

**First Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 15-0011.01 Gregg Fraser x4325

**SENATE BILL 15-288**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Baumgardner and Hodge**, Cadman, Lundberg, Marble, Scheffel, Steadman, Grantham, Aguilar, Guzman, Heath, Jahn, Kerr, Lambert, Newell

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Hamner and Rankin**, DelGrosso, Hullinghorst, Rosenthal, Lebsack

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**Senate Committees**

Judiciary  
Appropriations

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING THE COMPENSATION PAID TO CERTAIN PUBLIC**  
102      **OFFICIALS.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

**Section 1** of the bill addresses the compensation paid to the governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, and state treasurer by aligning the salaries paid to those 5 officials with a percentage of the salaries paid to certain judicial branch officials. The adjustments take effect for terms beginning on or after the second Tuesday of January 2019.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

**Section 2** of the bill aligns the salaries of members of the general assembly whose terms commence on or after January 2019 with a percentage of the salary paid to a specified group of officials in the judicial branch.

Current law divides counties into 6 categories for purposes of fixing the salaries of elected county officials. The amount of the salaries specified for each category were last adjusted in 2006. In accordance with the recommendations of the county elected officials' salary commission, the bill increases the number of categories to 24. The bill continues to group the same counties that are grouped together under current law into 6 of the new categories with higher salaries than county officials receive under current law. The general assembly is specifically authorized to amend the law by bill in the future and move counties to other categories.

The director of research of the legislative council is directed to periodically adjust the salaries of elected county officials for inflation. These adjusted salaries would be posted on the general assembly's web site and take effect for terms commencing after the adjustment is made.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-9-101, **amend** (1)  
3 (a), (1) (b), (1) (d), (1) (e), (1) (f), and (2); and **add** (4) and (5) as follows:

4 **24-9-101. Salaries of elected state officials - repeal.** (1) The  
5 following state officials shall receive annual salaries and allowances,  
6 payable monthly, as follows:

7 (a) Governor:

8 (I) (A) Ninety thousand dollars.

9 (B) THIS SUBPARAGRAPH (I) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 10,  
10 2019.

11 (II) (A) THE SALARY PAYABLE TO THE GOVERNOR FOR EACH YEAR  
12 OF THE TERM COMMENCING ON THE SECOND TUESDAY IN JANUARY 2019  
13 IS AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO SIXTY-SIX PERCENT OF THE TOTAL ANNUAL  
14 SALARY PAID TO THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE STATE SUPREME COURT ON  
15 JANUARY 10, 2019.

16 (B) EACH SUBSEQUENT SALARY PAID UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH (a)

1 MUST BE ADJUSTED ON A QUADRENNIAL BASIS SO THAT, BEGINNING WITH  
2 THE FIRST DAY OF EACH FOUR-YEAR GUBERNATORIAL TERM, AND  
3 APPLYING TO EACH YEAR OF THAT TERM, THE GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL  
4 SALARY IS AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO SIXTY-SIX PERCENT OF THE TOTAL  
5 ANNUAL SALARY EARNED BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT  
6 ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE GOVERNOR'S TERM.

7 (b) Lieutenant governor:

8 (I) (A) Sixty-eight thousand five hundred dollars or, if  
9 concurrently serving as the head of a principal department, a combined  
10 salary that, in total, is commensurate with the annual salary paid for the  
11 position of head of the principal department.

12 (B) THIS SUBPARAGRAPH (I) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 10,  
13 2019.

14 (II) (A) THE SALARY PAYABLE TO THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
15 FOR EACH YEAR OF THE TERM COMMENCING ON THE SECOND TUESDAY IN  
16 JANUARY 2019 IS AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO FIFTY-EIGHT PERCENT OF THE  
17 TOTAL ANNUAL SALARY PAID TO THE JUDGES OF THE COUNTY COURT IN  
18 CLASS B COUNTIES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 13-6-201, C.R.S., ON  
19 JANUARY 10, 2019.

