

It is a class A misdemeanor punishable, notwithstanding the provisions of section 560.021, RSMo, to the contrary, for a term of imprisonment not to exceed one year in the county jail or a fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars or both, for anyone to sign any initiative petition with any name other than his or her own, or knowingly to sign his or her name more than once for the same measure for the same election, or to sign a petition when such person knows he or she is not a registered voter.

**INITIATIVE PETITION**

To the Honorable John R. Ashcroft, Secretary of State for the State of Missouri:

We, the undersigned, registered voters of the state of Missouri and \_\_\_\_\_ County (or city of St. Louis), respectfully order that the following proposed amendment to the constitution shall be submitted to the voters of the state of Missouri, for their approval or rejection, at the general election to be held on the 5th day of November, 2024, and each for himself or herself says: I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered voter of the State of Missouri and \_\_\_\_\_ County (or city of St. Louis); my registered voting address and name of the city, town or village in which I live are correctly written after my name.

[OFFICIAL BALLOT TITLE]

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
 2022 NOV 11 AM 8:55  
 [Stamp]

CIRCULATOR'S AFFIDAVIT, STATE OF MISSOURI, COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn, say (print or type names of signers)  
 (Petition Circulator's Printed Name)

1.	NAME (Signature)	DATE SIGNED	REGISTERED VOTING ADDRESS (Street) (City, Town or Village)	Zip Code	Congr. Dist.	NAME (Printed or Typed)
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						
7.						
8.						
9.						
10.						
11.						
12.						
13.						
14.						
15.						

signed this page of the foregoing petition, and each of them signed his or her name thereto in my presence; I believe that each has stated his or her name, registered voting address and city, town or village correctly, and that each signer is a registered voter of the state of Missouri and \_\_\_\_\_ County.

FURTHERMORE, I HEREBY SWEAR OR AFFIRM UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT ALL STATEMENTS MADE BY ME ARE TRUE AND CORRECT AND THAT I HAVE NEVER BEEN CONVICTED OF, FOUND GUILTY OF, OR PLED GUILTY TO ANY OFFENSE INVOLVING FORGERY.

I am at least 18 years of age, I do \_\_\_ do not \_\_\_ (check one) expect to be paid for circulating this petition. If paid, list the payer

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Affiant (Person obtaining signatures)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Street address of Affiant

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Printed Name of Affiant

\_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State and Zip Code of Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D. 20\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Notary

Notary Public (Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Address of Notary

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

*Be it resolved by the people of the state of Missouri that the Constitution be amended:*

Article III of the Constitution is revised by repealing Sections 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, and 14 and amending Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 20(a), 20(b), 20(d), 21, 22, and 32 to read as follows:

Section 1. (a) The legislative power shall be vested in a legislative body [senate and house of representatives] to be styled "The General Assembly of the State of Missouri."

(b) To ensure that all political power in Missouri is vested in and derived from the people and founded upon the will of the people only, from January 2, 2025 until January 5, 2027, each citizen of Missouri who is eligible to vote shall be able to assign one proxy to any member of the Missouri senate, authorizing that senator to cast votes on their behalf, and one proxy to any member of the Missouri house of representatives, authorizing that representative to cast votes on their behalf. Members of the General Assembly shall cast a number of votes equal to the number of proxies they hold, plus one vote for themselves, on all matters that are voted on in their respective houses, including votes taken in committees and on procedural matters.

(c) Citizens of Missouri may assign their proxies either electronically, through a system of Online Accounts for Politically Active Citizens, or by means of a written (paper) proxy. Citizens may reassign a proxy at any time.

(d) The governor shall establish and maintain a system of Online Accounts for Politically Active Citizens to facilitate the assigning and reassigning of proxies electronically. The governor shall be responsible for ensuring the security of that system and for ensuring the privacy of citizens utilizing the system.

