The Gubernatorial Powers Amendment

This amendment repeals the power of a governor to grant reprieves, commutations, and pardons and repeals the "line-item veto" and, instead, gives governors the power to "recommend" that the General Assembly grant reprieves, commutations, and pardons and delete "line items" from the budget. The language to be deleted is in [brackets]. The language to be added is underlined.

Be it resolved by the people of the state of Missouri that the Constitution be amended:

Article IV, Sections 7 and Section 26 are amended to read as follows:

Section 7. The governor shall have power to [grant] recommend to the Missouri House of Representatives that reprieves, commutations and pardons, be granted, after conviction, for all offenses except treason and cases of impeachment, upon such conditions and with such restrictions and limitations as he or she may deem proper, subject to provisions of law as to the manner of applying for pardons. Reprieves, commutations, and pardons recommended by the governor shall be granted upon and with the consent of the house of representatives by majority vote. The power to pardon shall not include the power to parole.

Section 26. The governor may [object to] recommend to the general assembly that one or more items or portions of items of appropriation of money in any bill presented to him or her be removed from a bill. [, while approving other portions of the bill.] On signing it he or she shall append to the bill a statement of the items or portions of items [to] which he or she recommends be removed from the bill. [objects and such items or portions shall not take effect.] If the general assembly be in session he or she shall transmit to the house in which the bill originated a copy of the statement, and the items or portions [objected to] he or she recommends be removed from the bill shall be reconsidered separately, and the governor's recommendations shall be approved or rejected by majority vote. If it be not in session he shall call a special session of the general assembly to consider his recommendations. [transmit the bill within forty-five days to the office of the secretary of state with his approval or reasons for disapproval. The governor shall not reduce any appropriation for free public schools, or for the payment of principal and interest on the public debt.]