20 (B) EACH SUBSEQUENT SALARY PAID UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH (b)  
21 MUST BE ADJUSTED ON A QUADRENNIAL BASIS SO THAT, BEGINNING WITH  
22 THE FIRST DAY OF EACH FOUR-YEAR TERM, AND APPLYING TO EACH YEAR  
23 OF THAT TERM, THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S ANNUAL SALARY IS AN  
24 AMOUNT EQUAL TO FIFTY-EIGHT PERCENT OF THE TOTAL ANNUAL SALARY  
25 EARNED BY THE JUDGES OF THE COUNTY COURT IN CLASS B COUNTIES ON  
26 THE FIRST DAY OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S TERM.

27 (III) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF SUBPARAGRAPH (II)

1 OF THIS PARAGRAPH (b) TO THE CONTRARY, IF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
2 IS CONCURRENTLY SERVING AS THE HEAD OF A PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT  
3 AND THE SALARY FOR THE HEAD OF THAT PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT IS  
4 GREATER THAN THAT TO WHICH THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IS ENTITLED  
5 UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH (b), THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR SHALL ALSO BE  
6 PAID THAT PORTION OF THE SALARY FOR THE HEAD OF THE PRINCIPAL  
7 DEPARTMENT THAT, WHEN ADDED TO THE AMOUNT OF THE SALARY PAID  
8 UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH (b), EQUALS THE AMOUNT PAID TO THE HEAD OF  
9 THAT PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT.

10 (d) Attorney general:

11 (I) (A) Eighty thousand dollars.

12 (B) THIS SUBPARAGRAPH (I) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 10,  
13 2019.

14 (II) (A) THE SALARY PAYABLE TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR  
15 EACH YEAR OF THE TERM COMMENCING ON THE SECOND TUESDAY IN  
16 JANUARY 2019 IS AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO SIXTY PERCENT OF THE TOTAL  
17 ANNUAL SALARY PAID TO THE CHIEF JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS ON  
18 JANUARY 10, 2019.

19 (B) EACH SUBSEQUENT SALARY PAID UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH (d)  
20 MUST BE ADJUSTED ON A QUADRENNIAL BASIS SO THAT, BEGINNING WITH  
21 THE FIRST DAY OF EACH FOUR-YEAR TERM, AND APPLYING TO EACH YEAR  
22 OF THAT TERM, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ANNUAL SALARY IS AN AMOUNT  
23 EQUAL TO SIXTY PERCENT OF THE TOTAL ANNUAL SALARY EARNED BY THE  
24 CHIEF JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE  
25 ATTORNEY GENERAL'S TERM.

26 (e) Secretary of state:

27 (I) (A) Sixty-eight thousand five hundred dollars.

1 (B) THIS SUBPARAGRAPH (I) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 10,  
2 2019.

3 (II) (A) THE SALARY PAYABLE TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR  
4 EACH YEAR OF THE TERM COMMENCING ON THE SECOND TUESDAY IN  
5 JANUARY 2019 IS AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO FIFTY-EIGHT PERCENT OF THE  
6 TOTAL ANNUAL SALARY PAID TO THE JUDGES OF THE COUNTY COURT IN  
7 CLASS B COUNTIES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 13-6-201, C.R.S., ON  
8 JANUARY 10, 2019.

9 (B) EACH SUBSEQUENT SALARY PAID UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH (e)  
10 MUST BE ADJUSTED ON A QUADRENNIAL BASIS SO THAT, BEGINNING WITH  
11 THE FIRST DAY OF EACH FOUR-YEAR TERM, AND APPLYING TO EACH YEAR  
12 OF THAT TERM, THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S ANNUAL SALARY IS AN  
13 AMOUNT EQUAL TO FIFTY-EIGHT PERCENT OF THE TOTAL ANNUAL SALARY  
14 EARNED BY THE JUDGES OF THE COUNTY COURT IN CLASS B COUNTIES ON  
15 THE FIRST DAY OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S TERM.

16 (f) State treasurer:

17 (I) (A) Sixty-eight thousand five hundred dollars.

18 (B) THIS SUBPARAGRAPH (I) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 10,  
19 2019.

20 (II) (A) THE SALARY PAYABLE TO THE STATE TREASURER FOR  
21 EACH YEAR OF THE TERM COMMENCING ON THE SECOND TUESDAY IN  
22 JANUARY 2019 IS AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO FIFTY-EIGHT PERCENT OF THE  
23 TOTAL ANNUAL SALARY PAID TO THE JUDGES OF THE COUNTY COURT IN  
24 CLASS B COUNTIES, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 13-6-201, C.R.S., ON  
25 JANUARY 10, 2019.

