

CONSENT CALENDAR

May 17, 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Legislative Administration to which
was referred CACR 10,

AN ACT the general court. Providing that the general
court convene on the same day as the governor's
inauguration. Having considered the same, report the
same with the following resolution: **RESOLVED**, that it
is **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**.

Rep. Michael Costable

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Legislative Administration
Bill Number:	CACR 10
Title:	the general court. Providing that the general court convene on the same day as the governor's inauguration.
Date:	May 17, 2023
Consent Calendar:	CONSENT
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Our constitution provides for us specific dates for legislative functions that have stood for many, many years. This CACR seeks to change those meeting dates purely for the convenience of a few senators who find difficulty with attending these two scheduled days in January for odd numbered years-- specifically, Convening Day and Inauguration Day. This CACR asks us to place on the ballot, for the voters of NH to decide, whether or not to change the constitution to put those two legislative functions on the same day. The committee believes that all the expense and effort needed to actually change the constitution demands that those reasons given for changing the constitution be of singular great significance and importance and this CACR fails that test miserably. The committee sees a simple remedy might be for those few senators, to arrange beforehand, which senators will attend one of the functions and which will attend the other function. The constitution does not require all legislators to attend both days.

Vote 9-0.

Rep. Michael Costable
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Legislative Administration

CACR 10, the general court. Providing that the general court convene on the same day as the governor's inauguration. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Michael Costable for Legislative Administration. Our constitution provides for us specific dates for legislative functions that have stood for many, many years. This CACR seeks to change those meeting dates purely for the convenience of a few senators who find difficulty with attending these two scheduled days in January for odd numbered years-- specifically, Convening Day and Inauguration Day. This CACR asks us to place on the ballot, for the voters of NH to decide, whether or not to change the constitution to put those two legislative functions on the same day. The committee believes that all the expense and effort needed to actually change the constitution demands that those reasons given for changing the constitution be of singular great significance and importance and this CACR fails that test miserably. The committee sees a simple remedy might be for those few senators, to arrange beforehand, which senators will attend one of the functions and which will attend the other function. The constitution does not require all legislators to attend both days. **Vote 9-0.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on CACR 10

BILL TITLE: the general court. Providing that the general court convene on the same day as the governor's inauguration.

DATE: May 17, 2023

LOB ROOM: 301-303

MOTIONS: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Moved by Rep. Costable

Seconded by Rep. Tierney

Vote: 9-0

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Deb Hobson, Clerk



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/9/2023 12:05:32 PM
Roll Call Committee Registers
Report

2023 SESSION

Legislative Administration

Bill #: CA CR10 Motion: ITL AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 5/17/2023

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Hill, Gregory G. Chairman	9		
Sheehan, Vanessa L. Vice Chairman	1		
Osborne, Jason M.			
Costable, Michael	2		
Hobson, Deborah L. Clerk			
Pearson, Stephen C.			
McCarter, Nikki	3		
Tierney, James W	4		
Wall, Janet G.	5		
Nutting-Wong, Allison R.	6		
Turcotte, Alan J.			
Richards, Beth S.			
Conlin, Bill			
Dolan, William			
Monteil, Renee M	7		
Payeur, Stephanie R	8		
TOTAL VOTE:	9	0	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

PUBLIC HEARING ON CACR 10

BILL TITLE: the general court.

DATE: April 19, 2023

LOB ROOM: 301-303 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 9:00 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 9:40 a.m.

Committee Members: Reps. A. Nutting-Wong, Hill, Sheehan, Hobson, Costable, McCarter, Tierney, Wall and A. Turcotte

Bill Sponsors:

Sen. Soucy

Sen. Rosenwald

Sen. Birdsell

Sen. D'Allesandro

Sen. Bradley

Sen. Carson

Rep. Simpson

Rep. Wilhelm

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

• **Donna Soucy - Senator**

- o Attempt to resolve a question that has been a longtime.
- o Does not involve organization day
- o Regards to Governor's Inauguration
- o Convene (senate) for no reason
- o She feels is laid out for canvassing the vote.
- o Amendment would have legislature convene on Thursday
- o (Question, Rep. Hill): seems more convenient for Senate than House?
- o (Answer): just trying to eliminate the Wednesday being an absolute
- o (Question, Rep. Hill): is this a fiscal issue?
- o (Answer): requires two days in a row of mileage, so yes.
- o (Question, Rep. Hill): any reaction?
- o (Answer): Don't think public has an idea of the impact but received unanimous consent from the Senate.
- o (Question, Rep. McCarter): were you approached from outside or is this your idea for legislation?
- o (Answer): my idea, and other senators believe this idea is great.
- o (Question, Rep. Hill): on ballot, are you in favor to this, does it make sense to bring this forward? Might it cause confusion?
- o (Answer): makes sense to use the tools we have available to make efficiencies in this 200-year-old function.

