

Senate Joint Resolution 7

STATE GOVERNMENT: Coieman, Chair; Bruner and Drake

FILED FEB 23 1987

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 7  
BY HOLDEN

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of  
2 the State of Iowa to eliminate the office of lieutenant  
3 governor.

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SSR 7

1 Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of  
2 the State of Iowa is proposed:

3 1. Section 3 of Article IV as amended by amendment number  
4 1 of the Amendments of 1972 is repealed and the following  
5 adopted in lieu thereof:

6 RETURNS OF ELECTIONS. SEC. 3. In voting for governor, the  
7 electors shall designate for whom they vote as governor. The  
8 returns of every election for governor shall be sealed up and  
9 transmitted to the seat of government of the state, directed  
10 to the speaker of the house of representatives, who shall open  
11 and publish them in the presence of both houses of the general  
12 assembly.

13 2. Section 4 of Article IV as amended by amendment number  
14 1 of the Amendments of 1952 is repealed and the following  
15 adopted in lieu thereof:

16 ELECTION BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY. SEC. 4. The person having  
17 the highest number of votes for governor shall be declared  
18 duly elected; but in case two or more persons have an equal  
19 and the highest number of votes for the office, the general  
20 assembly shall, by joint vote, forthwith proceed to elect one  
21 of the persons governor.

22 If, upon the completion of the canvass of votes for  
23 governor by the general assembly, it appears that the person  
24 who received the highest number of votes for governor has  
25 since died, resigned, is unable to qualify, fails to qualify,  
26 or for any other reason is unable to assume the duties of the  
27 office of governor for the ensuing term, the powers and duties  
28 of the office shall devolve upon the president of the senate  
29 until the disability is removed and, upon inauguration, the  
30 president of the senate shall assume the powers and duties of  
31 governor.

32 3. Section 5 of Article IV is repealed and the following  
33 adopted in lieu thereof:

34 CONTESTED ELECTIONS. SEC. 5. Contested elections for  
35 governor shall be determined by the general assembly in the

1 manner prescribed by law.

2 4. Section 6 of Article IV is repealed and the following  
3 adopted in lieu thereof:

4 ELIGIBILITY. SEC. 6. A person is not eligible for the  
5 office of governor who has not been a citizen of the United  
6 States, and a resident of the state, two years next preceding  
7 the election, and attained the age of thirty years at the time  
8 of that election.

9 5. Section 14 of Article IV is repealed and the following  
10 adopted in lieu thereof:

11 DISQUALIFICATION. SEC. 14. A person, while holding any  
12 office under the authority of the United States or this state,  
13 shall not execute the office of governor, except as expressly  
14 provided in this article.

15 6. Section 15 of Article IV as amended by amendment number  
16 1 of the Amendments of 1972 is repealed and the following  
17 adopted in lieu thereof:

18 TERMS. SEC. 15. The official term of the governor  
19 commences on the second Monday of January next after the  
20 election, and continues until the successor is elected and  
21 qualified.

22 7. Section 17 of Article IV is repealed and the following  
23 adopted in lieu thereof:

24 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE TO ACT AS GOVERNOR. SEC. 17. In  
25 case of the death, impeachment, resignation, removal from  
26 office, or other disability of the governor, the powers and  
27 duties of the office for the residue of the term, or until the  
28 governor is acquitted, or the disability removed, devolve upon  
29 the president of the senate.

30 8. Section 18 of Article IV is repealed.

31 9. Section 19 of Article IV as amended by amendment number  
32 2 of the Amendments of 1952 is repealed and the following  
33 adopted in lieu thereof:

34 GUBERNATORIAL SUCCESSION. SEC. 19. If there is a vacancy  
35 in the office of governor, the president of the senate shall

1 act as governor until the vacancy is filled or the disability  
2 removed; and if the president of the senate, for any of the  
3 causes in section 17, is incapable of performing the duties  
4 pertaining to the office of governor the duties shall devolve  
5 upon the speaker of the house of representatives; and if the  
6 speaker of the house of representatives, for any of the causes  
7 in section 17, is incapable of performing the duties of the  
8 office of governor, the justices of the supreme court shall  
9 convene the general assembly by proclamation and the general  
10 assembly shall organize by the election of a president by the  
11 senate and a speaker by the house of representatives. The  
12 general assembly shall thereupon immediately proceed to the  
13 election of a governor in joint convention.

14 Sec. 2. The foregoing proposed amendment to the  
15 Constitution of the State of Iowa is referred to the general  
16 assembly to be chosen at the next general election for members  
17 of the general assembly and the secretary of state is directed  
18 to cause it to be published for three consecutive months be-  
19 fore the date of that election as provided by law.

20 EXPLANATION

21 The joint resolution proposes an amendment to the  
22 Constitution of the State of Iowa to eliminate the office of  
23 lieutenant governor.

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