

## Issue No. 1

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT REFERRED TO THE PEOPLE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### (Popular Name)

An Amendment to the Arkansas Constitution Continuing a One-Half Percent (0.5%) Sales and Use Tax for State Highways and Bridges; County Roads, Bridges and Other Surface Transportation; and City Streets, Bridges, and Other Surface Transportation After the Retirement of the Bonds Authorized in Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 91

#### (Ballot Title)

An Amendment to the Arkansas Constitution to continue a levy of a one-half percent sales and use tax for state highways and bridges; county roads, bridges, and other surface transportation; and city streets, bridges, and other surface transportation after the retirement of the bonds authorized in Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 91, as special revenue to be distributed under the Arkansas Highway Revenue Distribution Law.

#### (Complete Text of Proposed Amendment)

SECTION 1. The Arkansas Constitution is amended to read as follows:

##### § 1. Intent of amendment.

(a) Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 91, levies a one-half percent sales and use tax to provide additional funding for the state's four-lane highway system, county roads, and city streets.

(b) The one-half percent sales and use tax under Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 91, shall be abolished when there are no bonds outstanding to which tax collections are pledged as provided in this amendment.

(c) Notwithstanding Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 91, § 8, it is the intent of this amendment that the sales and use tax levied under Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 91, continue after the retirement of the bonds authorized in Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 91, to provide special revenue for use of maintaining, repairing, and improving the state's system of highways, county roads, and city streets.

##### § 2. Excise tax.

(a)(1) Except for food and food ingredients, an additional excise tax of one-half percent (0.5%) is levied on all taxable sales of tangible personal property, specified digital products, a digital code, and services subject to the tax levied by the Arkansas Gross Receipts Act of 1941, Arkansas Code § 26-52-101 et seq.

(2) The tax shall be collected, reported, and paid in the same manner and at the same time as is prescribed by law for the collection, reporting, and payment of all other Arkansas gross receipts taxes.

(b)(1) Except for food and food ingredients, an additional excise tax of one-half percent (0.5%) is levied on all tangible personal property, specified digital products, a digital code, and services subject to the tax levied by the Arkansas Compensating Tax Act of 1949, Arkansas Code § 26-53-101 et seq.

(2) The tax shall be collected, reported, and paid in the same manner and at the same time as is prescribed by law for the collection, reporting, and payment of Arkansas compensating taxes.

### § 3. Disposition of revenue.

(a) The revenue from the taxes levied under § 2 of this amendment shall be distributed to the State Highway and Transportation Department Fund, the County Aid Fund, and the Municipal Aid Fund in the percentages provided in sections § 27-70-201 and § 27-70-206 of the Arkansas Highway Revenue Distribution Law.

(b) No revenue derived from the taxes levied under § 2 of this amendment shall be used to secure bonds issued by the State Highway Commission.

### § 4. Effective date.

(a) If the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State determines that a written statement under Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 91, § 8(b), has been filed with the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State before June 1, 2023, the tax under § 2 of this amendment shall be levied and collected on and after July 1, 2023.

(b) If a written statement under Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 91, § 8(b), has not been filed with the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State before June 1, 2023, the tax under § 2 of this amendment shall not be levied and collected until the first day of the first calendar quarter beginning more than thirty (30) days after a written statement under Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 91, § 8(b), is filed with the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

## **SECTION 2. BALLOT TITLE AND POPULAR NAME.**

When this proposed amendment is submitted to the electors of this state on the general election ballot:

(1) The title of this Joint Resolution shall be the ballot title; and

(2) The popular name shall be “An Amendment to the Arkansas Constitution Continuing a One-Half Percent (0.5%) Sales and Use Tax for State Highways and Bridges; County Roads, Bridges and Other Surface Transportation; and City Streets, Bridges, and Other Surface Transportation After the Retirement of the Bonds Authorized in Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 91”.

## ISSUE NO. 2

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT REFERRED TO THE PEOPLE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### (Popular Name)

A Constitutional Amendment to Amend the Term Limits Applicable to Members of the General Assembly, to be Known as the "Arkansas Term Limits Amendment"

#### (Ballot Title)

A Constitutional Amendment to be known as the "Arkansas Term Limits Amendment"; and amending the term limits applicable to members of the General Assembly.

#### (Complete Text of Proposed Amendment)

SECTION 1. Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 73, § 2, is amended to read as follows:

§ 2. Legislative Branch.

(a) The Arkansas House of Representatives shall consist of members to be chosen every second year by the qualified electors of the several counties.

(b) The Arkansas Senate shall consist of members to be chosen every four (4) years by the qualified electors of the several districts.

~~(c)(1)(A)~~ A Except as provided in subdivision (c)(1)(E) of this section, a person first elected as a member of the General Assembly before January 1, 2021, shall serve no more than sixteen (16) years, whether consecutive or nonconsecutive.

