

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 60**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 10, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Proposes temporary constitutional amendment allowing State constitutional convention convened to reform system of property taxation to propose statutory changes.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION to amend Article IV, Section I of the
2 Constitution of the State of New Jersey.

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the
5 General Assembly concurring):

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7 1. The following proposed amendment to the Constitution of
8 the State of New Jersey is hereby agreed to:

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10 PROPOSED AMENDMENT

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12 Amend Article IV, Section I by the addition of a new paragraph
13 1A as follows:

14 1A. A constitutional convention for the limited purpose of
15 reforming the system of property taxation in this State, which is
16 convened through voter approval at the general election held in
17 November 2020 of a law authorizing such a convention, shall have
18 the authority to propose for voter approval at the general election
19 held in November 2021, in addition to constitutional amendments,
20 the amendment or repeal of existing statutes, or the enactment of
21 new statutes, which are within the scope of the convention's
22 mandate, by a date prescribed in that law and in the form of one or
23 more public questions, provided that this amendment is approved by
24 the voters not later than the general election at which the proposal
25 prepared by the convention is submitted to the voters. Any such
26 changes to the statutory law approved by the voters may thereafter
27 be amended or repealed by the Legislature by law.

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29 2. When this proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally
30 agreed to pursuant to Article IX, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, it
31 shall be submitted to the people at the next general election
32 occurring more than three months after the final agreement and
33 shall be published at least once in at least one newspaper of each
34 county designated by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the
35 General Assembly and the Secretary of State, not less than three
36 months prior to the general election.

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38 3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be
39 submitted to the people at that election in the following manner and
40 form:

41 There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at the
42 general election, the following:

43 a. In every municipality in which voting machines are not used,
44 a legend which shall immediately precede the question, as follows:

45 If you favor the proposition printed below make a cross (X), plus

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 (+), or check (T) in the square opposite the word "Yes." If you are
2 opposed thereto make a cross (X), plus (+) or check (T) in the
3 square opposite the word "No."

4 b. In every municipality the following question:

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	YES	<p>CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ALLOW THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION ON PROPERTY TAX REFORM TO PROPOSE CHANGES TO THE STATUTES</p> <p>Do you approve a temporary amendment to the Constitution to allow a State constitutional convention to propose changes to the statutes to reform the system of property taxation? The proposed changes would need to be approved by the voters.</p> <p>The purpose of the constitutional convention would be to reform the current system of property taxation. The holding of the constitutional convention would need to be approved by the voters through a separate ballot question.</p>
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		<p>INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT</p> <p>This temporary amendment would allow a constitutional convention to propose changes to the statutes. Those proposed changes would need to be approved by the voters.</p> <p>The holding of the constitutional convention would need to be approved by the voters through a separate ballot question.</p> <p>The purpose of the constitutional convention would be to reform the current system of property taxation. The proposed changes to the statutes would have to be within the scope of the convention’s purpose.</p> <p>Without this temporary amendment, the convention would be able to propose only amendments to the Constitution for approval by the voters. The convention may want also to propose changes to the statutes to implement its proposals.</p> <p>This temporary amendment must be approved by the voters by the time, or at the same time, the statutory changes proposed by the convention are presented to the voters for approval.</p>
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SCHEDULE

This constitutional amendment shall become part of the New Jersey Constitution upon approval by the voters and shall expire three years thereafter.

STATEMENT

This concurrent resolution proposes a temporary amendment to the New Jersey Constitution which would allow the property tax reform constitutional convention, to be convened pursuant to a separate ballot question, to propose revisions to the statutes which are within the scope of the convention's mandate. Without this amendment, the convention would only be able to submit proposed constitutional amendments for voter approval, but not proposed statutory changes that may be needed to help implement those amendments. This amendment would become part of the New Jersey Constitution upon approval by the voters and would expire three years after its approval by the voters. Statutory changes

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- 1 proposed by the convention will take effect upon voter approval if
- 2 this temporary constitutional amendment authorizing the convention
- 3 to propose such changes receives voter approval not later than the
- 4 general election at which the proposal prepared by the convention is
- 5 submitted to the voters.