

1 Resolution of the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission  
 2 A resolution proposing an amendment to Section 8 of  
 3 Article III of the State Constitution to permit the  
 4 Governor to reduce any item of appropriations in a bill  
 5 presented to the Governor for approval and to authorize  
 6 the Legislature to restore the appropriations upon a  
 7 supermajority vote of each house of the Legislature.

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 9 Be It Resolved by the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission:

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 11 That the following amendment to Section 8 of Article III of  
 12 the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to  
 13 the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next  
 14 general election or at an earlier special election specifically  
 15 authorized by law for that purpose:

16 ARTICLE III

17 LEGISLATURE

18 SECTION 8. Executive approval, ~~and veto,~~ and appropriation  
 19 reduction.--

20 (a) Every bill passed by the legislature shall be  
 21 presented to the governor for approval and shall become a law if  
 22 the governor approves and signs it, or fails to veto it within  
 23 seven consecutive days after presentation. If during that period  
 24 or on the seventh day the legislature adjourns sine die or takes  
 25 a recess of more than thirty days, the governor shall have  
 26 fifteen consecutive days from the date of presentation to act on  
 27 the bill. In all cases except general appropriation bills, the  
 28 veto shall extend to the entire bill. The governor may veto any  
 29 specific appropriation in a general appropriation bill, but may

30 not veto any qualification or restriction without also vetoing  
31 the appropriation to which it relates.

32 (b) When a bill or any specific appropriation of a general  
33 appropriation bill has been vetoed, the governor shall transmit  
34 signed objections thereto to the house in which the bill  
35 originated if in session. If that house is not in session, the  
36 governor shall file them with the custodian of state records,  
37 who shall lay them before that house at its next regular or  
38 special session, whichever occurs first, and they shall be  
39 entered on its journal. If the originating house votes to re-  
40 enact a vetoed measure, whether in a regular or special session,  
41 and the other house does not consider or fails to re-enact the  
42 vetoed measure, no further consideration by either house at any  
43 subsequent session may be taken. If a vetoed measure is  
44 presented at a special session and the originating house does  
45 not consider it, the measure will be available for consideration  
46 at any intervening special session and until the end of the next  
47 regular session.

48 (c) If each house shall, by a two-thirds vote, re-enact  
49 the bill or reinstate the vetoed specific appropriation of a  
50 general appropriation bill, the vote of each member voting shall  
51 be entered on the respective journals, and the bill shall become  
52 law or the specific appropriation reinstated, the veto  
53 notwithstanding.

54 (d) In addition to the veto power, the governor may reduce  
55 any item of appropriations in a bill presented for approval.  
56 Portions of a bill not reduced or vetoed shall become law. An  
57 item reduced in amount shall be returned to the house in which  
58 it originated and may be restored to its original amount in the

59 same manner as a vetoed bill with a separate vote for each  
60 reduced line item or each reduced appropriation in a substantive  
61 bill by a two-thirds vote of the members of each house. If a  
62 reduced item is not so restored, it shall become law in the  
63 reduced amount.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be  
65 placed on the ballot:

66 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

67 ARTICLE III, SECTION 8

68 REDUCTION OF APPROPRIATIONS BY THE GOVERNOR.--This proposed  
69 amendment to the State Constitution will permit the Governor to  
70 reduce any item of appropriations in a bill presented to the  
71 Governor for approval. The amendment also permits the  
72 Legislature to restore reduced appropriations by a two-thirds  
73 vote of each house of the Legislature with a separate vote for  
74 each reduced appropriation.