



www.lsc.ohio.gov

# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.J.R. 1  
133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

## Resolution Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Rep. Koehler

Abby McMahon, Attorney

### SUMMARY

- Proposes an amendment to the Ohio Constitution to require a proposed constitutional amendment by initiative petition to have signatures from at least 10% of the electors from each of 53 of the counties of Ohio.
- Specifies that the proposal is to appear on the ballot on November 5, 2019.
- Provides that, if adopted by a majority of electors voting on it, the proposal takes effect immediately.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Initiated constitutional amendment petition

The joint resolution proposes an amendment to the Ohio Constitution to modify certain signature requirements for a proposed constitutional amendment by initiative petition. The Ohio Constitution reserves to the people the power of initiative, which allows the electors (people who are registered to vote in Ohio) to propose an amendment to the Ohio Constitution.

To propose a constitutional amendment by initiative petition, petitioners must file with the Secretary of State a petition that is signed by 10% of the electors, based on the most recent vote for Governor. The resolution requires part-petitions to have signatures from at least 10% of the electors from each of 53 of the counties of Ohio. Under the current Constitution, part-petitions must include signatures from at least ½ of the counties of Ohio (44 counties), signed by not less than ½ of the designated percentage (5%) of the electors of that county.

Under continuing law, if the petition is valid, the Secretary of State must submit the proposed amendment to the electors at the next regular or general election that occurs 125 days after the petition is filed. Additionally, the proposed amendment must be approved by an affirmative vote of a majority of the electors. If conflicting proposed amendments are approved

at the same election, the amendment that received the highest number of affirmative votes is adopted.<sup>1</sup>

### **Date of election and effective date**

The resolution specifies that the proposal is to appear on the ballot on November 5, 2019. If adopted by a majority of electors voting on it, the proposal takes effect immediately. Generally, under current law, an approved amendment takes effect 30 days after the election at which it was approved.

---

---

## **HISTORY**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Date</b>
Introduced	06-27-19

---

HJR0001-I-133/ts

---

<sup>1</sup> Proposed Ohio Const., art. II, secs. 1a and 1g; Ohio Const., art. II, sec. 1b, not in the resolution.