

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 22, 2000

Senate Constitutional Amendment

No. 14

Introduced by Senator Haynes

February 8, 2000

Senate Constitutional Amendment No. 14—A resolution to propose to the people of the State of California an amendment to the Constitution of the State, by amending Sections 1 and 4 of Article XI thereof, relating to local government officers.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCA 14, as amended, Haynes. County assessors.

The California Constitution requires that general law and charter counties have certain elected officers, including an elected assessor.

This measure would specify that, *in any county with a population of 25,000 or more*, the assessor shall be elected to a ~~four-year~~ 4-year term and may not serve more than ~~two~~ 2 terms as the assessor.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

1 *Resolved by the Senate, the Assembly concurring*, That
2 the Legislature of the State of California at its 1999–2000
3 Regular Session commencing on the seventh day of
4 December 1998, two-thirds of the membership of each
5 house concurring, hereby proposes to the people of the
6 State of California that the Constitution of the State be
7 amended as follows:

1 First—That Section 1 of Article XI thereof is amended
2 to read:

3 SEC. 1. (a) The State is divided into counties which
4 are legal subdivisions of the State. The Legislature shall
5 prescribe uniform procedure for county formation,
6 consolidation, and boundary change. Formation or
7 consolidation requires approval by a majority of electors
8 voting on the question in each affected county. A
9 boundary change requires approval by the governing
10 body of each affected county. A county seat may not be
11 removed unless two-thirds of the qualified electors of the
12 county, voting on the proposition at a general election,
13 shall vote in favor of that removal. A proposition of
14 removal may not be submitted in the same county more
15 than once in four years.

16 (b) The Legislature shall provide for county powers,
17 an elected county sheriff, an elected district attorney, an
18 elected assessor, and an elected governing body in each
19 county. ~~The~~ *In any county with a population of 25,000 or*
20 *more, the assessor shall be elected to a four-year term and*
21 *may not serve more than two terms as the assessor.*
22 Except as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 4 of this
23 article, each governing body shall prescribe by ordinance
24 the compensation of its members, but the ordinance
25 prescribing that compensation shall be subject to
26 referendum. The Legislature or the governing body may
27 provide for other officers whose compensation shall be
28 prescribed by the governing body. Except as otherwise
29 provided by this section, the governing body shall
30 provide for the number, compensation, tenure, and
31 appointment of employees.

32 Second—That Section 4 of Article XI thereof is
33 amended to read:

34 SEC. 4. County charters shall provide for:

35 (a) A governing body of 5 or more members, elected
36 (1) by district or, (2) at large, or (3) at large, with a
37 requirement that they reside in a district. Charter
38 counties are subject to statutes that relate to apportioning
39 population of governing body districts.



1 (b) The compensation, terms, and removal of
2 members of the governing body. If a county charter
3 provides for the Legislature to prescribe the salary of the
4 governing body, that compensation shall be prescribed
5 by the governing body by ordinance.

6 (c) An elected sheriff, an elected district attorney, an
7 elected assessor, other officers, and their election or
8 appointment, compensation, terms, and removal. ~~The~~ *In*
9 *any county with a population of 25,000 or more, the*
10 assessor shall be elected to a four-year term and may not
11 serve more than two terms as the assessor.

12 (d) The performance of functions required by statute.

13 (e) The powers and duties of governing bodies and all
14 other county officers, and for consolidation and
15 segregation of county officers, and for the manner of
16 filling all vacancies occurring therein.

17 (f) The fixing and regulation by governing bodies, by
18 ordinance, of the appointment and number of assistants,
19 deputies, clerks, attachés, and other persons to be
20 employed, and for the prescribing and regulating by the
21 governing bodies of the powers, duties, qualifications, and
22 compensation of those persons, the times at which, and
23 terms for which they shall be appointed, and the manner
24 of their appointment and removal.

25 (g) Whenever any county has framed and adopted a
26 charter, the general laws adopted by the Legislature
27 pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 1 of this article,
28 shall, as to that county, be superseded by the charter as
29 to matters for which, under this section it is competent to
30 make provision in that charter, and for which provision
31 is made in the charter, except as otherwise expressly
32 provided in this section.

33 (h) Charter counties shall have all the powers that are
34 provided by this Constitution or by statute for counties.

