

Amendments To The Constitution To Be Considered

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under such regulations as may be prescribed by the Governor.

Proposed Change

The proposed amendment would change the foregoing section to provide for appointment by the Governor of the person recommended by the Executive Committee of the political party with which the deceased or resigned member was affiliated.

Purpose of the Amendment

This amendment is designed to provide a method for the filling of vacancies in the General Assembly which would preserve the political representation in the General Assembly prior to the vacancy, and which would enable immediately filling of a vacancy in the General Assembly without the delay and expense implicit in holding an election.

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Proposed Change

To amend certain provisions relating to the filling of vacancies in certain state offices.

At the present time Section 25, Article III, provides for appointment by the Governor, to fill vacancies occurring in the Judicial Department that are not otherwise specially provided for, which appointees serve until the next regular election for members of the General Assembly.

Purpose of the Amendment

The proposed amendment would change that Section to read in its final form as follows: "All vacancies occurring in the offices provided for by this Article of the Constitution shall be filled by the appointment of the Governor, unless otherwise provided for, and the appointees shall hold their places until the next regular election for members of the General Assembly that is held more than 30 days after such vacancy occurs, when elections shall be held to fill such offices. If any person, elected or appointed to any said offices, shall neglect and fail to qualify, such offices shall be appointed to, held and filled as provided in case of vacancies occurring therein. All incumbents of said offices shall hold until their successors are qualified."

Nine Million Are Eligible To Cast Their First Vote

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persons of first voting age own their own homes.

Thus as homemakers, producers, savers and consumers, and now as the first voters, America's younger generation are taking their place in our society and assuming their share of the responsibility for the preservation and protection of our democratic traditions and free institutions.

Figures compiled by the U. S. Bureau of the Census estimate that more than 9,200,000 young Americans will be old enough to vote in a presidential election for the first time on November 4. This total is the equivalent of approximately one out of every 11 of the total American population of voting age. Those serving in the armed forces are included, for they, too, can vote if they meet the eligibility requirements of the states in which they are resident.

Under the present provision a vacancy may occur so close to the general election it would be impossible or impractical to nominate candidates, print ballots and provide for the details of filling such vacancy by an election. In such a case there would be no way to fill such vacancy. The failure to include the "thirty day" provision was doubtless an oversight in drafting this provision, which this amendment is intended to correct.

states in which they are resident. In all, a record number of close to 100 million Americans are now of voting age, an increase of some 4 1-2 million since 1948. The difference between this figure and the number of new voters reflects the deaths in the electorate in the last four years.

The largest number of new voters in a presidential year was in 1944. Then a total of more than 9,700,000 young men and women became old enough to cast their first vote for president, or about a half million more than the group which will reach the qualifying age this November.

Numbers aside, the proportion of persons of first voting age to the total electorate has been in a long-term downtrend. Over the last three decades, the figures show, the proportion of new voters to the total population of voting age has declined by about 25 per cent. Back in 1920, for example, the number of new voters in that year's presidential election was the equivalent of approximately one out of every eight of the total population of voting age as against about one out of every 11 this year. The decline in the proportion of younger voters has been greater in the Northeast and North Central States than in other regions, reflecting the population shifts in the last three decades.

A special factor responsible for the current downward in the number and proportion of new voters is the abnormally low birth rate of the Thirties, and this will be an influence for some years to come. Over the years, however, the voting population has been steadily growing older in line with the long-term aging of the American population in general.

Back in 1920, for example, Bureau of the Census figures show that 64 per cent of the total population of voting age was then to be found in the age bracket of 21 to 44 years, and only 8 per cent in the group 65 years old and over. But in 1950, though the 21 to 44 age group was some 16 million greater in number than in 1920, its proportion of the total population of voting age had fallen to 56 per cent while that of the 65 and over group had risen to 13 per cent. During these three decades, the proportion of those 45 to 64 years of age had increased from 28 to 31 per cent of the total voting population.

Big Increase In Adult Education

Figures made public by the National Education Association, after a nation-wide survey of communities of 2,500 and over, show an increase of 1,744,256 in adult education enrollment in the last four years. The present adult school tally was shown by the survey to be 4,744,256. Housewives comprised nearly one-fourth of the total, 24.2 percent. About twenty-six percent were mechanical workers, and about seventeen percent were office workers. Classes in civics and public affairs ranked as most popular.

Book Tells About Various Age Units

Age groups in the United States—The Federal Security Agency in Washington has issued a "Fact Book on Aging" in which it gives many facts about the various age groups in the nation and reveals that one in every twelve persons in the country is sixty-five years of age or older. "Since 1900," the report says, "the population of the United States has doubled but the number of persons forty-five to sixty-four years has tripled. Safety and automobile-driving education was the second most popular subject for adults. Increases in the area of general academic, vocational and commercial education were small.

ed, while the number sixty-five years or older has quadrupled. There are now (early 1952) 11,000,000 men and women sixty-five year of age and over. This number is increasing currently at the rate of about 400,000 a year." It is also revealed that in 1951, when the study was completed, the number of persons 65 years of age or older had increased ten years by thirty-six percent. Women were found to outnumber men ten to nine in the sixty-five and over age group. More than half the women were widows; the majority of the men were still married. Nine million of the thirteen million sixty-five and over lived in their own households in 1950 and another 275,000,000 lived in the homes of relatives. More than half a million were roomers or boarders in families not related to them and over 700,000 lived in institutions, hotels, or large rooming houses. At the end of 1951 less than one in every three persons sixty-five or older was receiving income from employment either as an earner or the wife of an earner. About one in four was receiving old-age and survivors insurance benefits under the Social Security law and about one in five was receiving old-age assistance under federal-state programs for the needy.

Retail sales rose 6 per cent in April above 1951 figure.

Polio Cases During Week Of August 20 Set Record

The U. S. Public Health Service has announced that there were 3,559 cases of polio recorded in the nation for the week ended August 20th, which sets a new high mark or any week in the nation's history. This was 367 cases more than during the corresponding period of 1949, the country's worst polio epidemic year.

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