



General Assembly

**Amendment**

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 8255



Offered by:

REP. CANDELORA, 86<sup>th</sup> Dist.      REP. REBIMBAS, 70<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. O'DEA, 125<sup>th</sup> Dist.        REP. ZUPKUS, 89<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. DEVLIN, 134<sup>th</sup> Dist.      REP. MASTROFRANCESCO, 80<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. PERILLO, 113<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Joint Resolution      File No. 96      Cal. No. 103  
No. 58

**"RESOLUTION PROPOSING A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENT TO ALLOW NO-EXCUSE ABSENTEE VOTING."**

1      After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and  
2      internal references accordingly:

3      "Sec. 501. That the following be proposed as an amendment to the  
4      Constitution of the State, which, when approved and adopted in the  
5      manner provided by the Constitution, shall, to all intents and purposes,  
6      become a part thereof:

7      Article third of the Constitution is amended by adding section 21 as  
8      follows:

9      Sec. 21. Not later than the Friday following the first Monday of  
10     January in the odd-numbered years, the general assembly shall appoint  
11     a committee on election law consisting of four members of the senate,

12 two who shall be designated by the president pro tempore of the senate  
13 and two who shall be designated by the minority leader of the senate,  
14 and four members of the house of representatives, two who shall be  
15 designated by the speaker of the house of representatives and two who  
16 shall be designated by the minority leader of the house of  
17 representatives, provided there are members of no more than two  
18 political parties in either the senate or the house of representatives. In  
19 the event that there are members or more than two political parties in a  
20 house of the general assembly, all members of that house belonging to  
21 the parties other than that of the president pro tempore of the senate or  
22 the speaker of the house of representatives, as the case may be, shall  
23 select one of their number, who shall designate two members of the  
24 committee in lieu of the designation by the minority leader of that  
25 house. Such committee shall study the election laws of the state and  
26 advise the general assembly on matters pertaining to such election laws.  
27 Not later than the first day of May in the odd-numbered years, such  
28 committee shall file with the clerk of the house of representatives and  
29 the clerk of the senate a report of recommended changes to such election  
30 laws. Any act concerning the election laws of the state shall pass upon  
31 roll call by a yea vote of at least two-thirds of the total membership of  
32 each house, except that any such act based on a recommendation  
33 included in a report filed by the committee described in this section in  
34 the same year may pass upon roll call by a yea vote of at least a majority  
35 of the total membership of each house.

36 RESOLVED: That the foregoing proposed amendment to the  
37 Constitution be continued to the next session of the General Assembly  
38 elected at the general election to be held on November 8, 2022, and  
39 published with the laws passed at the present session, or be presented  
40 to the electors at the general election to be held on November 8, 2022,  
41 whichever the case may be, according to article sixth of the amendments  
42 to the Constitution. The designation of said proposed amendment to be  
43 used on the ballots at such election shall be "Shall the Constitution of the  
44 State be amended to (1) establish a bipartisan legislative committee to  
45 recommend to the General Assembly any changes to the state's election

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46 laws, and (2) provide that any bills concerning the state's election laws  
47 that are not based on such recommendations may only be passed by a  
48 two-thirds vote of each chamber of the General Assembly?""