(e) On or before January 2, 2025, the Secretary of State shall create and make available to citizens of Missouri, both electronic and paper versions of a proxy form, a form for citizens to use to reassign their proxies, and a form for citizens to submit to notify the secretary of state if they move out of the state of Missouri or are no longer eligible to vote. When so notified, the Secretary of State shall void their proxies. The Secretary of State shall be responsible for promptly voiding the proxies of citizens who are no longer eligible to vote in Missouri due to being incarcerated or deceased. The Secretary of State shall be responsible for notifying citizens, in the manner in which they have indicated they prefer to be notified, when a legislator to whom they have assigned a proxy vacates her or his office for any reason.

(f) The General Assembly shall pass legislation providing penalties for forging or falsifying proxies, for offering money, or any other thing of value, to influence a citizen with regard to the assignment of their proxies, and for accepting money, or any other thing of value, in exchange for the assignment of a proxy.

(g) Effective with the election to be held on November 3, 2026, and at all subsequent general elections of members of the general assembly, the proxy forms on file with the secretary of state shall be treated as a "ballot" for purposes of electing members of the general assembly.

(h) Senators who were elected at the general election in 2022, shall continue in office until such time as the term of office to which they were elected has expired regardless of the number of proxies they have been assigned.

(i) Effective with the election to be held on November 3, 2026, and at all subsequent general elections for members of the general assembly, members of the general assembly shall be elected at-large. The eighty-three candidates who have been assigned the most as of 7 p.m. on November 3, 2026, shall be elected to the general assembly.

(j) Effective January 6, 2027, the general assembly shall be a unicameral legislature, consisting of the seventeen senators elected at the general election on November 5, 2024 and the eighty-three candidates who had been assigned the most proxies by the citizens of Missouri as of 7 p.m. on November 3, 2026.

(k) Effective on and from January 3, 2029, the general assembly shall consist of the one hundred candidates who have been assigned the most proxies by the citizens of Missouri as of 7 p.m. on November 7, 2028 and at subsequent general elections.

(l) From and after January 6, 2027, each citizen of Missouri who is eligible to vote shall be able to assign one proxy to any member of the general assembly authorizing that member to cast votes on their behalf. Members of the general assembly shall cast a number of votes equal to the number of proxies they hold, plus one vote for themselves, on all matters that are voted on in the general assembly, including votes taken in committees and on procedural matters.

Section 2. (a) After December 6, 2018, no person serving as a member of or employed by the general assembly shall act or serve as a paid lobbyist, register as a paid lobbyist, or solicit prospective employers or clients to represent as a paid lobbyist during the time of such service until the expiration of two calendar years after the conclusion of the session of the general assembly in which the member or employee last served and where such service was after December 6, 2018.

(b) No person serving as a member of or employed by the general assembly shall accept directly or indirectly a gift of any tangible or intangible item, service, or thing of value from any paid lobbyist or lobbyist principal. This Article shall not prevent candidates for the general assembly, including candidates for reelection, or candidates for offices within the general assembly [senate or house] from accepting campaign contributions consistent with this

Article and applicable campaign finance law. Nothing in this section shall prevent individuals from receiving gifts, family support or anything of value from those related to them within the fourth degree by blood or marriage.

(c) The general assembly shall make no law authorizing unlimited campaign contributions to candidates for the general assembly, nor any law that circumvents the contribution limits contained in this Constitution. In addition to other campaign contribution limitations or restrictions provided for by law, the amount of contributions made to or accepted by any candidate or candidate committee from any person other than the candidate in any one election to the general assembly [to the office of state representative or state senator] shall not exceed [the following:

(1) To elect an individual to the office of state senator,] two thousand four hundred dollars, [; and

(2) To elect an individual to the office of state representative, two thousand dollars.]

The contribution limits and other restrictions of this section shall also apply to any person exploring a candidacy for election to the general assembly. [the office of state representative or state senator.]

(d) No contribution to a candidate for the general assembly [legislative office] shall be made or accepted, directly or indirectly, in a fictitious name, in the name of another person, or by or through another person in such a manner as to, or with the intent to, conceal the identity of the actual source of the contribution. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that a contribution to a candidate for public office is made or accepted with the intent to circumvent the limitations on contributions imposed in this section when a contribution is received from a committee or organization that is primarily funded by a single person, individual, or other committee that has already reached its contribution limit under any law relating to contribution limitations. A committee or organization shall be deemed to be primarily funded by a single person, individual, or other committee when the committee or organization receives more than fifty percent of its annual funding from that single person, individual, or other committee.

