

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LAWS

Section 29, Article III of the Constitution provides:

“No law passed by the general assembly, except an appropriation act, shall take effect until ninety days after the adjournment of the session in either odd-numbered or even-numbered years at which it was enacted. However, in case of an emergency which must be expressed in the preamble or in the body of the act, the general assembly by a two-thirds vote of the members elected to each house, taken by yeas and nays may otherwise direct; and further except that, if the general assembly recesses for thirty days or more it may prescribe by joint resolution that laws previously passed and not effective shall take effect ninety days from the beginning of the recess.”

The Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Extraordinary Session, convened Monday, August 20, 2007, and adjourned Thursday, August 30, 2007. Both bills passed during this extraordinary session contained emergency clauses. House Bill 1 only contained an emergency clause for 3 sections which became effective September 4, 2007, the remainder of the bill became effective November 28, 2007. House Bill 2 contained an emergency clause and became effective September 4, 2007.

The Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, convened Wednesday, January 9, 2008, and adjourned May 30, 2008. All laws passed by it (other than appropriation acts, those having emergency clauses or different effective dates) became effective ninety days thereafter on August 28, 2008.
