



## HOUSE BILL 25-400

BY SENATOR(S) Miriam Steinbeck, Ryan Wells, Sarah Forbes  
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Ashley Arnold, Gina Richards, Henrietta Malone, Charlie Walker  
AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION CONCERNING VACANCY PROCEDURES

Be it Enacted by the General Assembly in the State of San Andreas,

ARTICLE	XIV	Of the San Andreas Constitution
SECTION	3	Of the San Andreas Constitution

### BILL DESCRIPTION:

Article XIV of the Constitution of the State of San Andreas is hereby amended by adding a new section to be numbered Section 3, which shall read as follows:

Article XIV – General Provisions  
Section 3. Vacancies in Elected Office.

- (a) Applicability. This section shall govern all vacancies in elected offices throughout the State, including state, county, municipal, and other local offices, regardless of the manner of election.
- (b) A vacancy shall be deemed to occur in any elected office upon the resignation, impeachment and removal, conviction resulting in incarceration, or other permanent incapacity of the officeholder.
- (c) Except as otherwise provided herein, any vacancy shall be filled at the next regularly scheduled election held in November. Candidates seeking to fill a vacancy shall file a letter of intent with the Secretary of State, or, in the case of a local office, with the appropriate local election authority. The office shall remain vacant until such election, unless otherwise provided by this section.
- (d) In the event of a vacancy in either house of the State Legislature, the chamber may temporarily designate a sitting member of the same chamber to represent the affected district until a successor is elected at the next general election pursuant to subsection (c).

(e) Special Elections. If the deadline for inclusion on the ballot of the next general election has already passed at the time a vacancy occurs, a special election shall be held no later than January 6 following the vacancy.

(f) Commencement of Terms. All elected officials statewide, whether filling an unexpired term or beginning a new full term, shall be sworn into office on the third Tuesday of January, at which time their official duties shall commence.

MANDATORY PETITION OF REFERENDUM: Pursuant to Article VII, Section 4 of the Constitution of the State of San Andreas, all legislation concerning elections, education, and the state treasury may not be enacted by the General Assembly without direct approval of the electorate. Such measures must be submitted to the voters at the November general election. Furthermore, amendments to the Constitution require approval by at least 55 percent of qualified electors. As this bill proposes constitutional changes relating to **elections**, it shall be submitted to the people of San Andreas at the **2025 Coordinated Election**, appearing on the ballot as **AMENDMENT D**. The amendment shall be adopted only upon receiving the approval of no less than 55 percent of the votes cast.

## EFFECTIVE DATE

SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

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Betty Brinkerhoff  
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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Ashley Arnold  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

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Chelsea J. Martinelli  
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

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Mary T. Aronson  
CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

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Isabel R. Payne  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF SAN ANDREAS

**APPROVED**

(Date and Time)