(e) In no circumstance shall a candidate be found to have violated limits on acceptance of contributions if the Missouri ethics commission, its successor agency, or a court determines that a candidate has taken no action to indicate acceptance of or acquiescence to the making of an expenditure that is deemed a contribution pursuant to this section.

(f) No candidate shall accept contributions from any federal political action committee unless the committee has filed the same financial disclosure reports that would be required of a Missouri political action committee.

Section 3. [(a)] The house of representatives shall consist of one hundred sixty-three members until January 6, 2027. On and from January 6, 2027, the general assembly shall be a unicameral legislature consisting of one hundred members elected at each general election [and redistricted as provided in this section].

[(b) The house independent bipartisan citizens commission shall redistrict the house of representatives using the following methods, listed in order of priority:

(1) Districts shall be as nearly equal as practicable in population, and shall be drawn on the basis of one person, one vote. Districts are as nearly equal as practicable in population if no district deviates by more than one percent from the ideal population of the district, as measured by dividing the number of districts into the statewide population data being used, except that a district may deviate by up to three percent if necessary to follow political subdivision lines consistent with subdivision (4) of this subsection; (2) Districts shall be established in a manner so as to comply with all requirements of the United States Constitution and applicable federal laws, including, but not limited to, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (as amended). The following principles shall take precedence over any other part of this constitution: no district shall be drawn in a manner which results in a denial or abridgment of the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of race or color; and no district shall be drawn such that members of any community of citizens protected by the preceding clause have less opportunity than other members of the electorate to participate in the political process and to elect representatives of their choice;

(3) Subject to the requirements of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, districts shall be composed of contiguous territory as compact as may be. Areas which meet only at the points of adjoining corners are not contiguous. In general, compact districts are those which are square, rectangular, or hexagonal in shape to the extent permitted by natural or political boundaries;

(4) To the extent consistent with subdivisions (1) to (3) of this subsection, communities shall be preserved. Districts shall satisfy this requirement if district lines follow political subdivision lines to the extent possible, using the following criteria, in order of priority. First, each county shall wholly contain as many districts as its population allows. Second, if a county wholly contains one or more districts, the remaining population shall be wholly joined in a single district made up of population from outside the county. If a county does not wholly contain a district, then no more than two segments of a county shall be combined with an adjoining county. Third, split counties and county segments, defined as any part of the county that is in a district not wholly within that county, shall each be as few as possible. Fourth, as few municipal lines shall be crossed as possible;

(5) Districts shall be drawn in a manner that achieves both partisan fairness and, secondarily, competitiveness, but the standards established by subdivisions (1) to (4) of this subsection shall take precedence over partisan fairness and competitiveness. "Partisan fairness" means that parties shall be able to translate their popular support into legislative representation with approximately equal efficiency. "Competitiveness" means that parties' legislative representation shall be substantially and similarly responsive to shifts in the electorate's preferences.

To this end, the average electoral performance of the two political parties receiving the most votes in the three preceding general elections for governor, for United States Senate, and for President of the United States shall be calculated. This index shall be defined as the total votes received by each party in the three preceding general elections for governor, for United States Senate, and for President of the United States, divided by the total votes cast for both parties in these elections. Using this index, the total number of wasted votes for each party, summing across all of the districts in the plan shall be calculated. "Wasted votes" are votes cast for a losing candidate or for a winning candidate in excess of the threshold needed for victory. In any redistricting plan and map of the proposed districts, the difference between the two parties' total wasted votes, divided by the total votes cast for the two parties, shall not exceed fifteen percent.

To promote competitiveness, the electoral performance index shall be used to simulate elections in which the hypothetical statewide vote shifts by one percent, two percent, three percent, four percent, and five percent in favor of each party. The vote in each individual district shall be assumed to shift by the same amount as the state-wide vote. In each of these simulated elections, the difference between the two parties' total wasted votes, divided by the total votes cast for the two parties, shall not exceed fifteen percent.

