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Senate Joint Resolution L (as introduced)  
Sponsor: Senator Roger Kahn, M.D.  
Committee:

### **CONTENT**

The joint resolution proposes an amendment to Article IV, Section 26 of the State Constitution to provide that a bill to expand the base of services subject to a tax imposed on their proceeds could not become law without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members elected to and serving in each house.

If two-thirds of the members elected to and serving in each house approved the joint resolution, it would have to be submitted to the voters at the next general election.

Legislative Analyst: Suzanne Lowe

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no way to estimate the potential fiscal impact of this proposed constitutional amendment, but it definitely would make it more difficult to increase a tax on services.

At the present time, 16 states impose "supermajority" requirements to increase state taxes. Of these states, nine enacted their supermajority requirement in the 1990s and one state adopted its in 2000. The size of the supermajorities required vary: Five states require a three-fifths vote (Delaware, Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Oregon); eight states require a two-thirds vote (Arizona, California, Colorado, Louisiana, Missouri, Nevada, South Dakota, and Washington); and the remaining three states require a three-fourths vote (Arkansas, Michigan, and Oklahoma). In 13 of these 16 states, the supermajority requirement applies to all tax increases. In Michigan, a three-fourths supermajority vote is required to increase the State education property tax and the local school 18-mill tax.

Date Completed: 4-16-08

Fiscal Analyst: Jay Wortley