

HOUSE BILL 357

Introduced by Thomas, et al.

1/22	Introduced
1/22	Referred to State Administration
1/23	First Reading
2/15	Hearing
2/16	Committee Report--Bill Passed as Amended
2/26	2nd Reading Passed
2/27	Taken From Engrossing and Returned To 2nd Reading Died in Process

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 357  
 2 INTRODUCED BY Thomas Daniel Beck Brown

3  
 4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO SUBMIT TO THE  
 5 QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF MONTANA AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V,  
 6 SECTION 6, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION TO REQUIRE THAT THE  
 7 LEGISLATURE MEET ONCE A YEAR IN REGULAR SESSION; TO LIMIT  
 8 THE NUMBER OF REGULAR SESSION LEGISLATIVE DAYS; TO REQUIRE  
 9 THE LEGISLATURE TO APPORTION ALLOWABLE LEGISLATIVE DAYS  
 10 BETWEEN SESSIONS; TO PROVIDE LIMITATIONS ON THE BUSINESS  
 11 THAT MAY BE CONDUCTED IN CERTAIN REGULAR SESSIONS; AND  
 12 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

13  
 14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

15 **Section 1.** Article V, section 6, of The Constitution of  
 16 the State of Montana is amended to read:

17 "**Section 6. Sessions.** (1) The legislature shall meet  
 18 each--odd-numbered--year-in-regular-session-of-not-more-than  
 19 90-legislative-days; be a continuous body for a 2-year  
 20 period, beginning when the newly elected members take office  
 21 following each biennial general election at which  
 22 legislators are chosen. The legislature shall meet once each  
 23 calendar year in regular session. The legislature may not  
 24 meet more than 90 legislative days in regular sessions  
 25 during its continuation. The legislature shall limit by law

1 the length of each regular session. Except as provided in  
 2 subsection (2), the length of a regular session may not  
 3 exceed 60 legislative days. The session held in  
 4 even-numbered years is limited to consideration of  
 5 legislation relating to revenue or appropriations, except  
 6 that other legislation may be considered if approved for  
 7 introduction by a two-thirds vote of the members of each  
 8 house. A bill introduced in one session may not be carried  
 9 over to another session of the legislature.

10 (2) Any legislature may increase the limit on the  
 11 length of any subsequent session. The legislature may be  
 12 convened in special sessions by the governor or at the  
 13 written request of a majority of the members."

14 **NEW SECTION. Section 2.** Effective date. If approved by  
 15 the electorate, this amendment is effective January 1, 1993.

16 **NEW SECTION. Section 3.** Submission to electorate. This  
 17 amendment shall be submitted to the qualified electors of  
 18 Montana at the general election to be held in November 1992  
 19 by printing on the ballot the full title of this act and the  
 20 following:

21  FOR requiring the legislature to meet each year,  
 22 with limitations on the number of legislative days  
 23 and type of business to be conducted.

24  AGAINST requiring the legislature to meet each year,  
 25 with limitations on the number of legislative days

LC 0270/01

1 and type of business to be conducted.

-End-

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE  
ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

HOUSE BILL NO. 357

INTRODUCED BY THOMAS, DRISCOLL, B. BROWN, LYNCH

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO SUBMIT TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF MONTANA AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V, SECTION 6, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION TO REQUIRE THAT THE LEGISLATURE MEET ONCE A YEAR IN REGULAR SESSION; TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF REGULAR SESSION LEGISLATIVE DAYS; TO REQUIRE THE LEGISLATURE TO APPORTION ALLOWABLE LEGISLATIVE DAYS BETWEEN SESSIONS; TO PROVIDE LIMITATIONS ON THE BUSINESS THAT MAY BE CONDUCTED IN CERTAIN REGULAR SESSIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Article V, section 6, of The Constitution of the State of Montana is amended to read:

"Section 6. Sessions. (1) The legislature shall meet each--odd-numbered--year-in-regular-session-of-not-more-than 90-legislative-days, be a continuous body for a 2-year period, beginning when the newly elected members take office following each biennial general election at which legislators are chosen. The legislature shall meet once each calendar year in regular session. The legislature may not meet more than 90 legislative days in regular sessions during its continuation. The legislature shall limit by law

the length of each regular session. Except as provided in subsection (2), the length of a regular session may not exceed 60 legislative days. The session held in even-numbered ODD-NUMBERED years is limited to consideration of legislation relating to revenue or appropriations, except that other legislation may be considered if approved for introduction by a two-thirds vote of the members of each house. A bill introduced in one session may not be carried over to another session of the legislature.

(2) Any legislature may increase the limit on the length of any subsequent session. The legislature may be convened in special sessions by the governor or at the written request of a majority of the members."

**NEW SECTION. Section 2.** Effective date. If approved by the electorate, this amendment is effective January 1, 1993.

**NEW SECTION. Section 3.** Submission to electorate. This amendment shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Montana at the general election to be held in November 1992 by printing on the ballot the full title of this act and the following:

- FOR requiring the legislature to meet each year, with limitations on the number of legislative days and type of business to be conducted.
- AGAINST requiring the legislature to meet each year, with limitations on the number of legislative days

**SECOND READING**  
HB 357



HB 0357/02

1 and type of business to be conducted.

-End-

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

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10 BETWEEN SESSIONS; TO PROVIDE LIMITATIONS ON THE BUSINESS  
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12 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."  
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19 by printing on the ballot the full title of this act and the  
20 following:

- 21  FOR requiring the legislature to meet each year,  
22 with limitations on the number of legislative days  
23 and type of business to be conducted.  
24  AGAINST requiring the legislature to meet each year,  
25 with limitations on the number of legislative days

THIRD READING

HB 0357/02

1 and type of business to be conducted.

-End-