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Senate BILL NO. *31*
INTRODUCED BY *Fashender, Hinson, Greely, Gabe, Lee*
Murphy, Brown, Romney, Dunlap, V. Norman
Wardlaw, Kipp, Colby, Watt, Seibel

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 PROVIDE THAT THE LEGISLATURE SHALL MEET IN ANNUAL SESSIONS."

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

Section 1. Article V, section 6 of the Montana Constitution is amended to read as follows:

"Section 6. Sessions. The legislature shall ~~meet each odd-numbered year in regular session of not more than 90 legislative days~~ be a continuous body for two-year periods beginning when newly elected members take office. Any business, bill, or resolution pending at adjournment of a session shall carry over with the same status to any other session of the legislature during the biennium. The legislature shall meet at least once a year in regular session of not more than 60 legislative days. 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."

Section 2. When this amendment is submitted to the

1 qualified electors of Montana, there shall be printed on the
2 ballot the full title and section 1 of this act and the
3 following words:

- " For annual sessions.
- Against annual sessions."

-End-

SB 31

FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received January 9, 19 75, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for Senate Bill 31 pursuant to Chapter 53, Laws of Montana, 1965 - Thirty-Ninth Legislative Assembly. Background information used in developing this Fiscal Note is available from the Office of Budget and Program Planning, to members of the Legislature upon request.

CORRECTED FISCAL NOTE

Note: The wording of the fiscal note originally issued on Senate Bill 31 is misleading; thus, a revised fiscal note is being issued to clarify the fiscal impact.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An act to submit to the qualified voters of Montana an amendment to Article V, Section 6, of the Montana Constitution to provide that the Legislature shall meet in annual sessions.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. This amendment will be submitted to the qualified electors in the next General Election in 1976, and if ratified, would become effective for the 1977 Legislative Session. The Legislature will not meet in 1978 under current law.
2. Estimated costs for the Legislative Assembly will be \$20,000 per day in FY 77 and FY 78 plus \$180,000 research costs.
3. Costs for printing, mailing, and other services will not be significantly affected by length of session.
4. Cost of updating Montana Codes following each session will not be affected by length of session.

FISCAL IMPACT:

	FY 76	Fiscal Year 1977			Fiscal Year 1978		
		Current Law	Proposed Law	Decrease	Current Law	Proposed Law	Increase
Expenditures for Legislative Assembly	No effect	\$1,980,000	\$1,380,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 0	\$1,380,000	\$1,380,000

CONCLUSION:

Since the Legislature will meet in FY 77 regardless of voter approval of Senate Bill 31, there would actually be a decrease in expenditures *in this biennium* due to length of sessions. However, since the Legislature would meet in 1978 if the proposed bill were ratified, the effect over a two-year period would be an increase in expenditures of \$780,000. In addition to the increase in assembly costs, increase in expenses due to annual sessions, such as printing House and Senate Journals and session laws, are estimated at \$80,000 over a two-year period.

Michael G. Billings

BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date: January 16, 1975

Without recommendation
of Com. on Rules.

t. Smith

Senate BILL NO. 31
Fasbender Hinson Greely Groh Lee
Murphy Brown Romney Dunbar V. Norman
Ward

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INTRODUCED BY ~~Fasbender Hinson Greely Groh Lee~~
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 PROVIDE THAT THE
LEGISLATURE SHALL MEET IN ANNUAL SESSIONS."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
Section 1. Article V, section 6 of the Montana
Constitution is amended to read as follows:
"Section 6. Sessions. The legislature shall meet ~~each~~
~~odd-numbered-year-in-regular-session-of--not--more--than--90~~
~~legislative-days~~ be a continuous body for two-year periods
beginning when newly elected members take office. Any
business, bill, or resolution pending at adjournment of a
session shall carry over with the same status to any other
session of the legislature during the biennium. The
legislature shall meet at least once a year in regular
session of not more than 60 legislative days. 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."
Section 2. When this amendment is submitted to the

1 qualified electors of Montana, there shall be printed on the
2 ballot the full title and section 1 of this act and the
3 following words:

- " For annual sessions.
- Against annual sessions."

-End-

1 *Senate* BILL NO. *31*
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Fashender, Hignel, Mealy, Drake, L*
 3 *Murphy, Brown, Romney, Dunlap, V. Norman*
 4 *Watson, Kemp, Colby, Watt, Dick*

5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO SUBMIT TO THE
 6 QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF MONTANA AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V,
 7 SECTION 6 OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE THAT THE
 8 LEGISLATURE SHALL MEET IN ANNUAL SESSIONS."

