

By: Schofield

H.J.R. No. 124

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment to provide for the governor's
2 and lieutenant governor's terms of office to begin at 10 a.m. on the
3 day the regular legislative session convenes.

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 4, Article IV, Texas Constitution, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 4. The Governor elected at the general election in 2018
8 [~~1974~~], and thereafter, shall be installed at 10 a.m. on the day set
9 by law for the convening of the regular session of the legislature
10 [~~first Tuesday after the organization of the Legislature, or as~~
11 ~~soon thereafter as practicable,~~] and shall hold [~~his~~] office for
12 the term of four years, or until a [~~his~~] successor shall be duly
13 installed. The Governor [~~He~~] shall be at least thirty years of age,
14 a citizen of the United States, and shall have resided in this State
15 at least five years immediately preceding the [~~his~~] election.

16 SECTION 2. Section 16(a), Article IV, Texas Constitution,
17 is amended to read as follows:

18 (a) There shall also be a Lieutenant Governor, who shall be
19 chosen at every election for Governor by the same voters, in the
20 same manner, [~~continue in office for the same time,~~] and possess the
21 same qualifications. The voters shall distinguish for whom they
22 vote as Governor and for whom as Lieutenant Governor. The
23 Lieutenant Governor shall hold office for a term of four years. The
24 Lieutenant Governor shall take office following the election, at 10

1 a.m. on the day set by law for the convening of the regular session
2 of the legislature, and shall serve thereafter for the full term of
3 years to which elected.

4 SECTION 3. The following temporary provision is added to
5 the Texas Constitution:

6 TEMPORARY PROVISION. (a) This temporary provision applies
7 to the constitutional amendment proposed by the 84th Legislature,
8 Regular Session, 2015, providing for the governor's and lieutenant
9 governor's terms of office to begin the day the regular legislative
10 session convenes.

11 (b) The amendments to Sections 4 and 16(a), Article IV, of
12 this constitution apply to a person elected to the office of
13 governor or lieutenant governor for a term beginning on or after
14 January 1, 2019.

15 (c) This temporary provision expires January 1, 2020.

16 SECTION 4. (a) This proposed constitutional amendment
17 shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held November
18 3, 2015, only if the secretary of state certifies that an enactment
19 of the 84th Legislature, Regular Session:

20 (1) provides for the canvass of election returns for
21 the offices of governor and lieutenant governor by the attorney
22 general; and

23 (2) was not vetoed by the governor and becomes law
24 contingent on adoption of this constitutional amendment by the
25 voters.

26 (b) If the secretary of state does not make a certification
27 under Subsection (a), this resolution has no effect.

1 (c) If the election on this amendment is held, the ballot
2 shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition:
3 "The constitutional amendment to provide for the governor's and
4 lieutenant governor's terms of office to begin at 10 a.m. on the day
5 the regular legislative session convenes."