MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION 2003  

By: Representative Fleming  
To: Constitution  

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15  

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 241, MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890, TO RESTORE THE SUFFRAGE OF NONVIOLENT OFFENDERS AND OFFENDERS OF CRIMES WHICH ARE NOT SEX OFFENSES UPON COMPLETION OF THE OFFENDER'S SENTENCE.  

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, That the following amendment to the Mississippi Constitution of 1890 is proposed to the qualified electors of the state:  

Amend Section 241, Mississippi Constitution of 1890, to read as follows:  

"Section 241. Every inhabitant of this state, except idiots and insane persons, who is a citizen of the United States of America, eighteen (18) years old and upward, who has been a resident of this state for one (1) year, and for one (1) year in the county in which he offers to vote, and for six (6) months in the election precinct or in the incorporated city or town in which he offers to vote, and who is duly registered as provided in this article, and who has never been convicted of murder, rape, bribery, theft, arson, obtaining money or goods under false pretense, perjury, forgery, embezzlement or bigamy, is declared to be a qualified elector, except that he shall be qualified to vote for President and Vice President of the United States if he meets the requirements established by Congress therefor and is otherwise a qualified elector. Notwithstanding the foregoing, all persons convicted of nonviolent crimes or crimes not involving sex offenses shall be qualified electors upon completion of their sentence. For the purpose of this section a "nonviolent crime" is..."
a crime in which no person was physically injured or physical
injury was not attempted or death did not occur."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this proposed amendment shall be
submitted by the Secretary of State to the qualified electors at
an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday
of November 2003, as provided by Section 273 of the Constitution
and by general law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the explanation of this proposed
amendment for the ballot shall read as follows: "This proposed
constitutional amendment will restore the suffrage of persons
convicted of nonviolent crimes or crimes not involving sex
offenses upon completion of their sentence."