



**101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**State of Illinois**

**2019 and 2020**

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION**

**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT**

**SC0014**

Introduced 1/30/2020, by Sen. Rachelle Crowe

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

ILCON Art. VII, Sec. 6

Proposes to amend the Local Government Article of the Illinois Constitution. Provides that a municipality with a population of more than 5,000 (currently, more than 25,000) shall automatically become a home rule unit. Effective upon being declared adopted.

LRB101 13803 AWJ 62661 e

1                                   SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION  
2                                   CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

3           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL  
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
5 CONCURRING HEREIN, that there shall be submitted to the  
6 electors of the State for adoption or rejection at the general  
7 election next occurring at least 6 months after the adoption of  
8 this resolution a proposition to amend Section 6 of Article VII  
9 as follows:

10                                   ARTICLE VII  
11                                   LOCAL GOVERNMENT

12           (IILCON Art. VII, Sec. 6)

13           SECTION 6. POWERS OF HOME RULE UNITS

14           (a) A County which has a chief executive officer elected by  
15 the electors of the county and any municipality which has a  
16 population of more than 5,000 ~~25,000~~ are home rule units. Other  
17 municipalities may elect by referendum to become home rule  
18 units. Except as limited by this Section, a home rule unit may  
19 exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its  
20 government and affairs including, but not limited to, the power  
21 to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety,  
22 morals and welfare; to license; to tax; and to incur debt.

23           (b) A home rule unit by referendum may elect not to be a

1 home rule unit.

2 (c) If a home rule county ordinance conflicts with an  
3 ordinance of a municipality, the municipal ordinance shall  
4 prevail within its jurisdiction.

5 (d) A home rule unit does not have the power (1) to incur  
6 debt payable from ad valorem property tax receipts maturing  
7 more than 40 years from the time it is incurred or (2) to  
8 define and provide for the punishment of a felony.

9 (e) A home rule unit shall have only the power that the  
10 General Assembly may provide by law (1) to punish by  
11 imprisonment for more than six months or (2) to license for  
12 revenue or impose taxes upon or measured by income or earnings  
13 or upon occupations.

14 (f) A home rule unit shall have the power subject to  
15 approval by referendum to adopt, alter or repeal a form of  
16 government provided by law, except that the form of government  
17 of Cook County shall be subject to the provisions of Section 3  
18 of this Article. A home rule municipality shall have the power  
19 to provide for its officers, their manner of selection and  
20 terms of office only as approved by referendum or as otherwise  
21 authorized by law. A home rule county shall have the power to  
22 provide for its officers, their manner of selection and terms  
23 of office in the manner set forth in Section 4 of this Article.

24 (g) The General Assembly by a law approved by the vote of  
25 three-fifths of the members elected to each house may deny or  
26 limit the power to tax and any other power or function of a

1 home rule unit not exercised or performed by the State other  
2 than a power or function specified in subsection (l) of this  
3 section.

4 (h) The General Assembly may provide specifically by law  
5 for the exclusive exercise by the State of any power or  
6 function of a home rule unit other than a taxing power or a  
7 power or function specified in subsection (l) of this Section.

8 (i) Home rule units may exercise and perform concurrently  
9 with the State any power or function of a home rule unit to the  
10 extent that the General Assembly by law does not specifically  
11 limit the concurrent exercise or specifically declare the  
12 State's exercise to be exclusive.

13 (j) The General Assembly may limit by law the amount of  
14 debt which home rule counties may incur and may limit by law  
15 approved by three-fifths of the members elected to each house  
16 the amount of debt, other than debt payable from ad valorem  
17 property tax receipts, which home rule municipalities may  
18 incur.

19 (k) The General Assembly may limit by law the amount and  
20 require referendum approval of debt to be incurred by home rule  
21 municipalities, payable from ad valorem property tax receipts,  
22 only in excess of the following percentages of the assessed  
23 value of its taxable property: (1) if its population is 500,000  
24 or more, an aggregate of three percent; (2) if its population  
25 is more than 5,000 ~~25,000~~ and less than 500,000, an aggregate  
26 of one percent; and (3) if its population is 5,000 ~~25,000~~ or

1 less, an aggregate of one-half percent. Indebtedness which is  
2 outstanding on the effective date of this Constitution or which  
3 is thereafter approved by referendum or assumed from another  
4 unit of local government shall not be included in the foregoing  
5 percentage amounts.

6 (1) The General Assembly may not deny or limit the power of  
7 home rule units (1) to make local improvements by special  
8 assessment and to exercise this power jointly with other  
9 counties and municipalities, and other classes of units of  
10 local government having that power on the effective date of  
11 this Constitution unless that power is subsequently denied by  
12 law to any such other units of local government or (2) to levy  
13 or impose additional taxes upon areas within their boundaries  
14 in the manner provided by law for the provision of special  
15 services to those areas and for the payment of debt incurred in  
16 order to provide those special services.

17 (m) Powers and functions of home rule units shall be  
18 construed liberally.

19 (Source: Illinois Constitution.)

20 SCHEDULE

21 This Constitutional Amendment takes effect upon being  
22 declared adopted in accordance with Section 7 of the Illinois  
23 Constitutional Amendment Act.