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 11 Constitution is amended to read as follows:

12 "Section 6. Sessions. The legislature shall meet each
 13 ~~odd-numbered-year-in-regular-session-of-not-more-than-90~~
 14 ~~legislative-days.~~ be a continuous body for two-year periods
 15 beginning when newly elected members take office. Any
 16 business, bill, or resolution pending at adjournment of a
 17 session shall carry over with the same status to any other
 18 session of the legislature during the biennium. The
 19 legislature shall meet at least once a year in regular
 20 session of not more than 60 legislative days. Any
 21 legislature may increase the limit on the length of any
 22 subsequent session. The legislature may be convened in
 23 special sessions by the governor or at the written request
 24 of a majority of the members."

25 Section 2. When this amendment is submitted to the

1 qualified electors of Montana, there shall be printed on the
 2 ballot the full title and section 1 of this act and the
 3 following words:

" For annual sessions.

Against annual sessions."

-End-

SB 31

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 31

Be amended in the third reading bill as follows:

1. Amend page 1, section 1, line 20.

Following: "than"

Strike: "60"

Insert: "sixty (60)"

2. Amend page 1, section 1, line 20.

Following: "days"

Insert: "in odd numbered years and of not more than forty (40)

legislative days in even numbered years"

AS SO AMENDED BE CONCURRED IN

April 9, 1975

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Committee of the Whole Amendments to SENATE BILL NO. 31, third reading copy, as follows:

1. Amend page 1, section 1, lines 15 through 22.

Following: "office."

Strike: "Any business, bill, or resolution pending at adjournment of a session shall carry over with the same status to any other session of the legislature during the biennium. The legislature shall meet at least once a year in regular session of not more than 60 legislative days. Any legislature may increase the limit on the length of any subsequent session."

Insert: "The legislature shall meet a maximum of sixty (60) legislative days in odd number years and a maximum of sixty (60) legislative days in even number years. Any business, bill, or resolution pending at adjournment of the odd number year session shall carry over with the same status to any other session of the legislature during the biennium. Only appropriations, revenue and committee bills may be introduced during an even number year session."

2. Amend page 2, following line 4.

Insert: "Section 3. This amendment is effective on January 1st immediately following ratification by the electors."

AS SO AMENDED
BE CONCURRED IN

SENATE BILL NO. 31

INTRODUCED BY FASBENDER, HIMSL, GREELY, DRAKE, LEE,
R. SMITH, MURPHY, BROWN, ROMNEY, DUNKLE, NORMAN, WARDEN,
REGAN, COLBERG, WATT, SEIBEL

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 PROVIDE THAT THE
LEGISLATURE SHALL MEET IN ANNUAL SESSIONS."

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Section 1. Article V, section 6 of the Montana
Constitution is amended to read as follows:

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~~odd-numbered-year-in-regular-session-of-not-more-than-90~~
~~legislative-days~~ be a continuous body for two-year periods
beginning when newly elected members take office. Any
~~business, bill, or resolution pending at adjournment of a~~
~~session shall carry over with the same status to any other~~
~~session of the legislature during the biennium. The~~
~~legislature shall meet at least once a year in regular~~
~~session of not more than 60-SIXTY-(60)-legislative days IN~~
~~ODD-NUMBERE-D-YEARS-AND-OF-NOT-MORE-THAN-FORTY-(40)~~
~~LEGISLATIVE-DAYS-IN-EVEN-NUMBERED-YEARS.~~ Any legislature may
increase the limit on the length of any subsequent session:

THE LEGISLATURE SHALL MEET A MAXIMUM OF SIXTY (60)
LEGISLATIVE DAYS IN ODD NUMBER YEARS AND A MAXIMUM OF SIXTY
(60) LEGISLATIVE DAYS IN EVEN NUMBER YEARS. ANY BUSINESS,
BILL, OR RESOLUTION PENDING AT ADJOURNMENT OF THE ODD NUMBER
YEAR SESSION SHALL CARRY OVER WITH THE SAME STATUS TO ANY
OTHER SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE DURING THE BIENNIUM. ONLY
APPROPRIATIONS, REVENUE AND COMMITTEE BILLS MAY BE
INTRODUCED DURING AN EVEN NUMBER YEAR SESSION. The
legislature may be convened in special sessions by the
governor or at the written request of a majority of the
members."

Section 2. When this amendment is submitted to the
qualified electors of Montana, there shall be printed on the
ballot the full title and section 1 of this act and the
following words:

For annual sessions.

Against annual sessions."

SECTION 3. THIS AMENDMENT IS EFFECTIVE ON JANUARY 1ST
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING RATIFICATION BY THE ELECTORS.

-End-