

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 83

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BOSLEY.

4454H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the qualified voters of Missouri an amendment repealing Sections 3 and 30(a) of Article VI of the Constitution of Missouri, and adopting three new sections in lieu thereof relating to local control over mergers, dissolutions, and alterations of certain political subdivisions.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring therein:

That at the next general election to be held in the state of Missouri, on Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 2020, or at a special election to be called by the governor for that purpose, there is hereby submitted to the qualified voters of this state, for adoption or rejection, the following amendment to Article VI of the Constitution of the state of Missouri:

Section A. Sections 3 and 30(a), Article VI, Constitution of Missouri, are repealed and three new sections adopted in lieu thereof, to be known as Sections 3, 30(a), and 30(c), to read as follows:

Section 3. **1.** Two or more counties may be consolidated by vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon in each county affected, but no such vote shall be taken more than once in five years. The former areas shall be held responsible for their respective outstanding liabilities as provided by law.

2. The people of each county, city, town, or village shall have the exclusive right to maintain their existing form of government, which shall not be altered, dissolved, or merged with any other government except by majority vote of the citizens of each affected county, city, town, or village.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

Section 30(a). 1. The people of the city of St. Louis and the people of the county of St. Louis shall have **the exclusive power to:**

(1) [tø] Consolidate the territories and governments of the city and county into one political subdivision under the municipal government of the city of St. Louis; [øɚ;]

(2) [tø] Extend the territorial boundaries of the county so as to embrace the territory within the city and to reorganize and consolidate the county governments of the city and county, and adjust their relations as thus united, and thereafter the city may extend its limits in the manner provided by law for other cities; [øɚ;]

(3) [tø] Enlarge the present or future limits of the city by annexing thereto part of the territory of the county, and to confer upon the city exclusive jurisdiction of the territory so annexed to the city; [øɚ;]

(4) [tø] Establish a metropolitan district or districts for the functional administration of services common to the area included therein; or[;]

(5) [tø] Formulate and adopt any other plan for the partial or complete government of all or any part of the city and the county.

2. The power so given shall be exercised by the vote of the people of the city and county, **and only by a vote of the people of the city and county**, upon a plan prepared by a board of freeholders consisting of nineteen members, nine of whom shall be electors of the city and nine electors of the county and one an elector of some other county.

3. Upon the filing with the officials in general charge of elections in the city of a petition proposing the exercise of the powers hereby granted, signed by registered voters of the city in such number as shall equal three percent of the total vote cast in the city at the last general election for governor, and the certification thereof by the election officials to the mayor, and to the governor, then, within ten days after the certification the mayor shall, with the approval of a majority of the board of aldermen, appoint the city's nine members of the board, not more than five of whom shall be members of or affiliated with the same political party. Each member so appointed shall be given a certificate certifying his appointment signed by the mayor and attested by the seal of the city.

4. Upon the filing with the officials in general charge of elections in the county of a similar petition signed by registered voters of the county, in such number as shall equal three percent of the total vote cast in the county at the last general election for governor, and the certification thereof by the county election officials to the county supervisor of the county and to the governor, within ten days after the certification, the county supervisor shall, with the approval of a majority of the county council, appoint the county's nine members of the board, not more than five of whom shall be members of or affiliated with the same political party. Each

36 member so appointed shall be given a certificate of his appointment signed by the county
37 supervisor and attested by the seal of the county.

**Section 30(c). Any change to the territories or governments of the City of St. Louis
2 and the County of St. Louis shall only occur as authorized under Article VI, Sections 30(a)
3 to 30(c) of this Constitution.**

Section B. Under chapter 116, RSMo, and other applicable constitutional provisions and
2 laws of this state allowing the general assembly to adopt ballot language for the submission of
3 a joint resolution to the voters of this state, the official ballot title of the amendment proposed
4 in section A shall be as follows:

5 "Shall a merger between the City of St. Louis and the County of St. Louis require
6 the assent of their respective governing bodies under existing law, and shall a
7 proposed merger, alteration, or dissolution of any Missouri county, city, town, or
8 village require a majority vote in each affected county, city, town, or village?"

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