26 (B) EACH SUBSEQUENT SALARY PAID UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH (f)  
27 MUST BE ADJUSTED ON A QUADRENNIAL BASIS SO THAT, BEGINNING WITH

1 THE FIRST DAY OF EACH FOUR-YEAR TERM, AND APPLYING TO EACH YEAR  
2 OF THAT TERM, THE STATE TREASURER'S ANNUAL SALARY IS AN AMOUNT  
3 EQUAL TO FIFTY-EIGHT PERCENT OF THE TOTAL ANNUAL SALARY EARNED  
4 BY THE JUDGES OF THE COUNTY COURT IN CLASS B COUNTIES ON THE  
5 FIRST DAY OF THE STATE TREASURER'S TERM.

6 (2) ~~The salaries fixed by subsection (1) of this section shall~~  
7 ~~become payable on and after the second Tuesday in January, 1999~~ ANY  
8 OFFICIAL WHO ASSUMES HIS OR HER POSITION BY REASON OF FILLING A  
9 VACANCY SHALL BE PAID THE SAME SALARY AS THAT TO WHICH THE  
10 VACATING OFFICIAL WAS ENTITLED.

11 (4) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION AUTHORIZES THE SALARY OF ANY  
12 ELECTED STATE OFFICIAL TO BE MODIFIED WHILE HE OR SHE IS SERVING HIS  
13 OR HER OFFICIAL TERM.

14 (5) THE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
15 APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-3-304 (1), C.R.S., SHALL POST THE  
16 AMOUNT OF THE CURRENT ANNUAL SALARY PAYABLE TO EACH ELECTED  
17 OFFICIAL PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION ON THE WEB SITE OF THE GENERAL  
18 ASSEMBLY. IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT OF EACH ELECTED OFFICIAL  
19 SHALL PUBLISH THE AMOUNT OF THE CURRENT ANNUAL SALARY PAYABLE  
20 TO THE ELECTED OFFICIAL ON THE WEB SITE OF DEPARTMENT.

21 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 2-2-307, **amend** (1)  
22 as follows:

23 **2-2-307. Compensation of members - reimbursement of**  
24 **expenses - repeal.** (1) (a) Commencing on the first day of the legislative  
25 session beginning in January of 1999, all members of the general  
26 assembly elected at the 1998 general election and thereafter THROUGH  
27 THE 2016 GENERAL ELECTION, and members appointed to fill vacancies

1 for unexpired terms of those members, shall receive as base compensation  
2 for their services the sum of thirty thousand dollars per annum, payable  
3 at the rate of two thousand five hundred dollars per month. THIS SECTION  
4 IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 8, 2022.

5 (b) COMMENCING ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
6 BEGINNING IN JANUARY 10, 2019, AND THE FIRST DAY OF EACH  
7 LEGISLATIVE SESSION BEGINNING IN JANUARY EACH TWO YEARS  
8 THEREAFTER, ALL MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHOSE TERMS  
9 COMMENCE ON SUCH DAY AND MEMBERS APPOINTED TO FILL VACANCIES  
10 FOR UNEXPIRED TERMS OF THOSE MEMBERS, SHALL RECEIVE AS AN  
11 ANNUAL BASE COMPENSATION FOR THEIR SERVICES AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO  
12 TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE TOTAL ANNUAL SALARY PAID AS OF SUCH  
13 DAY TO THE JUDGES OF THE COUNTY COURT IN CLASS B COUNTIES, AS  
14 DEFINED IN SECTION 13-6-201, C.R.S. THE BASE COMPENSATION SHALL BE  
15 PAYABLE IN TWELVE EQUAL MONTHLY AMOUNTS. THE DIRECTOR OF  
16 RESEARCH OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL APPOINTED PURSUANT TO  
17 SECTION 2-3-304 (1), C.R.S., SHALL POST THE AMOUNT OF THE CURRENT  
18 ANNUAL BASE COMPENSATION PAYABLE TO A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL  
19 ASSEMBLY PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH (b) ON THE WEB SITE OF THE  
20 GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

