JAN 2 3 2009

### A BILL FOR AN ACT

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 10, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION, TO LENGTHEN THE DURATION OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION IN ODD-NUMBERED YEARS.

#### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it is necessary to
- 2 lengthen the duration of the legislative session in odd-numbered
- 3 years to allow more time for adequate consideration of
- 4 legislation introduced for the new legislative session.
- 5 The purpose of this Act is to propose an amendment to
- 6 article III, section 10, of the Constitution of the State of
- 7 Hawaii to provide for a seventy-day regular session in
- 8 odd-numbered years.
- 9 SECTION 2. Article 3, section 10, of the Constitution of
- 10 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:
- 11 "SESSIONS
- 12 Section 10. The legislature shall convene annually in
- 13 regular session at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the third Wednesday in
- 14 January.
- 15 At the written request of two-thirds of the members to
- 16 which each house is entitled, the presiding officers of both



1

## S.B. NO. 668

1 houses shall convene the legislature in special session. 2 written request of two-thirds of the members of the senate, the 3 president of the senate shall convene the senate in special 4 session for the purpose of carrying out its responsibility 5 established by Section 3 of Article VI. The governor may 6 convene both houses or the senate alone in special session. 7 Regular sessions shall be limited to a period of sixty 8  $days[_{T}]$  in even-numbered years and seventy days in odd-numbered 9 years, and special sessions shall be limited to a period of 10 thirty days. Any session may be extended a total of not more 11 than fifteen days. Such extension shall be granted by the 12 presiding officers of both houses at the written request of two-13 thirds of the members to which each house is entitled or may be 14 granted by the governor. 15 Each regular session shall be recessed for not less than 16 five days at some period between the twentieth and fortieth days **17** of the regular session. The legislature shall determine the 18 dates of the mandatory recess by concurrent resolution. Any 19 session may be recessed by concurrent resolution adopted by a 20 majority of the members to which each house is entitled. 21 Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, the days in mandatory recess and

# S.B. NO. 668

1	any days in recess pursuant to a concurrent resolution shall be
2	excluded in computing the number of days of any session.
3	All sessions shall be held in the capital of the State. Ir
4	case the capital shall be unsafe, the governor may direct that
5	any session be held at some other place."
6	SECTION 3. The question to be printed on the ballot shall
7	be as follows:
8	"Shall the length of the regular legislative session
9	in odd-numbered years be changed from sixty days to
10	seventy days?"
11	SECTION 4. Constitutional material to be repealed is
12	bracketed and stricken. New constitutional material is
13	underscored.
14	SECTION 5. This amendment shall take effect upon
15	compliance with article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of
16	the State of Hawaii.
17	INTRODUCED BY: Mallen
	11/1/60

### Report Title:

Legislative Sessions; Length in Odd-Numbered Years.

### Description:

Proposes a constitutional amendment to provide for a longer session of seventy days in odd-numbered years.