HJR 58 -- AMENDATORY VETO POWERS

SPONSOR: Flanigan

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment grants the Governor an amendatory veto power similar to the line item veto power for appropriations bills, but applying to regular statutory legislation. The amendatory veto time limitations are identical to the time limits for the exercise of a normal veto. The Governor is allowed to submit amended bills to the General Assembly for approval or rejection by a majority vote of both houses with the restriction that gubernatorial amendments may consist only of the removal of entire sections, chapters, or larger portions of bills and stylistic and title changes to accommodate the removal of the portions of bills.

If the Governor does not designate a veto as an amendatory veto, it is treated as a normal veto and no further action such as an amendatory veto is allowed. The legislature may not further amend the Governor's proposed version of a bill. It may accept the changes in which case the Governor's version becomes law, reject the changes in which case the original bill becomes law, or neither accept nor reject in which case the bill does not become law because the amendatory veto acts in the same manner as a regular veto that has not been overridden.