~~(2)(B)~~ A member first elected as a member of the General Assembly before January 1, 2021, who completes his or her sixteenth year of service during a term of office for which he or she has been elected may serve until the completion of that term of office.

~~(3)(C)~~ The years of service in both the Senate and the House of Representatives shall be added together and included to determine the total number of years in office of a member of the General Assembly first elected as a member of the General Assembly before January 1, 2021.

~~(4)(D)~~ A partial legislative term served as a result of a special election under Article 5, § 6, or a two-year term served as a result of apportionment of the Senate shall not be included in calculating the total number of years served by a member of the General Assembly first elected as a member of the General Assembly before January 1, 2021.

(E)(i) A person who has served sixteen (16) or more years in the General Assembly under subdivision (c)(1) of this section shall not be eligible for subsequent service in the General Assembly until four (4) years after the expiration of the last term of office in the General Assembly for which he or she was elected.

(ii) Subsequent service in the General Assembly under subdivision (c)(1)(E)(i) of this section shall be as provided under subdivision (c)(2) of this section.

(2)(A)(i) A person first elected as a member of the General Assembly on or after January 1, 2021, shall serve no more than twelve (12) consecutive years.

(ii) A member of the General Assembly first elected to the General Assembly on or after January 1, 2021, who serves twelve (12) or more consecutive years shall not be eligible for subsequent service in the General Assembly until four (4) years after the expiration of the last term of office in the General Assembly for which he or she was elected.

(B) A member first elected to the General Assembly on or after January 1, 2021, who completes his or her twelfth consecutive year of service during a term of office for which he or she has been elected may serve until the completion of that term of office.

(C) Consecutive years of service in both the Senate and the House of Representatives shall be added together and included to determine the total number of consecutive years in office of a member first elected to the General Assembly on or after January 1, 2021.

(D)(i) A two-year term served as a result of apportionment of the Senate shall be included in calculating the total number of consecutive years served by a member of the General Assembly first elected to the General Assembly on or after January 1, 2021.

(ii) A partial legislative term served as a result of a special election under Article 5, § 6, shall not be included in calculating the total number of consecutive years served by a member of the General Assembly first elected to the General Assembly on or after January 1, 2021.

SECTION 2. This amendment shall be:

(1) Known and may be cited as the "Arkansas Term Limits Amendment"; and

(2) Effective on and after January 1, 2021.

SECTION 3. BALLOT TITLE AND POPULAR NAME.

When this proposed amendment is submitted to the electors of this state on the general election ballot: (1) The title of this joint resolution shall be the ballot title; and

(2) The popular name shall be "A Constitutional Amendment to Amend the Term Limits Applicable to Members of the General Assembly, to be Known as the "Arkansas Term Limits Amendment".

## ISSUE NO. 3

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT REFERRED TO THE PEOPLE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### (Popular Name)

A Constitutional Amendment To Amend The Process For The Submission, Challenge, And Approval Of Proposed Initiated Acts, Constitutional Amendments, And Referenda

#### (Ballot Title)

An Amendment to the Arkansas Constitution to amend the process for the submission, challenge, and approval of proposed initiated acts, constitutional amendments, and referenda.

#### (Complete Text of Proposed Amendment)

SECTION 1. The subsection of Arkansas Constitution, Article 5, § 1, titled "Initiative", is amended to read as follows:

Initiative. The first power reserved by the people is the initiative. Eight ~~per cent~~ percent (8%) of the legal voters may propose any law and ten ~~per cent~~ percent (10%) may propose a constitutional amendment by initiative petition and every such petition shall include the full text of the measure so proposed. Initiative petitions for state-wide measures shall be filed with the Secretary of State ~~not less~~ no later than ~~four months~~ January 15 ~~before~~ of the year of the election at which they are to be voted upon; provided, that at least thirty (30) days before the aforementioned filing, the proposed measure shall have been published once, at the expense of the petitioners, in some paper of general circulation.

SECTION 2. The subsection of Arkansas Constitution, Article 5, § 1 titled "Referendum" is amended to read as follows:

Referendum. The second power reserved by the people is the referendum, and any number not less than six ~~per cent~~ percent (6%) of the legal voters may, by petition, order the referendum against any general Act, or any item of an appropriation bill, or measure passed by the General Assembly, but the filing of a referendum petition against one (1) or more items, sections or parts of any such act or measure shall not delay the remainder from becoming operative. Such petition shall be filed with the Secretary of State not later than ninety (90) days after the final adjournment of the session at which such Act was passed, except when a recess or adjournment shall be taken temporarily for a longer period than ninety (90) days, in which case such petition shall be filed not later than ninety (90) days after such recess or temporary

adjournment. Any measure referred to the people by referendum petition shall remain in abeyance until such vote is taken. The total number of votes cast for the office of Governor in the last preceding general election shall be the basis upon which the number of signatures of legal voters upon state-wide initiative and referendum petitions shall be computed.

