
SENATE BILL 5887

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Senator Fortunato

1 AN ACT Relating to providing procedures for the legislature to
2 convene a special session; and adding a new section to chapter 44.04
3 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 44.04
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 The legislature may convene a special legislative session as
8 follows:

9 (1) Members of the house of representatives or senate may present
10 a proposed resolution for the convening of a special legislative
11 session. A resolution calling for convening a special legislative
12 session must be signed by at least one-third of the members of either
13 house. If the signatories are members of the house of
14 representatives, the resolution must be presented to the speaker of
15 the house of representatives. If the signatories are members of the
16 senate, the resolution must be presented to the lieutenant governor.
17 The resolution shall set forth the date and time for convening the
18 session, the duration of the session which shall not exceed 30 days,
19 together with the purpose or purposes for which the session is
20 called.

1 (2) The authority to place a resolution convening a special
2 legislative session before the legislature is vested in the
3 lieutenant governor or the speaker of the house of representatives.

4 (3) Upon the speaker of the house of representatives' receipt of
5 a resolution convening a special legislative session, a vote of the
6 house of representatives shall be taken on such resolution.

7 (4) Upon the lieutenant governor's receipt of a resolution
8 convening a special legislative session, a vote of the senate shall
9 be taken on such resolution.

10 (5) The chief clerk of the house of representatives and the
11 secretary of the senate shall conduct the vote on the resolution by
12 secure visual meeting technology of the members of their respective
13 houses. At least 72 hours' notice must be provided before a vote on
14 the resolution. The results of such vote shall be transmitted to the
15 members of the legislature and shall be a public record and shall be
16 entered upon the journal of the house of representatives and senate
17 at the convening of the next legislative session.

18 (6) If two-thirds of the members elected or appointed to the
19 chamber initially considering the resolution vote in favor of the
20 resolution, then the resolution shall be transmitted to the other
21 chamber.

22 (7) Upon receipt of a resolution from the other chamber of the
23 legislature, the speaker of the house of representatives or the
24 lieutenant governor shall cause a vote to be taken on the resolution
25 in accordance with the procedures set forth in subsection (5) of this
26 section.

27 (8) If two-thirds of the members elected or appointed to the
28 second chamber considering the resolution vote in favor of the
29 resolution, a special legislative session shall be convened in
30 accordance with the resolution.

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