21 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 30-2-102, **amend** (1)  
22 introductory portion and (2.2); **add** (1.5); and **recreate and reenact, with**  
23 **amendments**, (2.3) as follows:

24 **30-2-102. Categorization of counties for fixing salaries of**  
25 **county officers - salary amounts - legislative declaration.** (1) For the  
26 purpose of establishing the salaries of county officers WHOSE TERMS OF  
27 OFFICE BEGIN PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2016:

1 (1.5) (a) FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING THE SALARIES OF  
2 COUNTY OFFICERS WHOSE TERMS OF OFFICE BEGIN ON OR AFTER JANUARY  
3 1, 2016:

4 (I) CATEGORY I-A COUNTIES CONSIST OF THE COUNTIES OF  
5 ADAMS, ARAPAHOE, BOULDER, DOUGLAS, EL PASO, JEFFERSON,  
6 LARIMER, PUEBLO, AND WELD;

7 (II) CATEGORY II-A COUNTIES CONSIST OF THE COUNTIES OF  
8 EAGLE, FREMONT, GARFIELD, LA PLATA, MESA, PITKIN, ROUTT, AND  
9 SUMMIT;

10 (III) CATEGORY III-A COUNTIES CONSIST OF THE COUNTIES OF  
11 ALAMOSA, ARCHULETA, CHAFFEE, CLEAR CREEK, DELTA, GILPIN,  
12 GRAND, GUNNISON, LAS ANIMAS, MOFFAT, MONTEZUMA, MONTROSE,  
13 MORGAN, OTERO, PARK, RIO BLANCO, SAN MIGUEL, LOGAN, AND  
14 TELLER;

15 (IV) CATEGORY IV-A COUNTIES CONSIST OF THE COUNTIES OF  
16 CUSTER, ELBERT, HUERFANO, KIT CARSON, LAKE, OURAY, PROWERS, RIO  
17 GRANDE, WASHINGTON, AND YUMA;

18 (V) CATEGORY V-A COUNTIES CONSIST OF THE COUNTIES OF  
19 BACA, BENT, CHEYENNE, CONEJOS, COSTILLA, CROWLEY, DOLORES,  
20 HINSDALE, LINCOLN, MINERAL, PHILLIPS, SAGUACHE, AND SAN JUAN;  
21 AND

22 (VI) CATEGORY VI-A COUNTIES CONSIST OF THE COUNTIES OF  
23 JACKSON, KIOWA, AND SEDGWICK.

24 (b) ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2016, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
25 MAY AMEND THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (1.5)  
26 BY BILL TO MOVE A COUNTY TO ANY OF THE CATEGORIES FOR WHICH  
27 SALARIES ARE SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (2.3) OF THIS SECTION TO



1 ANOTHER CATEGORY. SUCH AMENDMENT SHALL BE MADE ONLY AFTER  
 2 GIVING DUE CONSIDERATION TO THE VARIATIONS AMONG THE COUNTIES  
 3 INCLUDING POPULATION, THE NUMBER OF PERSONS RESIDING IN  
 4 UNINCORPORATED AREAS, ASSESSED VALUATION, MOTOR VEHICLE  
 5 REGISTRATIONS, BUILDING PERMITS, MILITARY INSTALLATIONS, AND SUCH  
 6 OTHER FACTORS AS MAY BE RELEVANT TO REFLECT THE VARIATIONS IN  
 7 THE WORKLOADS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF COUNTY OFFICERS AND THE  
 8 TAX RESOURCES OF THE SEVERAL COUNTIES.

9 (2.2) On and after January 1, 2007, BUT PRIOR TO JANUARY 1  
 10 2016, the annual salary of a county officer whose term of office begins on  
 11 or after ~~such date shall be~~ JANUARY 1, 2007, BUT PRIOR TO JANUARY 1,  
 12 2016, IS as follows:

	<b>County</b>				
	<b>County</b>	<b>Treasurers,</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>County</b>
	<b>Commis-</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Assessors,</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>County</b>
	<b>sioners</b>	<b>Sheriffs</b>	<b>and Clerks</b>	<b>Coroners</b>	<b>Surveyors</b>
17 (a) Category I	87,300	111,100	87,300	87,300	5,500
18 (b) Category II	72,500	87,700	72,500	44,200	4,400
19 (c) Category III	58,500	76,000	58,500	33,100	3,300
20 (d) Category IV	49,700	66,600	49,700	22,100	2,200
21 (e) Category V	43,800	49,100	43,800	9,900	1,100
22 (f) Category VI	39,700	46,500	39,700	9,000	1,000