Upon all initiative or referendum petitions provided for in any of the sections of this article, it shall be necessary to file from at least ~~fifteen~~ three-fifths (3/5) of the counties of the State, petitions bearing the signature of not less than one-half (1/2) of the designated percentage of the electors of such county.

SECTION 3. The subsection of Arkansas Constitution, Article 5, § 1, titled "Court Decisions", is amended to read as follows:

Court Decisions. If the sufficiency of any petition is challenged such cause shall be a preference cause and shall be tried at once; A challenge to the sufficiency of a state-wide initiative petition shall be filed no later than April 15 of the year of the general election at which it shall be voted upon. ~~but the~~ The failure of the courts to decide prior to the election as to the sufficiency of any ~~such~~ petition, shall not prevent the question from being placed upon the ballot at the election named in such petition, nor militate against the validity of such measure, if it shall have been approved by a vote of the people.

SECTION 4. The subsection of Arkansas Constitution, Article 5, § 1, titled "Amendment of Petition" is repealed.

~~Amendment of Petition:~~

~~(a)(1) If the Secretary of State, county clerk or city clerk, as the case may be, shall decide any petition to be insufficient, he or she shall without delay notify the sponsors of such petition, and permit at least thirty (30) days from the date of such notification, in the instance of a state-wide petition, or ten (10) days in the instance of a municipal or county petition, for correction or amendment.~~

~~(2) For a state-wide petition, correction or amendment of an insufficient petition shall be permitted only if the petition contains valid signatures of legal voters equal to:~~

~~(A) At least seventy five percent (75%) of the number of state-wide signatures of legal voters required; and~~

~~(B) At least seventy five percent (75%) of the required number of signatures of legal voters from each of at least fifteen (15) counties of the state.~~

~~(b) In the event of legal proceedings to prevent giving legal effect to any petition upon any grounds, the burden of proof shall be upon the person or persons attacking the validity of the petition.~~

SECTION 5. Arkansas Constitution, Article 5, § 1, is amended to add an additional subsections to read as follows:

EXTENSION OF TIME. If a deadline under this section occurs on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the deadline shall be the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

SECTION 6. Arkansas Constitution, Article 19, § 22, is amended to read as follows:

§ 22. Constitutional amendments.

Either branch of the General Assembly, at a regular session thereof, may propose amendments to this Constitution; and if the same be agreed to by a majority three-fifths (3/5) of all members elected to each house, such proposed amendments shall be entered on the journals with the yeas and nays, and published in at least one (1) newspaper in each county, where a newspaper is published, ~~for six months immediately~~ in a manner provided by law preceding the next general election for Senators and Representatives, at which time the same shall be submitted to the electors of the State, for approval or rejection; and if a majority of the electors voting at such election adopt such amendments, the same shall become a part of this Constitution. But no more than three (3) amendments shall be proposed or submitted at the same time. They shall be so submitted as to enable the electors to vote on each amendment separately.

SECTION 7. Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 70, § 2, is amended to read as follows:

§ 2. Additional Constitutional amendments authorized.

(a) In addition to the three (3) amendments to ~~the~~ this Constitution allowed pursuant to Article 19, § 22, either branch of the General Assembly at a regular session thereof may propose an amendment to ~~the~~ this Constitution to change the salaries for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Treasurer of State, Commissioner of State Lands, and Auditor of State and for members of the General Assembly. ~~If the same be agreed to by a majority of all members elected to each house, such proposed amendment shall be entered on the journals with the yeas and nays, and published in at least one newspaper in each county, where a newspaper is published, for six months immediately preceding the next general election for Senators and Representatives, at which time the same shall be submitted to the electors of the State for approval or rejection. If a majority of the electors voting at such election adopt the amendment the same shall become a part of this Constitution.~~

(b) Only one (1) amendment to ~~the~~ this Constitution may be referred pursuant to this section.



(c) An amendment proposed under the authority of this section shall comply with the requirements of Article 19, § 22, of this Constitution.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment shall be effective on and after January 1, 2021.

SECTION 9. BALLOT TITLE AND POPULAR NAME. When this proposed amendment is submitted to the electors of this state on the general election ballot:

(1) The title of this Joint Resolution shall be the ballot title; and

(2) The popular name shall be "A Constitutional Amendment To Amend The Process For The Submission, Challenge, And Approval Of Proposed Initiated Acts, Constitutional Amendments, And Referenda".