Proposing a constitutional amendment requiring a rigorous evaluation of current and proposed state programs, agencies and mandates.

**Summary**

All acts at the legislature that create a new program, agency or mandate requiring the expenditure of public funds shall sunset five years after authorization unless the Act has been evaluated as prescribed herein and the results of the evaluation are fully disseminated to the public.

**(A)** All acts at the legislature that create a new program, agency, or mandate requiring the expenditure of public funds shall sunset five years after authorization unless the Act has been evaluated as prescribed herein and the results of the evaluation are fully disseminated to the public.

**(B)** All programs, agencies, and mandates in existence as of when this Section became law shall be evaluated as prescribed herein within a period of 10 years and the results of each evaluation fully disseminated to the public. All programs, agencies, and mandates shall be evaluated as prescribed herein every 10 years and statutes authorizing any program, agency, or mandate not so evaluated shall be null and void pending the evaluation.

**(C)** A Government Review Commission consisting of nine members shall be appointed with the Governor, the Speaker of the House, and the presiding officer of the Senate appointing three members each. No member of the Government Review Commission may currently be a Member of the Legislature or be an employee of any government within two years prior to appointment. No member of the Government Review Commission may be an employee, owner with more than a 5 percent share, or officer of a company or corporation that receives more than 20 percent of its gross revenue from government directly or through subcontracts. Members of the Government Review Commission shall serve without pay and at the discretion of the official who appointed them.

**(D)** The Auditor General (or appropriate officer) shall, in consultation with the Government Review Commission, contract with one or more independent third parties for the purpose of evaluating and reporting on programs, agencies, and mandates as required herein. The Auditor General (or appropriate officer) and the Government Review Commission shall review reports for completeness, adherence to professional standards, and sound methodology. The Auditor General shall promulgate the results of all evaluations required herein to the Governor, the Legislature, and the general public.

**(E)** Each program, agency, or mandate, whether newly proposed or already in existence shall be evaluated for whether it:
(1) Creates clear and measurable net economic benefits that accrue generally to all citizens of the state, even in the absence of federal funding,

(2) Interferes with citizens’ ability to engage in free enterprise,

(3) Causes government spending to merely displace private spending and to what degree it does so,

(4) Affects relative prices of goods and services and how it does so,

(5) Clearly fills a necessary function that only government can fill,

(6) Is likely to result in a financial obligation to the state that would necessitate a tax increase at some future time, and

(7) Any other criteria the Government Review Commission shall deem appropriate, but which shall not preclude the criteria named above.

(F) The Legislature shall provide funds to the Auditor General (or appropriate officer) to carry out the functions required herein.

(G) (Definitions.)

(1) “Independent third party” is a private entity or person having no ongoing financially dependent relationship with any government entity except the Auditor General that possesses the necessary expertise to conduct the evaluations and/or write the reports as described in this Section.

(2) “Reports” means written documents that comprehensively record the methods used and results of evaluations of programs, agencies, and mandates.

(H) A resident taxpayer of the state shall have standing to seek de novo judicial review as to whether the criteria set out in this Section have been met, by filing an action seeking declaratory, injunctive, quo warranto, or writ of prohibition relief.

Section 2.

(A) The constitutional amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held (appropriate date). The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment requiring a rigorous evaluation of current and proposed state programs, agencies and mandates."