Bill as Introduced

CACR 20– AS INTRODUCED

1999 SESSION

99-0842
04/01

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ***20***

RELATING TO: the election of governor and senators.

PROVIDING THAT: beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected.

SPONSORS: Sen. Wheeler, Dist 21; Sen. Cohen, Dist 24; Sen. J. King, Dist 18; Sen. Larsen, Dist 15; Sen. McCarley, Dist 6; Rep. M. Fuller Clark, Rock 36

COMMITTEE: Internal Affairs

ANALYSIS

This constitutional amendment-concurrent resolution provides that beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics.***
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

99-0842
04/01

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Nine

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

RELATING TO: the election of governor and senators.

PROVIDING THAT: beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected.

Be it Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Constitution of New Hampshire be amended as follows:

I. That article 23 of the second part of the constitution be repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

[Art.] 23. [Election of Senators.] Beginning with the general election in 2002, and every 4 years thereafter, the voters of each district shall elect their senators.

II. That article 42 of the second part of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

[Art.] 42 [Election of Governor; Return of Votes; Electors; If No Choice, Legislature to Elect One of Two Highest Candidates; Qualifications for Governor.] The governor shall be chosen [~~biennially~~] ***to serve a 2-year term in the year 2000 and, beginning in the year 2002, shall be chosen every 4 years*** in the month of November; and the votes for governor shall be received, sorted, counted certified and returned, in the same manner as the votes for senators[~~; and~~]. The secretary shall [~~lay the same before~~] ***present the results to*** the senate and house of representatives[~~,~~] on the first Wednesday following the first Tuesday of January to be ***examined*** by them [~~examined, and~~,]. In case of an election by a plurality of votes [~~through~~] ***throughout*** the state, the [~~choice shall be by them declared and published~~] ***general court shall declare and publish the name of the winner***. [~~And~~] The qualifications of electors of the governor shall be the same as those for senators; and if no person shall have a plurality of votes, the senate and house of representatives shall, by joint ballot elects one of the [~~two~~] ***2*** persons, having the highest number of votes, who shall be declared governor. [~~And~~] No person shall be eligible to this office, unless at the time of his election, he shall have been an inhabitant of this state for 7 years next preceding, and unless he shall be of the age of 30 years.

III. That the above amendment proposed to the constitution be submitted to the qualified voters of the state at the state general election to be held in November, 2000.

IV. That the selectmen of all towns, cities, wards and places in the state are directed to insert in their warrants for the said 2000 election an article to the following effect: To decide whether the amendments of the constitution proposed by the 1999 session of the general court shall be approved.

V. That the wording of the question put to the qualified voters shall be:

Are you in favor of amending the Constitution to provide that beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected?

VI. That the secretary of state shall print the question to be submitted on a separate ballot or on the same ballot with other constitutional questions. The ballot containing the question shall include 2 squares next to the question allowing the voter to vote "Yes" or "No." If no cross is made in either of the squares, the ballot shall not be counted on the question. The outside of the ballot shall be the same as the regular official ballot except that the words "Questions Relating to Constitutional Amendments proposed by the 1999 General Court" shall be printed in bold type at the top of the ballot.

VII. That if the proposed amendment is approved by 2/3 of those voting on the amendment, it becomes effective when the governor proclaims its adoption.

Speakers

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill # CACR 20 Date 3/21/02

Committee Election Law

**** Please Print All Information ****

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	(check one) Pro	Con

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

PUBLIC HEARING ON CACR20

BILL TITLE: relating to the election of governor and senators. Providing that beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected.

DATE: March 21, 2000

LOB ROOM: 308 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 10:00am

Time Adjourned: 10:31am

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Arndt, Horton, Flanagan, Stritch, Gibbons, Desrosiers, Clegg, Letourneau, F. Davis, Young, M. Nowe, Reeves, Desmarais, J. Clemons, Buckley, G. Brown, Weatherspoon, Konys, D. Cote, Rollo, Splaine, Rodrigue and M. Ouellette.

