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JOINT RESOLUTION

S. J. Res. 14.

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States fixing the commencement of the terms of President and Vice President and Members of Congress and fixing the time of the assembling of Congress.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following amendment to the Constitution be, and hereby is, proposed to the States, to become valid as a part of said Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of the several States as provided in the Constitution:

Amendment proposed to the Constitution.

Post, p. 2569.

"ARTICLE—

"SECTION 1. The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3d day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

Terms of President, Vice President, and Congress.

"SEC. 2. The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Sessions of Congress. Date of convening.

"SEC. 3. If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

Succession if President elect dies before term begins.

Acting President if President elect fails to qualify.

"SEC. 4. The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

Power of Congress to provide for succession.

"SEC. 5. Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

Effective date of sections 1 and 2.

"SEC. 6. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission."

Inoperative, if not ratified in seven years.

JNO. N. GARNER
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

CHARLES CURTIS
Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.

I certify that this Joint Resolution originated in the Senate.

EDWIN P. THAYER
Secretary.

[Deposited in the Department of State, March 3, 1932.]