

ACTS

OF THE

One Hundred and Ninetieth Legislature

OF THE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

AND

Nineteenth Under the New Constitution



New Jersey State Library

1966

AMENDMENTS TO THE
1947 CONSTITUTION

(1595)



Amendments to the 1947 Constitution

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS ADOPTED

Amend Article IV, Section I, Paragraph 2 of the State Constitution to read as follows:

2. No person shall be a member of the Senate who shall not have attained the age of thirty years, and have been a citizen and resident of the State for four years, and of the district for which he shall be elected one year, next before his election. No person shall be a member of the General Assembly who shall not have attained the age of twenty-one years and have been a citizen and resident of the State for two years, and of the district for which he shall be elected one year, next before his election. No person shall be eligible for membership in the Legislature unless he be entitled to the right of suffrage.

Amend Article IV, Sections II and III of the State Constitution to read as follows:

SECTION II.

1. The Senate shall be composed of forty senators apportioned among Senate districts as nearly as may be according to the number of their inhabitants as reported in the last preceding decennial census of the United States and according to the method of equal proportions. Each Senate district shall be composed, wherever practicable, of one single county, and, if not so practicable, of two or more contiguous whole counties.

2. Each senator shall be elected by the legally qualified voters of the Senate district, except that if the Senate district is composed of two or more

counties and two senators are apportioned to the district, one senator shall be elected by the legally qualified voters of each Assembly district. Each senator shall be elected for a term beginning at noon of the second Tuesday in January next following his election and ending at noon of the second Tuesday in January four years thereafter, except that each senator, to be elected for a term beginning in January of the second year following the year in which a decennial census of the United States is taken, shall be elected for a term of two years.

3. The General Assembly shall be composed of eighty members. Each Senate district to which only one senator is apportioned shall constitute an Assembly district. Each of the remaining Senate districts shall be divided into Assembly districts equal in number to the number of senators apportioned to the Senate district. The Assembly districts shall be composed of contiguous territory, as nearly compact and equal in the number of their inhabitants as possible, and in no event shall each such district contain less than eighty per cent nor more than one hundred twenty per cent of one-fortieth of the total number of inhabitants of the state as reported in the last preceding decennial census of the United States. Unless necessary to meet the foregoing requirements, no county or municipality shall be divided among Assembly districts unless it shall contain more than one-fortieth of the total number of inhabitants of the state, and no county or municipality shall be divided among a number of Assembly districts larger than one plus the whole number obtained by dividing the number of inhabitants in the county or municipality by one-fortieth of the total number of inhabitants of the state.

4. Two members of the General Assembly shall be elected by the legally qualified voters of each Assembly district for terms beginning at noon of the second Tuesday in January next following their election and ending at noon of the second Tuesday in January two years thereafter.

SECTION III.

1. After the next and every subsequent decennial census of the United States, the Senate districts and Assembly districts shall be established, and the senators and members of the General Assembly shall be apportioned among them, by an Apportionment Commission consisting of ten members, five to be appointed by the chairman of the state committee of each of the two political parties whose candidates for governor receive the larger number of votes at the most recent gubernatorial election. Each state chairman, in making such appointments, shall give due consideration to the representation of the various geographical areas of the state. Appointments to the Commission shall be made on or before November 15 of the year in which such census is taken and shall be certified by the Secretary of State on or before December 1 of that year. The Commission, by a majority of the whole number of its members, shall certify the establishment of Senate and Assembly districts and the apportionment of senators and members of the General Assembly to the Secretary of State within one month of the receipt by the Governor of the official decennial census of the United States for New Jersey, or on or before February 1 of the year following the year in which the census is taken, whichever date is later.

2. If the Apportionment Commission fails so to certify such establishment and apportionment to the Secretary of State on or before the date fixed or if prior thereto it determines that it will be unable so to do, it shall so certify to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey and he shall appoint an eleventh member of the Commission. The Commission so constituted, by a majority of the whole number of its members, shall, within one month after the appointment of such eleventh member, certify to the Secretary of State the establish-

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ment of Senate and Assembly districts and the apportionment of senators and members of the General Assembly.

3. Such establishment and apportionment shall be used thereafter for the election of members of the Legislature and shall remain unaltered until the following decennial census of the United States for New Jersey shall have been received by the Governor.