• **Paul Smith, House Clerk - opposes on behalf of the Speaker.**

- o Constitution doesn't require us to meet on the second Tuesday. Convening day is a work day for the House.
 - We go into Joint Convention with the Senate
 - Establish House Rules
 - Inauguration is a swearing in of House and Senate is voluntarily.
- o (Question, Rep. McCarter): Is attendance kept?
- o (Answer): yes, absences may not be accurate.
- o Constable: convening day is convening (starting) organization day.

Respectfully submitted,
Rep. Deborah Hobson, Clerk

House Remote Testify

Legislative Administration Committee Testify List for Bill CACR10 on 2023-04-19

Support: 2 Oppose: 1 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u> <u>Email Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Non-Germane</u>	<u>Signed Up</u>
Rosenwald, Cindy	Nashua, NH cindy.rosenwald@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	SD 13	Support	No	No	4/14/2023 3:47 PM
McKinnon, Paula	Tilton, NH tizjustiinnh@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	4/18/2023 11:23 AM
Richardson, Daniel	Nashua, NH daniel6_22@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	4/19/2023 12:16 PM

Paula McKinnon

Health care workers need protection!

CACR 10 - AS INTRODUCED

2023 SESSION

23-1060

10/07

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION **10**

RELATING TO: the general court.

PROVIDING THAT: the general court convene on the same day as the governor's inauguration.

SPONSORS: Sen. Soucy, Dist 18; Sen. Rosenwald, Dist 13; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Rep. Simpson, Rock. 33; Rep. Wilhelm, Hills. 40

COMMITTEE: Election Law and Municipal Affairs

ANALYSIS

This constitutional amendment concurrent resolution provides for the legislature to convene on the same day in January as the governor's inauguration.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

RELATING TO: the general court.

PROVIDING THAT: the general court convene on the same day as the governor's inauguration.

Be it Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Constitution of New Hampshire be amended as follows:

1 I.(a) That article 3 of the second part of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

2 [Art.] 3d. [General Court, When to Meet and Dissolve.] The senate and house shall assemble
3 biennially on the first Wednesday ~~of~~ **in** December for organizational purposes in even numbered
4 years, and shall assemble annually on the first ~~Wednesday~~ **Thursday** following the first ~~Tuesday~~
5 **Wednesday** in January, and at such other times as they may judge necessary; and shall dissolve and
6 be dissolved at 12:01 A.M. on the first Wednesday ~~of~~ **in** December in even numbered years and
7 shall be styled The General Court of New Hampshire.

8 (b) That article 42 of the second part of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

9 [Art.] 42. [Election of Governor; Return of Votes; Electors; If No Choice, Legislature to Elect
10 One of Two Highest Candidates; Qualifications for Governor.] The governor shall be chosen
11 biennially in the month of November; and the votes for governor shall be received, sorted, counted,
12 certified and returned, in the same manner as the votes for senators; and the secretary shall lay the
13 same before the senate and house of representatives, on the first ~~Wednesday~~ **Thursday** following
14 the first ~~Tuesday~~ ~~of~~ **Wednesday in** January to be by them examined, and in case of an election by
15 a plurality of votes through the state, the choice shall be by them declared and published, **and on**
16 **such day the governor shall be inaugurated.** ~~And~~ The qualifications of electors of the governor
17 shall be the same as those for senators; and if no person shall have a plurality of votes, the senate
18 and house of representatives shall, by joint ballot elect one of the 2 persons, having the highest
19 number of votes, who shall be declared governor. And no person shall be eligible to this office, unless
20 at the time of ~~his~~ **the governor's** election, ~~he~~ **the governor** shall have been an inhabitant of this
21 state for 7 years next preceding, and unless ~~he~~ **the governor** shall be of the age of 30 years.