(c) Within sixty days after the population of this state is reported to the President for each decennial census of the United States or, in the event that a redistricting plan has been invalidated by a court of competent jurisdiction, within sixty days that such a ruling has been made, the state committee and the congressional district committees of each of the two political parties casting the highest vote for governor at the last preceding general election shall meet and the members of each committee shall nominate, by a majority vote of the elected members of the committee present, provided that a majority of the elected members is present, members of their party, residents in that district, in the case of a congressional district committee, as nominees for the house independent bipartisan citizens commission. No party shall select more than one nominee from any one state legislative district. The congressional district committees shall each submit to the governor their list of two elected nominees. The state committees shall each submit to the governor their list of five elected nominees. Within thirty days thereafter, the governor shall appoint a house independent bipartisan citizens commission consisting of one nominee from each list submitted by each congressional district committee and two nominees from each list submitted by each state committee to redistrict the state into one hundred and sixty-three representative districts and to establish the numbers and boundaries of said districts. No person shall be appointed to both the house independent bipartisan citizens commission and the senate independent bipartisan citizens commission during the same redistricting cycle.

If any committee fails to submit a list within such time, the governor shall appoint a member of his or her own choice from the political party of the committee failing to submit a list, provided that in the case of a congressional district committee failing to submit a list, the person appointed to the commission by the governor shall reside in the congressional district of such committee.

Members of the commission shall be disqualified from holding office as members of the general assembly for four years following the date of the filing by the commission of its final redistricting plan.

For the purposes of this Article, the term congressional district committee or congressional district refers to the congressional district committee or the congressional district from which a congressman was last elected, or, in the event members of congress from this state have been elected at large, the term congressional district committee refers to those persons who last served as the congressional district committee for those districts from which congressmen were last elected, and the term congressional district refers to those districts from which congressmen were last elected. Any action pursuant to this section by the congressional district committee shall take place only at duly called meetings, shall be recorded in their official minutes and only members present in person shall be permitted to vote.

(d) The commissioners so selected shall, on the fifteenth day, excluding Sundays and state holidays, after all members have been appointed, meet in the capitol building and proceed to organize by electing from their number a chairman, vice chairman and secretary. The commission shall adopt an agenda establishing at least three hearing dates on which hearings open to the public shall be held to hear objections or testimony from interested persons. A copy of the agenda shall be filed with the clerk of the house of representatives within twenty-four hours after its adoption. Executive meetings may be scheduled and held as often as the commission deems advisable.

(e) Not later than five months after the appointment of the commission, the commission shall file with the secretary of state a tentative redistricting plan and map of the proposed districts and during the ensuing fifteen days shall hold such public hearings as may be necessary to hear objections or testimony of interested persons. The commission shall make public the tentative redistricting plan and map of the proposed districts, as well as all demographic and partisan data used in the creation of the plan and map.

(f) Not later than six months after the appointment of the commission, the commission shall file with the secretary of state a final statement of the numbers and the boundaries of the districts together with a map of the districts, and no statement shall be valid unless approved by at least seven-tenths of the members.

(g) After the final statement is filed, members of the house of representatives shall be elected according to such districts until a new redistricting plan is made as provided in this section, except that if the final statement is not filed within six months of the time fixed for the appointment of the commission, the commission shall stand discharged and the house of representatives shall be redistricted using the same methods and criteria as described in subsection (b) of this section by a commission of six members appointed from among the judges of the appellate courts of the state of Missouri by the state supreme court, a majority of whom shall sign and file its redistricting plan and map with the secretary of state within ninety days of the date of the discharge of the house independent

bipartisan citizens commission. The judicial commission shall make public the tentative redistricting plan and map of the proposed districts, as well as all demographic and partisan data used in the creation of the plan and map. Thereafter, members of the house of representatives shall be elected according to such districts until a redistricting plan is made as provided in this section.

(h) Each member of the commission shall receive as compensation fifteen dollars a day for each day the commission is in session but not more than one thousand dollars, and, in addition, shall be reimbursed for his or her actual and necessary expenses incurred while serving as a member of the commission.

