HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION
2 241, MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890, TO DELETE THE ENUMERATION
3 OF SPECIFIC FELONIES, CONVICTION OF WHICH WILL PRECLUDE A PERSON
4 FROM BEING DECLARED A QUALIFIED ELECTOR; TO PROVIDE THAT
5 CONVICTION IN A COURT OF THIS STATE OR ANY OTHER STATE OR IN ANY
6 FEDERAL COURT OF ANY FELONY WILL PRECLUDE A PERSON FROM BEING
7 DECLARED A QUALIFIED ELECTOR; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.
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9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF
10 MISSISSIPPI, That the following amendment to the Mississippi
11 Constitution of 1890 is proposed to the qualified electors of the
12 state:
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14 Amend Section 241, Mississippi Constitution of 1890, to read
15 as follows:
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"Section 241. Every inhabitant of this state, except idiots
17 and insane persons, who is a citizen of the United States of
18 America, eighteen (18) years old and upward, who has been a
19 resident of this state for one (1) year, and for one (1) year in
20 the county in which he offers to vote, and for six (6) months in
21 the election precinct or in the incorporated city or town in which
22 he offers to vote, and who is duly registered as provided in this
23 article, and who has never been convicted in a court of this state
24 or any other state or in any federal court of any offense which is
25 a felony under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the
26 conviction occurred, is declared to be a qualified elector, except
27 that he shall be qualified to vote for President and Vice
28 President of the United States if he meets the requirements
29 established by Congress therefor and is otherwise a qualified
30 elector. No person, after the ratification of this amendment,
31 shall be disqualified as an elector by reason of conviction before
32
the ratification of this amendment of any offense unless conviction of the offense would disqualify such person as an elector under the provisions of this Constitution in effect immediately before the ratification of this amendment."

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 removes from the Constitution a list of specific felonies, conviction of any of which disqualifies a person as an elector. The amendment provides that conviction in this state, another state or any federal court of any felony disqualifies a person as an elector."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Attorney General of the State of Mississippi shall submit this resolution, immediately upon adoption by the Legislature of the State of Mississippi, to the Attorney General of the United States or to the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in accordance with the provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended and extended.