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# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 3

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

**Citations Affected:** Articles 4 and 5 of the Indiana Constitution.

**Synopsis:** Restrictions on state tax increases. Provides that a bill to increase state taxes or impose a new state tax may not become law unless: (1) the bill is approved by a two-thirds majority vote in each house of the general assembly; or (2) the tax increase or new tax is approved in a statewide referendum. 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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January 8, 2001, read first time and referred to Committee on Ways and Means.

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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 2000 General Assembly.

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 3

A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to Articles 4 and 5 of the Indiana Constitution concerning taxation.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The following amendments to the Constitution of the
- 2 State of Indiana are proposed and agreed to by this, the One Hundred
- 3 Twelfth General Assembly of the State of Indiana, and are referred to
- 4 the next General Assembly for reconsideration and agreement.
- 5 SECTION 2. ARTICLE 4, SECTION 25 OF THE CONSTITUTION
- 6 OF THE STATE OF INDIANA IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 7 FOLLOWS: Section 25. **(a) Except as provided in subsection (b)**, a
- 8 majority of all the members elected to each House shall be necessary
- 9 to pass every bill or joint resolution; and all bills and joint resolutions
- 10 so passed shall be signed by the Presiding Officers of the respective
- 11 Houses.
- 12 **(b) A bill that increases state tax rates or establishes a new state**
- 13 **tax may not become law unless:**



- 1           **(1) at least two-thirds of the members elected to each House:**  
 2               **(A) declare that an emergency exists; and**  
 3               **(B) vote to approve the bill; or**  
 4           **(2) a majority of the persons voting in a statewide election**  
 5               **approve the tax increase or new tax.**

6           SECTION 3. ARTICLE 5, SECTION 14 OF THE CONSTITUTION  
 7 OF THE STATE OF INDIANA IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 8 FOLLOWS: Section 14. (a) Every bill which shall have passed the  
 9 General Assembly shall be presented to the Governor. The Governor  
 10 shall have seven days after the day of presentment to act upon such bill  
 11 as follows:

- 12           (1) He may sign it, in which event it shall become a law.  
 13           (2) He may veto it:

14           (A) In the event of a veto while the General Assembly is in  
 15 session, he shall return such bill, with his objections, within  
 16 seven days of presentment, to the House in which it originated.

17           If the Governor does not return the bill within seven days of  
 18 presentment, the bill becomes a law notwithstanding the veto.

19           (B) If the Governor returns the bill under clause (A), the  
 20 House in which the bill originated shall enter the Governor's  
 21 objections at large upon its journals and proceed to reconsider  
 22 and vote upon whether to approve the bill. The bill must be  
 23 reconsidered and voted upon within the time set out in clause  
 24 (C). If, after such reconsideration and vote, a majority of all  
 25 the members elected to that House shall approve the bill, it  
 26 shall be sent, with the Governor's objections, to the other  
 27 House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered and voted  
 28 upon, and, if approved by a majority of all the members  
 29 elected to that House, it shall be a law.

30           (C) If the Governor returns the bill under clause (A), the  
 31 General Assembly shall reconsider and vote upon the approval  
 32 of the bill before the final adjournment of the next regular  
 33 session of the General Assembly that follows the regular or  
 34 special session in which the bill was originally passed. If the  
 35 House in which the bill originated does not approve the bill  
 36 under clause (B), the other House is not required to reconsider  
 37 and vote upon the approval of the bill. If, after voting, either  
 38 House fails to approve the bill within this time, the veto is  
 39 sustained.

40           (D) In the event of a veto after final adjournment of a session  
 41 of the General Assembly, such bill shall be returned by the  
 42 Governor to the House in which it originated on the first day

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- 1 that the General Assembly is in session after such  
2 adjournment, which House shall proceed in the same manner  
3 as with a bill vetoed before adjournment. The bill must be  
4 reconsidered and voted upon within the time set out in clause  
5 (C). If such bill is not so returned, it shall be a law  
6 notwithstanding such veto.
- 7 (3) He may refuse to sign or veto such bill in which event it shall  
8 become a law without his signature on the eighth day after  
9 presentment to the Governor.
- 10 (b) Every bill presented to the Governor which is signed by him or  
11 on which he fails to act within said seven days after presentment shall  
12 be filed with the Secretary of State within ten days of presentment. The  
13 failure to so file shall not prevent such a bill from becoming a law.
- 14 (c) In the event a bill is passed over the Governor's veto, such bill  
15 shall be filed with the Secretary of State without further presentment to  
16 the Governor, provided that, in the event of such passage over the  
17 Governor's veto in the next succeeding General Assembly, the passage  
18 shall be deemed to have been the action of the General Assembly  
19 which initially passed such bill.
- 20 **(d) Notwithstanding subsection (a), a bill that increases state tax**  
21 **rates or establishes a new state tax does not become law over the**  
22 **veto of the Governor unless two-thirds of the members elected to**  
23 **each House approve the bill after reconsideration.**

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