(j) Any action expressly or implicitly alleging that a redistricting plan violates this Constitution, federal law, or the United States Constitution shall be filed in the circuit court of Cole County and shall name the body that approved the challenged redistricting plan as a defendant. Only an eligible Missouri voter who sustains an individual injury by virtue of residing in a district that exhibits the alleged violation, and whose injury is remedied by a differently drawn district, shall have standing. If the court renders a judgment in which it finds that a completed redistricting plan exhibits the alleged violation, its judgment shall adjust only those districts, and only those parts of district boundaries, necessary to bring the map into compliance. The supreme court shall have exclusive appellate jurisdiction upon the filing of a notice of appeal within ten days after the judgment has become final.]

Section 4. Each member of the general assembly [representative] shall be twenty-four years of age, and next before the day of her or his election, shall have been a qualified voter for two years and a resident of the [county or district which he is chosen to represent] state of Missouri for one year, [, if such county or district shall have been so long established, and if not, then of the county or district from which the same shall have been taken.]

Section 5. The senate shall consist of thirty-four members elected by the qualified voters of the senatorial districts for a term of four years until January 6, 2027. On and from January 6, 2027, the general assembly shall be a unicameral legislature consisting of one hundred members. [Senatorial districts shall be apportioned as provided for in Article III, Section 7.]

[Section 6. Each senator shall be thirty years of age, and next before the day of his election shall have been a qualified voter of the state for three years and a resident of the district which he is chosen to represent for one year, if such district shall have been so long established, and if not, then of the district or districts from which the same shall have been taken.]

[Section 7. (a) Within sixty days after the population of this state is reported to the President for each decennial census of the United States, or within sixty days after a redistricting plan has been invalidated by a court of competent jurisdiction, the state committee and the congressional district committees of each of the two political parties casting the highest vote for governor at the last preceding general election shall meet and the members of each committee shall nominate, by a majority vote of the elected members of the committee present, provided that a majority of the elected members is present, members of their party, residents in that district, in the case of a congressional district committee, as nominees for the senate independent bipartisan citizens commission. No party shall select more than one nominee from any one state legislative district. The congressional district committees shall each submit to the governor their list of two elected nominees. The state committees shall each submit to the governor their list of five elected nominees. Within thirty days thereafter the governor shall appoint a senate independent bipartisan citizens commission consisting of two nominees from each list submitted by each state committee and one nominee from each list submitted by each congressional district committee, to redistrict the thirty-four senatorial districts and to establish the numbers and boundaries of said districts. No person shall be appointed to both the house independent bipartisan citizens commission and the senate independent bipartisan citizens commission during the same redistricting cycle.

If any committee fails to submit a list within such time, the governor shall appoint a member of his or her own choice from the political party of the committee failing to submit a list, provided that in the case of a congressional district committee failing to submit a list, the person appointed to the commission by the governor shall reside in the congressional district of such committee.

Members of the commission shall be disqualified from holding office as members of the general assembly for four years following the date of the filing by the commission of its final redistricting plan.

(b) The commissioners so selected shall, on the fifteenth day, excluding Sundays and state holidays, after all members have been appointed, meet in the capitol building and proceed to organize by electing from their number a chairman, vice chairman and secretary. The commission shall adopt an agenda establishing at least three hearing dates on which hearings open to the public shall be held to hear objections or testimony from interested persons. A copy of the agenda shall be filed with the secretary of the senate within twenty-four hours after its adoption. Executive meetings may be scheduled and held as often as the commission deems advisable.

(c) The senate independent bipartisan citizens commission shall redistrict the senate using the same methods and criteria as those required by subsection (b), section 3 of this Article for the redistricting of the house of representatives.

(d) Not later than five months after the appointment of the senate independent bipartisan citizens commission, the commission shall file with the secretary of state a tentative redistricting plan and map of the proposed districts and during the ensuing fifteen days shall hold such public hearings as may be necessary to hear objections or testimony

of interested persons. The commission shall make public the tentative redistricting plan and map of the proposed districts, as well as all demographic and partisan data used in the creation of the plan and map.

