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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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S.J.R. 2
135th General Assembly

Resolution Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Sens. McColley and Gavarone

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SUMMARY

- Proposes an amendment to the Ohio Constitution, to appear on the ballot at a special election on August 8, 2023.
- Requires any future constitutional amendment to be approved by at least 60% of the voters.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

The resolution proposes an amendment to the Ohio Constitution requiring any future constitutional amendment to be approved by at least 60% of the voters, instead of by a simple majority (50% plus one vote) as currently required under the Constitution. This requirement would apply to any constitutional amendment, whether proposed by initiative petition, by the General Assembly, or by a constitutional convention.¹

If the proposal is approved by a majority vote of the electors, it takes effect immediately and applies to any constitutional amendment appearing on the ballot at a later election. For more information about the current procedures for amending the Ohio Constitution, see LSC's Members Brief, [Statewide Ballot Issues](#) (PDF).²

The resolution places the proposal on the ballot at a special election on August 8, 2023. Because the Revised Code does not provide for special elections to be held in August for this

¹ Ohio Constitution, Article II, Section 1b and art. XVI, secs. 1 and 3; conforming changes in art. II, secs. 1e and 1g.

² Available on LSC's website, lsc.ohio.gov, under "Publications," "Members Briefs."

purpose, the General Assembly might need to enact separate legislation to allow for the special election.³

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	03-22-23

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³ R.C. 3501.01(D) and 3501.022. See also Ohio Const., art. II, sec. 15 (specifying that the General Assembly “shall enact no law except by bill”) and *State ex rel. Foreman v. Brown*, 10 Ohio St.2d 139, 142 (1967) (suggesting that the legislature might not need to enact separate legislation for this purpose).