23 (2.3) (a) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS  
 24 SUBSECTION (2.3), ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2016, THE ANNUAL SALARY  
 25 OF A COUNTY OFFICER WHOSE TERM OF OFFICE BEGINS ON OR AFTER SUCH  
 26 DATE IS AS FOLLOWS:

		COUNTY	COUNTY	COUNTY	COUNTY	COUNTY
		COMMIS- SIONERS	SHERIFFS	TREASURERS, ASSESSORS, AND CLERKS	CORONERS	SURVEYORS
2	CATEGORY I-A	113,490	144,430	113,490	113,490	7,150
3	CATEGORY I-B	104,760	133,320	104,760	104,760	6,600
4	CATEGORY I-C	96,030	122,210	96,030	96,030	6,050
5	CATEGORY I-D	87,300	111,100	87,300	87,300	5,500
6	CATEGORY II-A	94,250	114,010	94,250	57,460	5,720
7	CATEGORY II-B	87,000	105,240	87,000	53,040	5,280
8	CATEGORY II-C	79,750	96,470	79,750	48,620	4,840
9	CATEGORY II-D	72,500	87,700	72,500	44,200	4,400
10	CATEGORY III-A	76,050	98,800	76,050	43,030	4,290
11	CATEGORY III-B	70,200	91,200	70,200	39,720	3,960
12	CATEGORY III-C	64,350	83,600	64,350	36,410	3,630
13	CATEGORY III-D	58,500	76,000	58,500	33,100	3,300
14	CATEGORY IV-A	64,610	86,580	64,610	28,730	2,860
15	CATEGORY IV-B	59,640	79,920	59,640	26,520	2,640
16	CATEGORY IV-C	54,670	73,260	54,670	24,310	2,420
17	CATEGORY IV-D	49,700	66,600	49,700	22,100	2,200
18	CATEGORY V-A	56,940	63,830	56,940	12,870	1,430
19	CATEGORY V-B	52,560	58,920	52,560	11,880	1,320
20	CATEGORY V-C	48,180	54,010	48,180	10,890	1,210
21	CATEGORY V-D	43,800	49,100	43,800	9,900	1,100
22	CATEGORY VI-A	51,610	60,450	51,610	11,700	1,300
23	CATEGORY VI-B	47,640	55,800	47,640	10,800	1,200
24	CATEGORY VI-C	43,670	51,150	43,670	9,900	1,100
25	CATEGORY VI-D	39,700	46,500	39,700	9,000	1,000

26 (b) PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2018, AND PRIOR TO JANUARY 1 EACH  
27 TWO YEARS THEREAFTER, THE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH OF THE

1 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL APPOINTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-3-304 (1),  
2 C.R.S., SHALL ADJUST THE AMOUNT OF EACH ANNUAL SALARY IN EACH  
3 CATEGORY SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (2.3) IN  
4 ACCORDANCE WITH THE PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER THE PERIOD IN THE  
5 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS,  
6 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR DENVER-BOULDER-GREELEY, ALL ITEMS, ALL  
7 URBAN CONSUMERS, OR ITS SUCCESSOR INDEX. THE DIRECTOR OF  
8 RESEARCH SHALL POST THE ADJUSTED ANNUAL SALARY AMOUNTS ON THE  
9 WEB SITE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE ANNUAL SALARY OF A COUNTY  
10 OFFICER WHOSE TERM OF OFFICE BEGINS ON OR AFTER THE DATE THE  
11 SALARIES HAVE BEEN ADJUSTED PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH (b) MUST  
12 BE AS ADJUSTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH.

13           **SECTION 4. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
14 takes effect January 1, 2016; except that, if a referendum petition is filed  
15 pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this  
16 act or an item, section, or part of this act within the ninety-day period  
17 after final adjournment of the general assembly, then the act, item,  
18 section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the  
19 general election to be held in November 2016 and, in such case, will take  
20 effect on January 1, 2017, or on the date of the official declaration of the  
21 vote thereon by the governor, whichever is later.