

2013 -- S 0328

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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 -- PROCEDURE TO FILL
VACANCY IN OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, THE SECRETARY OF
STATE, ATTORNEY GENERAL OR GENERAL TREASURER

Introduced By: Senators Raptakis, Cote, and Walaska

Date Introduced: February 13, 2013

Referred To: Senate Special Legislation and Veterans Affairs

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 to
3 the qualified electors of the state in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV of the
4 Constitution for their approval and that it take the place of Article IV Section 4 which is hereby
5 amended to read as follows:

6 SECTION 4. ~~Temporary appointment~~ Procedure to fill vacancies in office of
7 lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general, or general treasurer. – Special
8 elections to fill vacancies in office of lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney-
9 general, or general treasurer. – (a) In case of a vacancy in the office of the lieutenant
10 governor, the secretary of state, attorney-general, or general treasurer ~~from for~~ any ~~cause, reason,~~
11 if there are less than two (2) years remaining in the term of the office, the general assembly in
12 grand committee shall elect some person to fill the same; provided, that if such vacancy occurs
13 when the general assembly is not in session the governor shall appoint some person to fill such
14 vacancy until a successor elected by the general assembly is qualified to act.

15 (b) In case of a vacancy in the office of the lieutenant governor, the secretary of state,
16 attorney general, or general treasurer for any reason, if there are two (2) or more years remaining
17 in the term of the office a new election shall be held for the purpose of filling the vacancy. The
18 general assembly shall provide by general law for the holding of such elections. Every person

1 electd in accordance with this section shall hold office for the remainder of the term or for the
2 full term, as the case may be, of the office which that person is elected to fill and until a successor
3 is elected and qualified.

4 RESOLVED, That this amendment shall take, in the Constitution of the state, the place of
5 Article IV Section 4 of the Constitution;

6 It is further

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

11 RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause the said proposition of amendment to
12 be published as a part of this resolution in the newspapers of the state prior to the date of the said
13 meetings of the said electors; and the said proposition shall be inserted in the warrants or notices
14 to be issued previous to said meetings of the electors for the purpose of warning the town, ward,
15 or district meetings and said proposition shall be read by the town, ward, or district meetings to
16 be held as aforesaid; and be it further

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

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