

1 AN ACT proposing to amend Sections 36, 42, and 55 of the Constitution of
2 Kentucky relating to sessions of the General Assembly.

3 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

4 ➔Section 1. It is proposed that the following sections of the Constitution of
5 Kentucky be repealed:

6 Section 36 Time and place of meetings of General Assembly.

7 Section 42 Compensation of members -- Length of sessions -- Legislative day.

8 Section 55 When laws to take effect -- Emergency legislation.

9 ➔SECTION 2. IT IS PROPOSED THAT A NEW SECTION BE ADDED TO
10 THE CONSTITUTION OF KENTUCKY TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

11 *(1) The General Assembly, in odd-numbered years, shall convene in regular*
12 *session on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in January for the purpose of*
13 *electing legislative leaders, adopting rules of procedure, organizing committees, and*
14 *introducing and considering legislation.*

15 *(2) No regular session of the General Assembly occurring in odd-numbered*
16 *years shall continue beyond thirty legislative days.*

17 *(3) No bill raising revenue or appropriating funds shall be passed by the*
18 *General Assembly in a regular session in an odd-numbered year unless it shall be*
19 *agreed upon by three-fifths of all the members elected to each House.*

20 *(4) The General Assembly, in even-numbered years, shall convene in regular*
21 *session on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in January, and no regular*
22 *session of the General Assembly in even-numbered years shall extend beyond sixty*
23 *legislative days.*

24 *(5) Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, the General Assembly*
25 *shall establish by general law or joint resolution the date the regular session shall end.*
26 *No bill establishing a later date shall be passed by the General Assembly unless it shall*
27 *be agreed upon by three-fifths of all the members elected to each House. No session of*

1 *the General Assembly shall extend beyond December 31.*

2 *(6) In addition to a regular session, the General Assembly may be convened by*
3 *Joint Proclamation of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of*
4 *Representatives for no more than twelve legislative days annually, during which the*
5 *General Assembly may recess from time to time as it determines necessary. Should a*
6 *vacancy occur in the office of the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House*
7 *of Representatives, the Joint Proclamation for the House with the vacancy may be*
8 *issued by the Senate President Pro Tempore or the Speaker Pro Tempore of the House*
9 *of Representatives.*

10 *(7) All sessions of the General Assembly shall be held at the seat of*
11 *government, except in the case of war, insurrection, or pestilence, when it may, by*
12 *Joint Proclamation of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of*
13 *Representatives, assemble, for the time being, elsewhere. Should a vacancy occur in*
14 *the office of the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of*
15 *Representatives, the Joint Proclamation for the House with the vacancy may be issued*
16 *by the Senate President Pro Tempore or the Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of*
17 *Representatives.*

18 *(8) Limitations as to the length of any session of the General Assembly shall*
19 *not apply to any extraordinary session under Section 80 of this Constitution or in the*
20 *Senate when sitting as a court of impeachment.*

21 *(9) A legislative day shall be construed to mean a calendar day, exclusive of*
22 *Sundays, legal holidays, or any day on which neither House meets.*

23 ➔SECTION 3. IT IS PROPOSED THAT A NEW SECTION BE ADDED TO
24 THE CONSTITUTION OF KENTUCKY TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

25 *No act, except general appropriation bills, shall become a law until July 1 of the*
26 *year in which it was passed, or until ninety days after it becomes law under Section 88*
27 *of this Constitution, whichever occurs later, except in cases of emergency, when, by the*

1 concurrence of a majority of the members elected to each House of the General
2 Assembly, by a yea and nay vote entered upon their journals, an act may become a law
3 when approved by the Governor; but the reasons for the emergency that justifies this
4 action must be set out at length in the journal of each House.

5 ➔Section 4. This amendment shall be submitted to the voters of the
6 Commonwealth for their ratification or rejection at the time and in the manner provided
7 for under Sections 256 and 257 of the Constitution. The following shall be printed on the
8 ballot:

9 "Are you in favor of amending the present Constitution of Kentucky to repeal
10 sections 36, 42, and 55 and replace those sections with new sections of the Constitution
11 of Kentucky to allow the General Assembly to meet in regular session for thirty
12 legislative days in odd-numbered years, for sixty legislative days in even-numbered years,
13 and for no more than twelve additional days during any calendar year if convened by a
14 Joint Proclamation of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
15 Representatives, with no session of the General Assembly to extend beyond December
16 31; and to provide that any act passed by the General Assembly shall become law on July
17 1 of the year in which it was passed, or ninety days after passage and signature of the
18 Governor, whichever occurs later, or as otherwise provided in the Constitution?"

19 **Proposed New Section**

20 (1) The General Assembly, in odd-numbered years, shall convene in regular
21 session on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in January for the purpose of
22 electing legislative leaders, adopting rules of procedure, organizing committees, and
23 introducing and considering legislation.

24 (2) No regular session of the General Assembly occurring in odd-numbered
25 years shall continue beyond thirty legislative days.

26 (3) No bill raising revenue or appropriating funds shall be passed by the
27 General Assembly in a regular session in an odd-numbered year unless it shall be

1 agreed upon by three-fifths of all the members elected to each House.

2 (4) The General Assembly, in even-numbered years, shall convene in regular
3 session on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in January, and no regular
4 session of the General Assembly in even-numbered years shall extend beyond sixty
5 legislative days.

6 (5) Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, the General Assembly
7 shall establish by general law or joint resolution the date the regular session shall end.
8 No bill establishing a later date shall be passed by the General Assembly unless it shall
9 be agreed upon by three-fifths of all the members elected to each House. No session of
10 the General Assembly shall extend beyond December 31.

11 (6) In addition to a regular session, the General Assembly may be convened by
12 Joint Proclamation of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
13 Representatives for no more than twelve legislative days annually, during which the
14 General Assembly may recess from time to time as it determines necessary. Should a
15 vacancy occur in the office of the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House
16 of Representatives, the Joint Proclamation for the House with the vacancy may be
17 issued by the Senate President Pro Tempore or the Speaker Pro Tempore of the House
18 of Representatives.

19 (7) All sessions of the General Assembly shall be held at the seat of
20 government, except in the case of war, insurrection, or pestilence, when it may, by
21 Joint Proclamation of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
22 Representatives, assemble, for the time being, elsewhere. Should a vacancy occur in
23 the office of the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of
24 Representatives, the Joint Proclamation for the House with the vacancy may be issued
25 by the Senate President Pro Tempore or the Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of
26 Representatives.

27 (8) Limitations as to the length of any session of the General Assembly shall

1 not apply to any extraordinary session under Section 80 of this Constitution or in the
2 Senate when sitting as a court of impeachment.

3 (9) A legislative day shall be construed to mean a calendar day, exclusive of
4 Sundays, legal holidays, or any day on which neither House meets.

5 **Proposed New Section**

6 No act, except general appropriation bills, shall become a law until July 1 of the
7 year in which it was passed, or until ninety days after it becomes law under Section 88
8 of this Constitution, whichever occurs later, except in cases of emergency, when, by the
9 concurrence of a majority of the members elected to each House of the General
10 Assembly, by a yea and nay vote entered upon their journals, an act may become a law
11 when approved by the Governor; but the reasons for the emergency that justifies this
12 action must be set out at length in the journal of each House."