22 (c) That article 66 of the second part of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

23 [Art.] 66 [Elections by Legislature may be Adjourned From Day to Day; Order Thereof.] And,
24 whereas the elections, appointed to be made by this constitution, on the first **Thursday following**
25 **the first** Wednesday of January biennially, by the two houses of the legislature, may not be
26 completed on that day, the said elections may be adjourned from day to day, until the same be
27 completed: and the order of the elections shall be as follows-the vacancies in the senate, if any, shall

CACR 10 - AS INTRODUCED

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1 be first filled up: The governor shall then be elected, provided there shall be no choice of him by the
2 people: And afterwards, the two houses shall proceed to fill up the vacancy, if any, in the council.

3 II. That the above amendments proposed to the constitution be submitted to the qualified
4 voters of the state at the state general election to be held in November, 2024.

5 III. That the selectmen of all towns, cities, wards and places in the state are directed to
6 insert in their warrants for the said 2024 election an article to the following effect: To decide
7 whether the amendments of the constitution proposed by the 2023 session of the general court shall
8 be approved.

9 IV. That the wording of the question put to the qualified voters shall be:
10 "Are you in favor of amending articles 3, 42, and 66 of the second part of the constitution to read as
11 follows:

12 [Art.] 3d. [General Court, When to Meet and Dissolve.] The senate and house shall assemble
13 biennially on the first Wednesday in December for organizational purposes in even numbered years,
14 and shall assemble annually on the first Thursday following the first Wednesday in January, and at
15 such other times as they may judge necessary; and shall dissolve and be dissolved at 12:01 A.M. on
16 the first Wednesday in December in even numbered years and shall be styled The General Court of
17 New Hampshire.

18 [Art.] 42. [Election of Governor; Return of Votes; Electors; If No Choice, Legislature to Elect
19 One of Two Highest Candidates; Qualifications for Governor.] The governor shall be chosen
20 biennially in the month of November; and the votes for governor shall be received, sorted, counted,
21 certified and returned, in the same manner as the votes for senators; and the secretary shall lay the
22 same before the senate and house of representatives, on the first Thursday following the first
23 Wednesday in January to be by them examined, and in case of an election by a plurality of votes
24 through the state, the choice shall be by them declared and published, and on such day the governor
25 shall be inaugurated. The qualifications of electors of the governor shall be the same as those for
26 senators; and if no person shall have a plurality of votes, the senate and house of representatives
27 shall, by joint ballot elect one of the 2 persons, having the highest number of votes, who shall be
28 declared governor. And no person shall be eligible to this office, unless at the time of the governor's
29 election, the governor shall have been an inhabitant of this state for 7 years next preceding, and
30 unless the governor shall be of the age of 30 years.

31 [Art.] 66 [Elections by Legislature may be Adjourned From Day to Day; Order Thereof.] And,
32 whereas the elections, appointed to be made by this constitution, on the first Thursday following the
33 first Wednesday of January biennially, by the two houses of the legislature, may not be completed on
34 that day, the said elections may be adjourned from day to day, until the same be completed: and the
35 order of the elections shall be as follows-the vacancies in the senate, if any, shall be first filled up:
36 The governor shall then be elected, provided there shall be no choice of him by the people: And
37 afterwards, the two houses shall proceed to fill up the vacancy, if any, in the council."

CACR 10 - AS INTRODUCED

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1 V. That the secretary of state shall print the question to be submitted on a separate ballot
2 with other constitutional questions or on the official ballot. The ballot containing the question shall
3 include 2 ovals next to the question allowing the voter to vote “Yes” or “No.” If no oval is marked, the
4 ballot shall not be counted on the question. The outside of the ballot shall be the same as the regular
5 official ballot except that the words “Questions Relating to Constitutional Amendments proposed by
6 the 2023 General Court” shall be printed in bold type at the top of the ballot.

7 VI. That if the proposed amendment is approved by 2/3 of those voting on the amendment, it
8 becomes effective when the governor proclaims its adoption.

9 VII. Voters' Guide.

10 AT THE PRESENT TIME, members of the senate and house of representatives
11 convene on the first Wednesday following the first Tuesday in January. The date of the governor's
12 inauguration is not mandated or designated.

13 IF THE AMENDMENT IS ADOPTED, members of the senate and house of
14 representatives would convene biennially on the first Thursday following the first Wednesday in
15 January in even numbered years in order to convene on the same day as the governor's
16 inauguration.