

By: Senator(s) Nunnelee

To: Constitution

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 541

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION
2 241, MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890, TO PROVIDE THAT PERSONS
3 CONVICTED OF A FELONY SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE; AND FOR
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

11 Section 241. Every inhabitant of this state, except idiots
12 and insane persons, who is a citizen of the United States of
13 America, eighteen (18) years old and upward, who has been a
14 resident of this state * * * in the county in which he offers to
15 vote, and * * * in the election precinct or in the incorporated
16 city or town in which he offers to vote as provided by law, and
17 who is duly registered as provided in this article and by statute,
18 and who has never been convicted of any felony under the laws of
19 this state, another state or in federal court is declared to be a
20 qualified elector, except that he shall be qualified to vote for
21 President and Vice President of the United States if he meets the
22 requirements established by Congress therefor and is otherwise a
23 qualified elector. This section shall not disqualify a person
24 from registering to vote if he has been pardoned for the offense
25 or if the offense of which the person was convicted was
26 manslaughter, a violation of the United States Internal Revenue
27 Code or a violation of the tax laws of this state unless such

28 offense also involved misuse or abuse of his office or money
29 coming into his hands by virtue of his office.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the amendments in this
31 resolution shall be submitted to the qualified electors at an
32 election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of
33 November 2007 as provided by Section 273 of the Constitution and
34 by general law.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the explanation of the amendment
36 for the ballot shall read as follows: "This proposed
37 constitutional amendment provides that persons convicted in any
38 state or federal court of any felony other than manslaughter or
39 tax code violations shall not be eligible to vote."

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