

CACR 29 - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2711

07/08

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION **29**

RELATING TO: the general court.

PROVIDING THAT: the number of representatives be no more than 150 and the number of senators be no more than 35.

SPONSORS: Rep. Conley, Straf. 13; Rep. Klein-Knight, Hills. 11; Rep. Van Houten, Hills. 45; Rep. Vann, Hills. 24; Rep. McWilliams, Merr. 27; Rep. Caplan, Merr. 6; Rep. Bouchard, Hills. 11

COMMITTEE: Legislative Administration

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ANALYSIS

This constitutional amendment concurrent resolution reduces the amount of members of the state house of representatives from between 375 and 400 to no more than 200, increases the amount of state senators from 24 to 35, and increases the term salary for both houses to \$6,000 and \$7,500, respectively. All changes will take effect after the 2024 election.

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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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type

## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two*

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

RELATING TO: the general court.

PROVIDING THAT: the number of representatives be no more than 150 and the number of senators be no more than 35.

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

1 I. That article 9 of the second part of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

2 [Art.] 9. [Representatives Elected Every Second Year; Apportionment of Representatives.]  
3 There shall be in the legislature of this state a house of representatives, biennially elected and  
4 founded on principles of equality, and representation therein shall be as equal as circumstances will  
5 admit. The whole number of representatives to be chosen from the towns, wards, places, and  
6 representative districts thereof established hereunder, shall be not less than three hundred seventy-  
7 five or more than four hundred, ***until after the 2024 election when the whole number of***  
8 ***representatives shall be no more than two hundred.*** As soon as possible after the convening of  
9 the next regular session of the legislature, and at the session in 1971, and every ten years thereafter,  
10 the legislature shall make an apportionment of representatives according to the last general census  
11 of the inhabitants of the state taken by authority of the United States or of this state. In making  
12 such apportionment, no town, ward or place shall be divided nor the boundaries thereof altered.

13 II. That article 15 of the second part of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

14 [Art.] 15. [Compensation of the Legislature.] The presiding officers of both houses of the  
15 legislature, shall severally receive out of the state treasury as compensation in full for their services  
16 for the term elected the sum of \$250, and all other members thereof, seasonably attending and not  
17 departing without license, the sum of \$200, ***until after the 2024 election where, at which time,***  
18 ***the salaries for each member, per term, shall be \$6,000 for the house and \$7,500 for the***  
19 ***senate.*** [and] Each member shall receive mileage for actual daily attendance on legislative days, but  
20 not after the legislature shall have been in session for 45 legislative days or after the first day of July  
21 following the annual assembly of the legislature, whichever occurs first; provided, however, that,  
22 when a special session shall be called by the governor or by a 2/3 vote of the then qualified members  
23 of each branch of the general court, such officers and members shall receive for attendance an  
24 additional compensation of \$3 per day for a period not exceeding 15 days and the usual mileage.  
25 Nothing herein shall prevent the payment of additional mileage to members attending committee  
26 meetings or on other legislative business on nonlegislative days ***or prevent members from***  
27 ***refusing salaries.***

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1           III. That article 25 of the second part of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

2           [Art.] 25. [Senate, How Constituted.] The senate shall consist of [~~twenty-four~~] ***thirty five***  
3 members.

4           IV. That the above amendment proposed to the constitution be submitted to the qualified  
5 voters of the state at the state general election to be held in November, 2022.

6           V. That the selectmen of all towns, cities, wards and places in the state are directed to insert  
7 in their warrants for the said 2022 election an article to the following effect: To decide whether the  
8 amendments of the constitution proposed by the 2022 session of the general court shall be approved.

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

10          “Are you in favor of amending articles 9 and 25 of the second part of the constitution to read as  
11 follows:

12          [Art.] 9. [Representatives Elected Every Second Year; Apportionment of Representatives.]  
13 There shall be in the legislature of this state a house of representatives, biennially elected and  
14 founded on principles of equality, and representation therein shall be as equal as circumstances will  
15 admit. The whole number of representatives to be chosen from the towns, wards, places, and  
16 representative districts thereof established hereunder, shall be not less than three hundred seventy-  
17 five or more than four hundred, until after the 2024 election when the whole number of  
18 representatives shall be no more than two hundred. As soon as possible after the convening of the  
19 next regular session of the legislature, and at the session in 1971, and every ten years thereafter, the  
20 legislature shall make an apportionment of representatives according to the last general census of  
21 the inhabitants of the state taken by authority of the United States or of this state. In making such  
22 apportionment, no town, ward or place shall be divided nor the boundaries thereof altered.

23          [Art.] 15. [Compensation of the Legislature.] The presiding officers of both houses of the  
24 legislature, shall severally receive out of the state treasury as compensation in full for their services  
25 for the term elected the sum of \$250, and all other members thereof, seasonably attending and not  
26 departing without license, the sum of \$200, until after the 2024 election where, at which time, the  
27 salaries for each member, per term, shall be \$6,000 for the house and \$7,500 for the senate. Each  
28 member shall receive mileage for actual daily attendance on legislative days, but not after the  
29 legislature shall have been in session for 45 legislative days or after the first day of July following  
30 the annual assembly of the legislature, whichever occurs first; provided, however, that, when a  
31 special session shall be called by the governor or by a 2/3 vote of the then qualified members of each  
32 branch of the general court, such officers and members shall receive for attendance an additional  
33 compensation of \$3 per day for a period not exceeding 15 days and the usual mileage. Nothing  
34 herein shall prevent the payment of additional mileage to members attending committee meetings or  
35 on other legislative business on nonlegislative days or prevent members from refusing salaries.

36          [Art.] 25 [Senate, How Constituted.] The senate shall consist of thirty five members.”

37          VI. That the secretary of state shall print the question to be submitted on a separate ballot

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1 or on the same ballot with other constitutional questions. The ballot containing the question shall  
2 include 2 squares next to the question allowing the voter to vote “Yes” or “No.” If no cross is made in  
3 either of the squares, the ballot shall not be counted on the question. The outside of the ballot shall  
4 be the same as the regular official ballot except that the words “Questions Relating to Constitutional  
5 Amendments proposed by the 2022 General Court” shall be printed in bold type at the top of the  
6 ballot.

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

9 VIII. Voters' Guide.

10 AT THE PRESENT TIME, the New Hampshire House of Representatives is made up  
11 of between 375 and 400 members and the New Hampshire Senate is made up of 24 members.

12 IF THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED, starting after the 2024 election, the New  
13 Hampshire House of Representatives will have 200 members whose salaries shall each be \$6,000,  
14 the New Hampshire Senate will have 35 members whose salaries shall each be \$7,500, and members  
15 of the legislature shall have the ability to refuse their salary.