Amend Article XI by adding thereto Section V as follows:

SECTION V.

1. For the purpose of electing senators in 1967 and until the 1970 decennial census of the United States for New Jersey shall have been received by the Governor, the forty senators are hereby allocated among fifteen Senate districts, as follows:

First District—the counties of Gloucester, Atlantic and Cape May, two senators;

Second District—the counties of Salem and Cumberland, one senator;

Third District—the county of Camden, three senators;

Fourth District—the counties of Burlington and Ocean, two senators;

Fifth District—the county of Monmouth, two senators;

Sixth District—the county of Mercer, two senators;

Seventh District—the county of Middlesex, three senators;

Eighth District—the county of Somerset, one senator.

Ninth District—the county of Union, three senators;

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Tenth District—the county of Morris, two senators;

Eleventh District—the county of Essex, six senators;

Twelfth District—the county of Hudson, four senators;

Thirteenth District—the county of Bergen, five senators;

Fourteenth District—the county of Passaic, three senators; and

Fifteenth District—the counties of Sussex, Warren and Hunterdon, one senator.

2. For the purpose of electing members of the General Assembly and the senators from Assembly districts where so required in 1967 and until the 1970 census of the United States for New Jersey shall have been received by the Governor, the Assembly districts shall be established by an Apportionment Commission consisting of ten members, five to be appointed by the chairman of the state committee of each of the two political parties whose candidates for governor receive the largest number of votes at the most recent gubernatorial election. Each state chairman, in making such appointments, shall give due consideration to the representation of the various geographical areas of the state. Such Apportionment Commission shall be appointed no earlier than November 10 nor later than November 15, 1966, and their appointments shall be certified by the Secretary of State on or before December 1, 1966. The Commission, by a majority of the whole number of its members, shall certify the establishment of Assembly districts to the Secretary of State on or before February 1, 1967.

3. If such Apportionment Commission fails so to certify the establishment of Assembly districts to the Secretary of State on or before the date fixed or if prior thereto it determines that it will be

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unable so to do, it shall so certify to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey, and he shall appoint an eleventh member of the Commission. Such Commission, by a majority of the whole number of its members, shall within one month after the appointment of such eleventh member certify to the Secretary of State the establishment of Assembly districts.

4. The Assembly districts so established shall be used thereafter for the election of members of the General Assembly and shall remain unaltered until the following decennial census of the United States for New Jersey shall have been received by the Governor.

Adopted November 8, 1966.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
TO THE 1947 CONSTITUTION
THAT HAVE BEEN REJECTED

(1603)



Proposed Amendments to the 1947 Constitution that have been Rejected

PROPOSED AMENDMENT REJECTED

Amend Article VII, Section II, paragraph 2
to read as follows:

2. County clerks, surrogates and sheriffs shall be elected by the people of their respective counties at general elections. The term of office of county clerks, surrogates and sheriffs shall be 5 years. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in any such office, it shall be filled in the manner to be provided by law.

There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at such general election the following:

If you favor the proposition printed below make a cross (×), plus (+) or check (✓) in the square opposite the word "Yes." If you are opposed thereto make a cross (×), plus (+) or check (✓) in the square opposite the word "No."

| | | |
|--|------|--|
| | Yes. | Shall the amendment of Article VII, Section II, paragraph 2 of the Constitution to fix the terms of sheriffs at 5 years instead of 3 years, be approved? |
| | No. | |

In any municipality in which voting machines are used, the question shall be placed upon the official ballots to be used upon the voting machines without the foregoing instructions to the voters and shall be voted upon by the use of such machines without marking as aforesaid.

Filed July 9, 1956.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT REJECTED

Amend Article VII, Section I, paragraph 1 of the Constitution to read as follows:

1. Property shall be assessed for taxation under general laws and by uniform rules. All real property assessed and taxed locally or by the State for allotment and payment to taxing districts shall be assessed according to the same standard of value; and such real property shall be taxed at the general tax rate of the taxing district in which the property is situated, for the use of such taxing district. The Legislature may authorize the governing body of any municipality constituting a taxing district to establish a proportion of the standard of value at which such real property situate therein shall be assessed, and such proportion shall be uniformly applied to all such real property within the taxing district.