

Senate Resolution 35

By: Senator McKoon of the 29th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to provide for a budget session and a  
 2 general law session for the General Assembly each year; to provide for related matters; to  
 3 provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other  
 4 purposes.

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

### 6 SECTION 1.

7 Article III, Section IV of the Constitution is amended by revising Paragraph I as follows:

8 "Paragraph I. *Meeting, time limit, and adjournment.* (a) The Senate and House of  
 9 Representatives shall organize each odd-numbered year and shall be a different General  
 10 Assembly for each two-year period. The General Assembly shall meet in a regular budget  
 11 session on the second Monday in January of each year, or otherwise as provided by law,  
 12 and may continue in such budget session for a period of no longer than ~~40~~ 20 days in the  
 13 aggregate each year. The General Assembly shall be limited to the consideration and  
 14 passage of the general appropriations bill for the next fiscal year and the supplemental  
 15 appropriations bill for the current fiscal year. After the conclusion of the regular budget  
 16 session, the General Assembly shall on a date fixed by concurrent resolution of each house  
 17 of the General Assembly at the end of the regular budget session, but not sooner than 30  
 18 days following the end of the regular budget session, meet in a regular general session and  
 19 may continue in such general session for a period of no longer than 20 days in the  
 20 aggregate each year. The General Assembly shall be authorized to consider any general  
 21 bills and local bills during the regular general session but shall not be authorized to  
 22 consider the general appropriations bill or the supplemental appropriations bill during the  
 23 regular general session. Local and special legislation may be considered by the General  
 24 Assembly at both sessions. By concurrent resolution, the General Assembly may adjourn  
 25 any regular budget or general session to such later date as it may fix for reconvening;  
 26 provided, however, that the regular budget session must be complete before the regular

27 general session may begin. Separate periods of adjournment may be fixed by one or more  
28 such concurrent resolutions.

29 (b) Neither house shall adjourn during a regular budget or regular general session for  
30 more than three days or meet in any place other than the state capitol without the consent  
31 of the other. Following the fifth day of a special session, either house may adjourn not  
32 more than twice for a period not to exceed seven days for each such adjournment. In the  
33 event either house, after the ~~thirtieth~~ fifteenth day of any session, adopts a resolution to  
34 adjourn for a specified period of time and such resolution and any amendments thereto are  
35 not adopted by both houses by the end of the legislative day on which adjournment was  
36 called for in such resolution, the Governor may adjourn both houses for a period of time  
37 not to exceed ten days.

38 (c) If an impeachment trial is pending at the end of any regular general session, the  
39 House shall adjourn and the Senate shall remain in session until such trial is completed."

40 **SECTION 2.**

41 The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as  
42 provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution. The ballot submitting the  
43 above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon the following:

44 "( ) YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to provide that the  
45 General Assembly shall have a regular budget session for 20 days each year  
46 ( ) NO to be followed by a regular general session for 20 days each year?"

47 All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."  
48 All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If  
49 such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall  
50 become a part of the Constitution of this state.