(e) Not later than six months after the appointment of the commission, the commission shall file with the secretary of state a final statement of the numbers and the boundaries of the districts together with a map of the districts, and no statement shall be valid unless approved by at least seven-tenths of the members.

(f) After the final statement is filed, senators shall be elected according to such districts until a new redistricting plan is made as provided in this section, except that if the final statement is not filed within six months of the time fixed for the appointment of the commission, the commission shall stand discharged and the senate shall be redistricted using the same methods and criteria as described in subsection (b) of section 3 of this Article by a commission of six members appointed from among the judges of the appellate courts of the state of Missouri by the state supreme court, a majority of whom shall sign and file its redistricting plan and map with the secretary of state within ninety days of the date of the discharge of the senate independent bipartisan citizens commission. The judicial commission shall make public the tentative redistricting plan and map of the proposed districts, as well as all demographic and partisan data used in the creation of the plan and map. Thereafter, senators shall be elected according to such districts until a redistricting plan is made as provided in this section.

(g) Each member of the commission shall receive as compensation fifteen dollars a day for each day the commission is in session, but not more than one thousand dollars, and, in addition, shall be reimbursed for his or her actual and necessary expenses incurred while serving as a member of the commission.

(i) Any action expressly or implicitly alleging that a redistricting plan violates this Constitution, federal law, or the United States Constitution shall be filed in the circuit court of Cole County and shall name the body that approved the challenged redistricting plan as a defendant. Only an eligible Missouri voter who sustains an individual injury by virtue of residing in a district that exhibits the alleged violation, and whose injury is remedied by a differently drawn district, shall have standing. If the court renders a judgment in which it finds that a completed redistricting plan exhibits the alleged violation, its judgment shall adjust only those districts, and only those parts of district boundaries, necessary to bring the map into compliance. The supreme court shall have exclusive appellate jurisdiction upon the filing of a notice of appeal within ten days after the judgment has become final.]

Section 8. No one shall be elected to serve more than [eight years total in any one house of the General Assembly nor more than] sixteen years total in [both houses of] the General Assembly. [In applying this section, service in the General Assembly resulting from an election prior to December 3, 1992, or service of less than one year, in the case of a member of the house of representatives, or two years, in the case of a member of the senate, by a person elected after the effective date of this section to complete the term of another person, shall not be counted.]

[Section 9. Until the convening of the Seventy-fourth General Assembly the House of Representatives shall consist of one hundred sixty-three members elected from the one hundred sixty-three representative districts, as they existed January 1, 1965.]

[Section 10. The last decennial census of the United States shall be used in apportioning representatives and determining the population of senatorial and representative districts. Such districts may be altered from time to time as public convenience may require.]

[Section 11. The first election of senators and representatives under this constitution, shall be held at the general election in the year one thousand nine hundred and forty-six when the whole number of representatives and the senators from the districts having even numbers, who shall compose the first class, shall be elected, and two years thereafter the whole number of representatives and the senators from districts having odd numbers, who shall compose the second class, shall be elected, and so on at each succeeding general election.]

Section 12. No person holding any lucrative office or employment under the United States, this state or any municipality thereof shall be eligible to serve as a member of the general assembly [hold the office of senator or representative]. When any individual serving as a member of the general assembly [senator or representative] accepts any office or employment under the United States, this state or any municipality thereof, her or his office shall thereby be vacated and she or he shall thereafter perform no duty and receive no salary as a member of the general assembly. [senator or representative.] During the time they serve as a member of the general assembly, [term for which he was elected no senator or representative] no one shall accept any appointive office or employment under this state which is created or the emoluments of which are increased during such term. This section shall not apply to members of the organized militia, of the reserve corps and of school boards, and notaries public.

Section 13. If any person serving as a member of the general assembly [senator or representative remove his residence from the district or county for which he was elected,] removes her or his residence from the state of Missouri, her or his office shall thereby be vacated.

[Section 14. Writs of election to fill vacancies in either house of the general assembly shall be issued by the governor.]