Bill Sponsors: Sen. Wheeler, Sen. Cohen, Sen. J. King, Sen. Larsen, Sen. McCarley, Rep. M Fuller Clark

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. Horton in Chair.

Sen. Wheeler, Sponsor, spoke in support of CACR20 and answered questions. She considered that this legislation was one step in campaign finance reform. She stated that running for the Senate required much more fund raising than running for the House. She would oppose a 4-year term for the House. She felt that if only one part could be passed, it should be the 4-year term for governor. She has supported a 4-year term for governor for more than thirty (30) years.

Senator Russman spoke in support of CACR20 and answered questions. He felt that the House members should decide whether 4-year terms for the governor's council and house would be appropriate. He hoped that the public would have the opportunity to vote. He was not opposed to staggered terms for senators.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis W. Davis

Francis W. Davis, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

PUBLIC HEARING ON CACR20

BILL TITLE: relating to the election of governor and senators. Providing that beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected.

DATE: 3-21-2000

LOB ROOM: 308 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 10:00 AM

Time Adjourned: 10:31 AM

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Arndt, Horton, Flanagan, Stritch, Gibbons, Desrosiers, Clegg, Letourneau, F. Davis, Young, M. Nowe, Reeves, Desmarais, J. Clemons, Buckley, G. Brown, Weatherspoon, Konys, D. Cote, Rollo, Splaine, Rodrigue and M. Ouellette.

Bill Sponsors: Sen. Wheeler, Sen. Cohen, Sen. J. King, Sen. Larsen, Sen. McCarley, Rep. M Fuller Clark

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

REP. HORTON IN THE CHAIR.

SENATOR WHEELER SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF CACR 20 AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS. SHE CONSIDERED THAT THIS LEGISLATION WAS ONE STEP IN CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM. SHE STATED THAT RUNNING FOR THE SENATE REQUIRED MUCH MORE FUND RAISING THAN RUNNING FOR THE HOUSE. SHE WOULD OPPOSE A 4 YEAR TERM FOR THE HOUSE. SHE FELT THAT IF ONLY ONE PART COULD BE PASSED, IT SHOULD BE THE 4 YEAR TERM FOR GOVERNOR. SHE HAS SUPPORTED A 4 YEAR TERM FOR GOVERNOR FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS.

SENATOR RUSSMAN SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF CACR 20 AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS. HE FELT THAT THE HOUSE MEMBERS SHOULD DECIDE WHETHER 4 YEAR TERMS FOR THE GOVERNORS COUNCIL AND HOUSE WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. HE HOPED THAT THE PUBLIC WOULD HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE. HE WAS NOT OPPOSED TO STAGGERED TERMS FOR SENATORS.

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on CACR20

BILL TITLE: **relating to the election of governor and senators. Providing that beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected.**

DATE: **May 09, 2000**

LOB ROOM: 308

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Re-Refer, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Horton

Seconded by Rep. Rollo

Vote: 11-6 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Re-Refer, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE:

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Francis W. Davis

Rep.Francis W. Davis, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW

EXECUTIVE SESSION on CACR20

BILL TITLE: **relating to the election of governor and senators. Providing that beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected.**

DATE: 5-9-2000

LOB ROOM: 308

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, (ITL), Re-Refer, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. HORTON

Seconded by Rep. ROLLO

Vote: 11-6 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Re-Refer, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: NO

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Francis W. Davis

Rep.Francis W. Davis, Clerk

OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK 2000 SESSION

ELECTION LAW

Bill #: CACR 20 Title: _____

PH Date: ___/___/___ Exec Session Date: 5 / 9 / 2000

Motion: ITL Amendment #: _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Arndt, Janet S, Chairman	✓	
Horton, Lynn C, V Chairman	✓	
Flanagan, Natalie S	✓	
Stritch, C Donald		
Gibbons, Paul A	✓	
Desrosiers, William J		
Clegg, Robert E	✓	
Letourneau, Robert J	✓	
Davis, Francis W, Clerk	✓	
Young, David A		
Nowe, Mary Lou		
Reeves, Sandra J	✓	
Desmarais, Vivian J	✓	
Clemons, Jane A		✓
Buckley, Raymond		✓
Brown, George F		✓
Weatherspoon, Jackie K		✓
Konys, Christine M		✓
Cote, David E		✓
Rollo, Michael S	✓	
Splaine, James R	✓	
Rodrigue, Robert R		
Ouellette, Mary M		
	11	-6
TOTAL VOTE:		

