislative districts.) This proposed amendment has not been previously agreed to by a general assembly.

**Effective:** This proposed amendment must be agreed to by two consecutive general assemblies and ratified by a majority of the state's voters voting on the question to be effective.

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## Ripley

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January 10, 2000, read first time and referred to Committee on Rules and Legislative Procedures.

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Introduced

Second Regular Session 111th General Assembly (2000)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 1999 General Assembly.

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 2



A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to Article 4 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana concerning the general assembly.

*Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of the
- 2 State of Indiana is proposed and agreed to by this, the One Hundred
- 3 Eleventh General Assembly of the State of Indiana, and is referred to
- 4 the next General Assembly for reconsideration and agreement.
- 5 SECTION 2. ARTICLE 4, SECTION 1 OF THE CONSTITUTION
- 6 OF THE STATE OF INDIANA IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 7 FOLLOWS: Section 1. (a) The Legislative authority of the State shall
- 8 be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and
- 9 a House of Representatives.
- 10 (b) **The term of a General Assembly begins on the first**
- 11 **Wednesday after the first Monday in November of each**



1 **even-numbered year and ends on the first Wednesday after the**  
 2 **first Monday of November of the following even-numbered year.**

3 (c) The style of every law shall be: "Be it enacted by the General  
 4 Assembly of the State of Indiana"; and no law shall be enacted, except  
 5 by bill.

6 **SECTION 3. ARTICLE 4, SECTION 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION**  
 7 **OF THE STATE OF INDIANA IS AMENDED TO READ AS**  
 8 **FOLLOWS: Section 3. (a) Senators shall be elected and serve as**  
 9 **follows:**

10 (1) **Senators elected before November 2, 2004**, shall be elected  
 11 for ~~the~~ a term of four years, ~~and beginning the day after the~~  
 12 **general election.**

13 (2) **At the general election held November 2, 2004, successors**  
 14 **to the Senators elected at the 2000 general election shall be**  
 15 **elected and serve as follows:**

16 (A) **Seventeen Senators, chosen randomly as provided by**  
 17 **law, shall be elected for a term of four years, beginning**  
 18 **November 3, 2004.**

19 (B) **Eight Senators, chosen randomly as provided by law,**  
 20 **shall be elected for a term of six years, beginning**  
 21 **November 3, 2004.**

22 (3) **At the general election held November 7, 2006, successors**  
 23 **to the Senators elected at the 2002 general election shall be**  
 24 **elected and serve as follows:**

25 (A) **Nine Senators, chosen randomly as provided by law,**  
 26 **shall be elected for a term of four years, beginning**  
 27 **November 8, 2006.**

28 (B) **Sixteen Senators, chosen randomly as provided by law,**  
 29 **shall be elected for a term of six years, beginning**  
 30 **November 8, 2006.**

31 (4) **At the general election held November 4, 2008, the**  
 32 **successors of the Senators elected under subdivision (2)(A)**  
 33 **shall be elected for a term of six years, beginning November**  
 34 **5, 2008.**

35 (5) **At the general election held November 2, 2010, the**  
 36 **successors of the Senators elected under subdivision (2)(B)**  
 37 **and the successors of the Senators elected under subdivision**  
 38 **(3)(A) shall be elected for a term of six years, beginning**  
 39 **November 3, 2010.**

40 (6) **At each general election held after 2010, Senators shall be**  
 41 **elected for a term of six years, beginning the day after the**  
 42 **general election.**

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- (b) Representatives shall be elected and serve as follows:**
- (1) Representatives elected before November 2, 2004, shall be elected** for ~~the a~~ term of two years, **from beginning** the day ~~next~~ after ~~their the~~ general election. ~~One half of the Senators; as nearly as possible; shall be elected biennially.~~
- (2) Beginning with the general election held November 2, 2004, Representatives shall be elected for a term of four years, beginning the day after the general election.**

SECTION 4. ARTICLE 4, SECTION 5 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF INDIANA IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: Section 5. ~~The General Assembly elected during Before~~ **January 1 of the third year in which after the year of** a federal decennial census, ~~is taken; the General Assembly~~ shall fix by law the number of Senators and Representatives and apportion them among districts according to the number of inhabitants in each district, as revealed by that federal decennial census. The territory in each district shall be contiguous.

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