

2013 -- H 5089

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

JOINT RESOLUTION

TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MEMBERS COMPENSATION

Introduced By: Representatives Chippendale, Costa, Hull, Costantino, and Morgan

Date Introduced: January 16, 2013

Referred To: House Finance

1 RESOLVED, That a majority of all members elected to each house of the general
2 assembly, voting therefor, the following amendment to the Constitution of the state be proposed
3 to the qualified electors of the state in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV of the
4 Constitution for their approval and Article VI, Section 3, is hereby amended, effective on January
5 1, 2015 to read as follows:

6 Section 3. Sessions of general assembly -- Compensation of general assembly members
7 and officers. -- There shall be a session of the general assembly at Providence commencing on the
8 first Tuesday of January in each year. Commencing in January 1995, senators and representatives
9 shall be compensated at an annual rate of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). Commencing in 1996,
10 the rate of compensation shall be adjusted annually to reflect changes in the cost of living, as
11 determined by the United States government during a twelve (12) month period ending in the
12 immediately preceding year provided, however, that under no circumstances shall they receive a
13 pay increase which is greater than the cost of living increases received by full-time state
14 employees for the same period. Commencing in 2003, the president of the senate and the speaker
15 of the house shall be compensated at an annual rate of double that of other senators and
16 representatives.

17 Senators and representatives shall receive the same health insurance benefits as full-time
18 state employees.

19 Senators and representatives shall be reimbursed for traveling expenses in going to and

1 from the general assembly at the same mileage paid to state workers as of the 31st day of
2 December in the year preceding each session.

3 No senator or representative shall be eligible for any pension on account of service in the
4 general assembly after 1994; provided, however, that those senators and representatives first
5 elected before 1994 who elect to receive compensation for legislative service in 1995 and
6 thereafter, at the rate of five dollars (\$5.00) for every day of actual attendance and eight cents
7 (.08) per mile for traveling expenses in going to and returning from the general assembly, for a
8 maximum of sixty (60) days in any calendar year, shall be eligible for a pension on account of
9 service in the general assembly after 1994. The amount of such pension shall be based upon the
10 pension program in effect for legislators on January 1, 1994.

11 The general assembly shall regulate the compensation of the governor and of all other
12 officers, subject to limitations contained in the Constitution.

13 RESOLVED, That the said proposition of amendments shall be submitted to the electors
14 for their approval or rejection at the next statewide general election. The voting places in the
15 several cities and towns shall be kept open during the hours required by law for voting therein for
16 general officers of the state; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause the said proposition of amendments
18 to be published as a part of this resolution in the newspapers of the state prior to the date of the
19 said meetings of the said electors; and the said proposition shall be inserted in the warrants or
20 notices to be issued previous to said meetings of the electors for the purpose of warning the town,
21 ward, or district meetings and said proposition shall be read by the town ward or district meetings
22 to be held as aforesaid; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the town, ward, and district meetings to be held aforesaid shall be
24 warned, and the list of voters shall be canvassed and made up, and the said town, ward, and
25 district meetings shall be conducted in the same manner as now provided by law for the town,
26 ward, and district meetings for the election of general officers of the state.

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