

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 289

2 INTRODUCED BY M. PHILLIPS

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF MONTANA AN
5 AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V, SECTION 10, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION TO REVISE
6 CONSTITUTIONAL LIMITATIONS ON LEGISLATIVE ADJOURNMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
7 DATE."

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9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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11 **Section 1.** Article V, section 10, of The Constitution of the State of Montana is amended to read:

12 **"Section 10. Organization and procedure.** (1) Each house shall judge the election and qualifications
13 of its members. It may by law vest in the courts the power to try and determine contested elections. Each house
14 shall choose its officers from among its members, keep a journal, and make rules for its proceedings. Each house
15 may expel or punish a member for good cause shown with the concurrence of two-thirds of all its members.

16 (2) A majority of each house constitutes a quorum. A smaller number may adjourn from day to day and
17 compel attendance of absent members.

18 (3) The sessions of the legislature and of the committee of the whole, all committee meetings, and all
19 hearings shall be open to the public.

20 (4) The legislature may establish a legislative council and other interim committees. The legislature shall
21 establish a legislative post-audit committee which shall supervise post-auditing duties provided by law.

22 (5) Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn or recess for more than three days or
23 to any place other than that in which the two houses are sitting ~~or adjourn~~. After the 85th legislative day, neither
24 house shall adjourn SINE DIE without the consent of the other."

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26 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** This amendment is effective upon approval by the
27 electorate.

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29 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Submission to electorate.** This amendment shall be submitted to the
30 qualified electors of Montana at the general election to be held in November 2010 by printing on the ballot the