Printed: 2/15/2000

Committee Report

MAJORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: **Election Law**

BILL NUMBER: **CACR 20**

TITLE: relating to the election of governor and senators. Providing that beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected.

DATE: May 09, 2000 CONSENT CALENDAR YES ☐ NO ☒

☐ OUGHT TO PASS

☐ OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

☒ INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

☐ RE-REFER

☐ REFER TO COMMITTEE FOR INTERIM STUDY
(Available only in second year of biennium.)

STATEMENT OF INTENT
(Include Committee Vote)

The majority of the committee feels that the present system of having to be elected every two years for governor and senators keeps them closer to the people and more accountable for their actions.

Vote 11-6.

Rep. Lynn C. Horton
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk
cc: Committee Bill file

USE ANOTHER REPORT FOR MINORITY REPORT

Election Law

CACR 20, relating to the election of governor and senators. Providing that beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected.

INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Rep. Lynn C. Horton for **Election Law:** The majority of the committee feels that the present system of having to be elected every two years for governor and senators keeps them closer to the people and more accountable for their actions. Vote 11-6.

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: **Election Law**

BILL NUMBER: **CACR 20**

TITLE: relating to the election of governor and senators. Providing that beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected.

DATE: CONSENT CALENDAR YES ☐ NO ☒

☐ OUGHT TO PASS

☐ OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

☒ INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

☐ RE-REFER

☐ REFER TO COMMITTEE FOR INTERIM STUDY
(Available only in second year of biennium.)

STATEMENT OF INTENT
(Include Committee Vote)

CACR 20 THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE FEELS THAT THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF HAVING TO BE ELECTED EVERY 2 YRS FOR GOVERNOR + SENATORS KEEPS THEM CLOSER TO THE PEOPLE AND MORE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS

Vote 11-6

Rep. Lynn Ober Horton
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
cc: Committee Bill file

USE ANOTHER REPORT FOR MINORITY REPORT

MINORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: **Election Law**

BILL NUMBER: **CACR20**

TITLE: relating to the election of governor and senators. Providing that beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected.

DATE: May 09, 2000 CONSENT CALENDAR YES ☐ NO ☒

☒ OUGHT TO PASS

☐ OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

☐ INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

☐ RE-REFER

☐ REFER TO COMMITTEE FOR INTERIM STUDY
(Available only in second year of biennium.)

STATEMENT OF INTENT
(Include Committee Vote)

The minority of the committee feels that the state of New Hampshire would be better served with four-year terms for governor and senators. Instead of spending a great part of their second year in office focusing on running a campaign, those officials could instead take the necessary time to thoroughly explore and address complex issues facing the legislature.

Vote

Rep. Christine M. Konys
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk
cc: Committee Bill file

Election Law

CACR20, relating to the election of governor and senators. Providing that beginning with the 2002 general election, and every 4 years thereafter, the governor and senators shall be elected. OUGHT TO PASS

Rep. Christine M. Konys for **Election Law:** The minority of the committee feels that the state of New Hampshire would be better served with four-year terms for governor and senators. Instead of spending a great part of their second year in office focusing on running a campaign, those officials could instead take the necessary time to thoroughly explore and address complex issues facing the legislature.

CACR 20

The minority of the committee feels that the state of NH would be better served with four year terms for the governor and senators. Instead of spending a great part of their second year in office focusing on running a campaign, those officials could instead take the necessary time to thoroughly research and to address complex issues facing the legislature.

Rep Konys