**South Carolina General Assembly**

121st Session, 2015-2016

**H. 3014**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Joint Resolution

Sponsors: Reps. Bannister, Allison, Atwater, Ballentine, Bedingfield, Bingham, Bradley, Brannon, Burns, Chumley, Clary, Clemmons, Cole, Collins, Corley, H.A. Crawford, Crosby, Daning, Delleney, Duckworth, Erickson, Finlay, Forrester, Gagnon, Gambrell, Goldfinch, Hamilton, Hardee, Hardwick, Henderson, Herbkersman, Hicks, Hill, Hiott, Hixon, Horne, Huggins, Johnson, Kennedy, Limehouse, Loftis, Long, Lowe, Lucas, McCoy, Merrill, D.C. Moss, V.S. Moss, Murphy, Nanney, Newton, Pitts, Pope, Putnam, Quinn, Riley, Rivers, Ryhal, Sandifer, Simrill, G.M. Smith, G.R. Smith, Sottile, Stringer, Tallon, Taylor, Wells, White, Whitmire, Willis, Yow, George, McKnight, Thayer, J.E. Smith and Whipper

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Introduced in the House on January 13, 2015

Introduced in the Senate on March 10, 2015

Last Amended on March 5, 2015

Currently residing in the Senate Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Sessions of the General Assembly

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

12/11/2014 House Prefiled

12/11/2014 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary**

1/13/2015 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 64](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\01-13-15.docx))

1/13/2015 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 64](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\01-13-15.docx))

1/15/2015 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Pitts

1/21/2015 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Thayer

2/25/2015 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: J.E.Smith

3/4/2015 House Committee report: Favorable with amendment **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 30](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\03-04-15.docx))

3/5/2015 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Whipper

3/5/2015 House Amended ([House Journal‑page 28](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\03-05-15.docx))

3/5/2015 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 28](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\03-05-15.docx))

3/5/2015 House Roll call Yeas‑103 Nays‑4 ([House Journal‑page 32](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\03-05-15.docx))

3/5/2015 House Unanimous consent for third reading on next legislative day ([House Journal‑page 33](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\03-05-15.docx))

3/6/2015 House Read third time and returned to Senate with amendments ([House Journal‑page 2](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\03-06-15.docx))

3/10/2015 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 12](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\03-10-15.docx))

3/10/2015 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 12](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2015\03-10-15.docx))

8/13/2015 Senate Referred to Subcommittee: Massey (ch), Scott, Bennett

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=3014&session=121&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/11/2014](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\3014_20141211.docx)

[3/4/2015](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\3014_20150304.docx)

[3/5/2015](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\3014_20150305.docx)

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Indicates New Matter

AMENDED

March 5, 2015

**H. 3014**

Introduced by Reps. Bannister, Allison, Atwater, Ballentine, Bedingfield, Bingham, Bradley, Brannon, Burns, Chumley, Clary, Clemmons, Cole, Collins, Corley, H.A. Crawford, Crosby, Daning, Delleney, Duckworth, Erickson, Finlay, Forrester, Gagnon, Gambrell, Goldfinch, Hamilton, Hardee, Hardwick, Henderson, Herbkersman, Hicks, Hill, Hiott, Hixon, Horne, Huggins, Johnson, Kennedy, Limehouse, Loftis, Long, Lowe, Lucas, McCoy, Merrill, D.C. Moss, V.S. Moss, Murphy, Nanney, Newton, Pitts, Pope, Putnam, Quinn, Riley, Rivers, Ryhal, Sandifer, Simrill, G.M. Smith, G.R. Smith, Sottile, Stringer, Tallon, Taylor, Wells, White, Whitmire, Willis, Yow, George, McKnight, Thayer, J.E. Smith and Whipper

S. Printed 3/5/15--H.

Read the first time January 13, 2015.

**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 9, ARTICLE III OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR ANNUAL SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMENCING ON THE SECOND TUESDAY IN FEBRUARY RATHER THAN THE SECOND TUESDAY IN JANUARY OF EACH YEAR, REQUIRE EACH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ADJOURN SINE DIE NOT LATER THAN THE FIRST THURSDAY IN MAY EACH YEAR, AND ALLOW THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CONVENE IN LOCAL SESSION AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF BEGINNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS OR HEARINGS ON THE SECOND TUESDAY OF JANUARY EACH YEAR.

Amend Title To Conform

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. It is proposed that Section 9, Article III of the Constitution of this State be amended to read:

“Section 9. The annual session of the General Assembly shall convene at the State Capitol Building in the City of Columbia on the second Tuesday of ~~January~~ February of each year and must adjourn sine die not later than the last Thursday in May each year. The General Assembly may convene in local session and for the purpose of beginning committee meetings or hearings on the second Tuesday of January of each year. After the convening of the General Assembly, nothing in this section shall prohibit the Senate or the House of Representatives, or both, from receding for a time period not to exceed thirty consecutive calendar days at a time by a majority vote of the members of the body of the General Assembly seeking to recede for a time period not to exceed thirty consecutive calendar days, or from receding for a time period of more than thirty consecutive calendar days at a time by a two‑thirds vote of the members of the body of the General Assembly seeking to recede for more than thirty consecutive calendar days at a time. Each body shall sit in session at the State Capitol Building in the City of Columbia and may provide for meetings during the legislative session as it shall consider appropriate. Furthermore, the Senate or the House of Representatives, or both, may meet on the first Tuesday following the certification of the election of its members for not more than three days following the general election in even‑numbered years for the purpose of organizing. If the casualties of war or contagious disease render it unsafe to meet at the seat of government, the Governor, by proclamation, may appoint a more secure and convenient place of meeting. Members of the General Assembly shall not receive any compensation for more than forty days of any one session.”

SECTION 2. The proposed amendment must be submitted to the qualified electors at the next general election for representatives. Ballots must be provided at the various voting precincts with the following words printed or written on the ballots:

“Shall Section 9, Article III of the Constitution of this State be amended so as to provide for annual sessions of the General Assembly commencing on the second Tuesday in February, rather than the second Tuesday in January of each year, to require each annual session of the General Assembly to adjourn sine die not later than the last Thursday in May each year, and to allow the General Assembly to convene in local session and begin committee meetings or hearings on the second Tuesday in January each year?

Yes 

No 

Those voting in favor of the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word ‘Yes’, and those voting against the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word ‘No’.”

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