

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8

2 **52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 John C. Ryan

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10 A JOINT RESOLUTION

11 PROPOSING TO AMEND ARTICLE 19, SECTION 1 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF
12 NEW MEXICO TO REQUIRE THE APPROVAL OF TWO-THIRDS OF THE MEMBERS
13 OF EACH HOUSE OF THE LEGISLATURE FOR PASSAGE OF PROPOSED
14 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

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16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

17 SECTION 1. It is proposed to amend Article 19, Section 1
18 of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

19 "An amendment or amendments to this constitution may be
20 proposed in either house of the legislature at a regular
21 session; and if [~~a majority~~] two-thirds of all members elected
22 to each of the two houses voting separately votes in favor
23 thereof, the proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered
24 on their respective journals with the yeas and nays thereon.

25 An amendment or amendments may also be proposed by an

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underscored material = new
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underscoring material = new
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1 independent commission established by law for that purpose, and
2 the amendment or amendments shall be submitted to the
3 legislature for its review in accordance with the provisions of
4 this section.

5 The secretary of state shall cause any such amendment or
6 amendments to be published in at least one newspaper in every
7 county of the state, where a newspaper is published once each
8 week, for four consecutive weeks, in English and Spanish when
9 newspapers in both of said languages are published in such
10 counties, the last publication to be not more than two weeks
11 prior to the election at which time said amendment or
12 amendments shall be submitted to the electors of the state for
13 their approval or rejection; and shall further provide notice
14 of the content and purpose of legislatively approved
15 constitutional amendments in both English and Spanish to inform
16 electors about the amendments in the time and manner provided
17 by law. The secretary of state shall also make reasonable
18 efforts to provide notice of the content and purpose of
19 legislatively approved constitutional amendments in indigenous
20 languages and to minority language groups to inform electors
21 about the amendments. Amendments approved by the legislature
22 shall be voted upon at the next regular election held after the
23 adjournment of that legislature or at a special election to be
24 held not less than six months after the adjournment of that
25 legislature, at such time and in such manner as the legislature

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underscored material = new
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1 may by law provide. An amendment that is ratified by a
2 majority of the electors voting on the amendment shall become
3 part of this constitution.

4 If two or more amendments are initiated by the
5 legislature, they shall be so submitted as to enable the
6 electors to vote on each of them separately. Amendments
7 initiated by an independent commission created by law for that
8 purpose may be submitted to the legislature separately or as a
9 single ballot question, and any such commission-initiated
10 amendments that are not substantially altered by the
11 legislature may be submitted to the electors in the separate or
12 single ballot question form recommended by the commission. No
13 amendment shall restrict the rights created by Sections One and
14 Three of Article VII hereof, on elective franchise, and
15 Sections Eight and Ten of Article XII hereof, on education,
16 unless it be proposed by vote of three-fourths of the members
17 elected to each house and be ratified by a vote of the people
18 of this state in an election at which at least three-fourths of
19 the electors voting on the amendment vote in favor of that
20 amendment."

21 **SECTION 2.** The amendment proposed by this resolution
22 shall be submitted to the people for their approval or
23 rejection at the next general election or at any special
24 election prior to that date that may be called for that
25 purpose.

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