Section 15. Every member of the general assembly [senator or representative elect], before entering upon the duties of her or his office, shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States and of the state of Missouri, and faithfully perform the duties of my office, and that I will not knowingly receive, directly or indirectly, any money or other valuable thing for the

performance or nonperformance of any act or duty pertaining to my office, other than the compensation allowed by law." The oath shall be administered in the halls of the general assembly [respective houses] to the members thereof, by a judge of the supreme court or a circuit court, or after the organization by the presiding officer of the general assembly [either house,] and shall be filed in the office of the secretary of state. Any [senator or representative] member refusing to take said oath or affirmation shall be deemed to have vacated her or his office, and any member convicted of having violated his oath or affirmation shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and be forever disqualified from holding any office of trust or profit in this state.

Section 16. Members of the general assembly [Senators and representatives] shall receive from the state treasury as salary such sums as are provided by law. No law fixing the compensation of members of the general assembly shall become effective until the first day of the regular session of the general assembly next following the session at which the law was enacted. Upon certification by the president and secretary of the [senate and by the speaker and chief clerk of the house of representatives] general assembly as to the respective members thereof, the state comptroller shall audit and the state treasurer shall pay such compensation without legislative enactment. Until otherwise provided by law members of the general assembly [senators and representatives] shall receive one dollar for every ten miles traveled in going to and returning from their place of meeting while the legislature is in session, on the most usual route.

Until otherwise provided by law, each member of the general assembly [senator or representative] shall be reimbursed from the state treasury for the actual and necessary expenses incurred by him in attending sessions of the general assembly in the sum of ten dollars (\$10.00) per day for each day on which the journal of the general assembly [senate or house respectively] shows the presence of such member [senator or representative]. Upon certification by the president and secretary of the general assembly [senate and by the speaker and chief clerk of the house of representatives] as to the respective members thereof, the state comptroller shall approve and the state treasurer shall pay monthly such expense allowance without legislative enactment.

Section 17. Until otherwise provided by law, the general assembly [house of representatives shall not employ more than one hundred twenty-five and the senate] shall not employ more than two hundred [seventy-five] employees elective, appointive or any other at any time during any session.

Section 18. The general assembly [Each house] shall appoint its own officers; shall be sole judge of the qualifications, election and returns of its own members; may determine the rules of its own proceedings, except as herein provided; may arrest and punish by fine not exceeding three hundred dollars, or imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding ten days, or both, any person not a member, who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house by any disorderly or contemptuous behavior in its presence during its sessions; may punish its members for disorderly conduct; and, with the concurrence of two-thirds of all members elect, may expel a member; but no member shall be expelled a second time for the same cause.

Section 19. (a) Members of the general assembly [Senators and representatives] shall, in all cases except treason, felony, offenses under this Article, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during the session of the general assembly, and for the fifteen days next before the commencement and after the termination of each session; and they shall not be questioned for any speech or debate in either house in any other place.

(b) Legislative records shall be public records and subject to generally applicable state laws governing public access to public records, including the Sunshine Law. Legislative records include, but are not limited to, all records, in whatever form or format, of the official acts of the general assembly, of the official acts of legislative committees, of the official acts of members of the general assembly, of individual legislators, their employees and staff, of the conduct of legislative business and all records that are created, stored or distributed through legislative branch facilities, equipment or mechanisms, including electronic. Each member of the general assembly is the custodian of legislative records under the custody and control of the member, their employees and staff. The chief clerk of the house or the secretary of the senate are the custodians for all other legislative records relating to the house and the senate, respectively.

(c) Legislative proceedings, including committee proceedings, shall be public meetings subject to generally applicable law governing public access to public meetings, including the Sunshine Law. Open public meetings of legislative proceedings shall be subject to recording by citizens, so long as the proceedings are not materially disrupted.

Section 20. The general assembly shall meet on the first Wednesday after the first Monday in January following each general election. The general assembly may provide by law for the introduction of bills during the period between the first day of December and the first Wednesday after the first Monday of January.

