

NOTE: As provided in LFC policy, this report is intended only for use by the standing finance committees of the legislature. The Legislative Finance Committee does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this report when used in any other situation.

Only the most recent FIR version (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) is available on the Legislative Website. The Adobe PDF version includes all attachments, whereas the HTML version does not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC's office in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT



SPONSOR: HVEC DATE TYPED: 02/07/02 HB HJR 11/HVECS

SHORT TITLE: Fifty-Day Legislative Sessions, CA SB _____

ANALYST: Burch

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY02	FY03	FY02	FY03		
			30.0	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Conflicts with Senate Joint Resolution 4

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC files
Secretary of State

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Substitute Bill

House Voters and Elections Committee Substitute for House Joint Resolution 11 proposes to amend Article 4, Section 5 of the New Mexico Constitution to provide for 45-day sessions during even-numbered years. The section is further amended to remove the current requirement that regular sessions during even-numbered years be limited to fiscal bills, bills drawn pursuant to special messages of the governor and bill of the last previous regular session vetoed by the governor.

Significant Issues

Currently, the regular sessions in odd-numbered years are 60 days and the regular sessions in even-numbered years are 30 days.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

If passed, expenses for salaries and per diem in odd-numbered years would decrease by approximately 16 percent and in even-numbered years would increase by 66 percent. The appropriation for

House Joint Resolution 11/HVECS -- Page 2

the last 60-day session was \$6.8 million and the appropriation for the current 30-day session totals \$3.9 million. The question would appear on the ballot in the November 2002 general election; therefore, if approved by the voters, the provision would be effective for the 2003 session.

If passed, this question would appear on the ballot in the November 2002 general election. The Secretary of State reports it costs \$30.0 to place an item on the ballot for advertising and printing. Included in the cost is: (1) the publishing of constitutional amendments in English and Spanish for four consecutive weeks in one newspaper in each county of the state; (2) the oral translation and radio broadcast into the Native American languages of Tewa, Tiwa, Towa, Keres, Zuni, Mescalero Apache, Jicarilla Apache and Navajo; and (3) the printing of amendments booklets in English and Spanish (including Spanish language translation cost) and distribution to all county clerks (100,000 booklets were printed for 2000 general election). Therefore, there would be a nonrecurring cost to the general fund of \$30.0 in FY03. This legislation does not include an appropriation needed to fund these costs.

CONFLICT

Senate Joint Resolution 4 proposes to change the number of annual regular session days to 45 (from 60 days in odd-numbered years to 30 days in even-numbered years). This measure also includes other provisions pertaining to limitations of topics to be considered by legislative interim committees expenses of those committees. Finally, the provisions regarding topics that may be considered during even-numbered years remain in this measure, but further limitations for topics to be considered in odd-numbered years are added to the measure.

DKB/njw