

TABLE 1.3

Constitutional Amendment Procedure: By the Legislature, Constitutional Provisions

<i>State or other jurisdiction</i>	<i>Legislative vote required for proposal (a)</i>	<i>Consideration by two sessions required</i>	<i>Vote required for ratification</i>	<i>Limitation on the number of amendments legislature can submit at one election</i>
Alabama	3/5	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Alaska	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Arizona	Majority	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Arkansas	Majority	No	Majority vote on amendment	3
California	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Colorado	2/3	No	55% vote on amendment (y)	(b)
Connecticut	(c)	(c)	Majority vote on amendment	None
Delaware	2/3	Yes	Not required	No referendum
Florida	3/5	No	3/5 vote on amendment (d)	None
Georgia	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Hawaii	(e)	(e)	(f)	None
Idaho	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Illinois	3/5	No	(g)	3 articles
Indiana	Majority	Yes	Majority vote on amendment	None
Iowa	Majority	Yes	Majority vote on amendment	None
Kansas	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment	5
Kentucky	3/5	No	Majority vote on amendment	4
Louisiana	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment (h)	None
Maine	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Maryland	3/5	No	Majority vote on amendment (h)	None
Massachusetts	Majority (j)	Yes	Majority vote on amendment	None
Michigan	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Minnesota	Majority	No	Majority vote in election	None
Mississippi	2/3 (k)	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Missouri	Majority	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Montana	2/3 (i)	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Nebraska	3/5 (w)	No	Majority vote on amendment (f)	None
Nevada	Majority	Yes	Majority vote on amendment	None
New Hampshire	3/5	No	2/3 vote on amendment	None
New Jersey	(l)	(l)	Majority vote on amendment	None (m)
New Mexico	Majority (n)	No	Majority vote on amendment (n)	None
New York	Majority	Yes	Majority vote on amendment	None
North Carolina	3/5	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
North Dakota	Majority	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Ohio	3/5	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Oklahoma	Majority (w)	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Oregon	(o)	No	Majority vote on amendment (x)	None
Pennsylvania	Majority (p)	Yes (p)	Majority vote on amendment	None
Rhode Island	Majority	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
South Carolina	2/3 (q)	Yes (q)	Majority vote on amendment	None
South Dakota	Majority	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Tennessee	(r)	Yes (r)	Majority vote in election (s)	None
Texas	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Utah	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Vermont	(t)	Yes	Majority vote on amendment	None
Virginia	Majority	Yes	Majority vote on amendment	None
Washington	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
West Virginia	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Wisconsin	Majority	Yes	Majority vote on amendment	None
Wyoming	2/3	No	Majority vote in election	None
American Samoa	2/3	No	Majority vote on amendment (u)	None
CNMI*	3/4	No	Majority vote on amendment	None
Puerto Rico	2/3 (v)	No	Majority vote on amendment	3

See footnotes at end of table

STATE CONSTITUTIONS

TABLE 1.3

Constitutional Amendment Procedure: By the Legislature, Constitutional Provisions (continued)

Source: John Dinan and The Council of State Governments.

Key:

*Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

- (a) In all states not otherwise noted, the figure shown in the column refers to the proportion of elected members in each house required for approval of proposed constitutional amendments.
- (b) Legislature may not propose amendments to more than six articles of the constitution in the same legislative session.
- (c) Three-fourths vote in each house at one session, or majority vote in each house in two sessions between which an election has intervened.
- (d) Three-fifths vote on amendment, except that an amendment for "new state tax or fee" not in effect on Nov. 7, 1994 requires two-thirds of voters in the election.
- (e) Two-thirds vote in each house at one session, or majority vote in each house in two sessions.
- (f) In Hawaii, the majority vote on amendment must be at least 50 percent of the total votes cast at the election; or, at a special election, a majority of the votes tallied which must be at least 30 percent of the total number of registered voters. In Nebraska the majority vote on amendment must be at least 35 percent of the total votes cast at the election.
- (g) Majority voting in election or three-fifths voting on amendment.
- (h) In Louisiana, if five or fewer political subdivisions of the state are affected, majority in state as a whole and also in each of affected subdivisions is required. In Maryland, if an amendment affects only the City of Baltimore or only one county, majority in state as a whole and also in affected subdivision is required.
- (i) Two-thirds of all members of the legislature.
- (j) Majority of members elected sitting in joint session.
- (k) The two-thirds must include not less than a majority elected to each house.
- (l) Three-fifths of all members of each house at one session, or majority of all members of each house for two successive sessions.
- (m) If a proposed amendment is not approved at the election when submitted, neither the same amendment nor one which would make substantially the same change for the constitution may be again submitted to the people before the third general election thereafter.
- (n) Amendments concerning certain elective franchise and education matters require three-fourths vote of members elected and approval by three-fourths of electors voting in state and two-thirds of those voting in each county.
- (o) Majority vote to amend constitution, two-thirds to revise ("revise" includes all or a part of the constitution).
- (p) Emergency amendments may be passed by two-thirds vote of each house, followed by ratification by majority vote of electors in election held at least one month after legislative approval.
- (q) Two-thirds of members of each house, first passage; majority of members of each house after popular ratification.
- (r) Majority of members elected to both houses, first passage; two-thirds of members elected to both houses, second passage.
- (s) Majority of all citizens voting for governor.
- (t) Two-thirds vote senate, majority vote house, first passage; majority both houses, second passage. As of 1974, amendments may be submitted only every four years.
- (u) Within 30 days after voter approval, governor must submit amendment(s) to U.S. Secretary of the Interior for approval.
- (v) If approved by two-thirds of members of each house, amendment(s) submitted to voters at special referendum; if approved by not less than three-fourths of total members of each house, referendum may be held at next general election.
- (w) The legislature may, by a four-fifths vote in Nebraska or a two-thirds vote in Oklahoma, call a special election for voters to consider amendments.
- (x) There is an exception for an amendment containing a supermajority voting requirement, which must be ratified by an equal supermajority.
- (y) An amendment repealing, in whole or in part, any constitutional provision only requires approval by a majority on the amendment.