The general assembly shall reconvene on the first Wednesday after the first Monday of January after adjournment at midnight on May thirtieth of the preceding year. [A majority of the elected members of each house] Members of the general assembly holding a majority of the proxies that have been assigned to members of the general assembly shall constitute a quorum to do business, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as each house may provide. The sessions of the general assembly [each house] shall be held with open doors, except in cases which may require secrecy but not including the final vote on bills, resolutions and confirmations. [Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than ten days at any one time, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses may be sitting.]

Section 20(a). The general assembly shall adjourn at midnight on May thirtieth until the first Wednesday after the first Monday of January of the following year, unless it has adjourned prior thereto. All bills [in either house] remaining on the calendar after 6:00 p.m. on the first Friday following the second Monday in May are tabled. The period between the first Friday following the second Monday in May and May thirtieth shall be devoted to the enrolling, engrossing, and the signing in open session by officers of the General Assembly [respective houses] of bills passed prior to 6:00 p.m. on the first Friday following the second Monday in May.

The general assembly shall automatically stand adjourned sine die at 6:00 p.m. on the sixtieth calendar day after the date of its convening in special session unless it has adjourned sine die prior thereto.

Section 20(b). Upon the filing with the secretary of state of a petition stating the purpose for which the session is to be called and signed by members of the general assembly holding a cumulative total of proxies constituting a majority of the total number of proxies held by all members of the general assembly [three-fourths of the members of the senate and three-fourths of the members of the house of representatives, the president pro tem of the senate and the speaker of the house shall by joint proclamation] the presiding member of the general assembly shall convene the general assembly in special session. The proclamation shall state specifically each matter contained in the petition on which action is deemed necessary. No appropriation bill shall be considered in a special session convened pursuant to this section if in that year the general assembly has not passed the operating budget in compliance with Section 25 of this article.

The general assembly shall automatically stand adjourned sine die at 6:00 p.m. on the thirtieth calendar day after the date of its convening in special session under this section unless it has adjourned sine die prior thereto.

Section 20(d). If any provision of sections 2, 3, 12, or 13(c) [7, 19, or 20(c)] or the application thereof to anyone or to any circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of those provisions and the application of such provisions to others or other circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Section 21. The style of the laws of this state shall be: "Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows." No law shall be passed except by bill, and no bill shall be so amended in its passage through the general assembly [either house] as to change its original purpose. [Bills may originate in either house and may be amended or rejected by the other]. Every bill shall be read by title on three different days in the general assembly [each house].

Section 22. Every bill shall be referred to a committee of the house in which it is pending.

After it has been referred to a committee, [one-third of] the elected members of the respective houses by a vote of one-third or more shall have power to relieve a committee of further consideration of a bill and place it on the calendar for consideration. Each committee shall keep such record of its proceedings as is required by rule of the respective houses and this record and the recorded vote of the members of the committee shall be filed with all reports on bills.

Each house of the general assembly may provide by rule for such committees of that house as it deems necessary to meet to consider bills or to perform any other necessary legislative function during the interim between the session ending on the thirtieth day of May and the session commencing on the first Wednesday after the first Monday of January.

Section 32. Every bill presented to the governor and returned with his objections shall stand as reconsidered in the house to which it is returned. If the governor returns any bill with his objections on or after the fifth day before the last day upon which a session of the general assembly may consider bills, the general assembly shall automatically reconvene on the first Wednesday following the second Monday in September for a period not to exceed ten calendar days for the sole purpose of considering bills returned by the governor. The objections of the governor shall be entered upon the journal and the house shall proceed to consider the question pending, which shall be in this form: "Shall the bill pass, the objections of the governor thereto notwithstanding?" The vote upon this question shall be taken by yeas and nays and if [two-thirds of the elected members of the house vote] a majority of the votes are in the affirmative the presiding officer of the general assembly [that house] shall certify that fact on the roll, attesting the same by her or his signature [, and send the bill with the objections of the governor to the other house, in which like proceedings shall be had in relation thereto]. The bill thus certified shall be deposited in the office of the secretary of state as an authentic act and shall become a law.