MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

By: Representative Gipson

To: Constitution

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 14

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 3 1 2 OF THE MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890, BY CREATING A NEW SECTION 3 32A TO PROVIDE THAT THE RIGHT TO LIFE IS THE PARAMOUNT AND MOST 4 FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT OF A PERSON; TO PROVIDE THAT THE WORD "PERSON" 5 APPLIES TO ALL HUMAN BEINGS FROM CONCEPTION TO NATURAL DEATH, WITH 6 A CERTAIN EXCEPTION; TO SPECIFY CERTAIN ACTIVITIES THAT ARE NOT AFFECTED OR PROHIBITED BY THIS SECTION, INCLUDING CONTRACEPTION OR 7 BIRTH CONTROL NOT KILLING A PERSON, IN VITRO FERTILIZATION OR 8 9 OTHER METHODS OF REPRODUCTION, MEDICAL TREATMENT INTENDED TO PRESERVE LIFE, OR MISCARRIAGE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 10 11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF 12 MISSISSIPPI, That the following amendment to the Mississippi 13 Constitution of 1890 is proposed to the qualified electors of the 14 state: 15 Amend Article 3 of the Mississippi Constitution of 1890 by creating a new Section 32A to read as follows: 16 "Section 32A. (1) The right to life is the paramount and 17 most fundamental right of a person. 18 (2) With respect to the right to life guaranteed in this 19 20 section, the word "person" applies to all human beings from conception to natural death; however, a person may be required to 21 forfeit his or her life after being convicted of a crime that is 22 14 ~ OFFICIAL ~ G2/3 H. C. R. No. 13/HR40/R145

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23 punishable by death and being sentenced to death. As used in this 24 section, the word "conception" means the earliest stage of 25 development of a human being.

26 (3) This section shall have no effect on and shall not be27 construed to prohibit:

28 (a) Contraceptives or other methods of birth control29 that do not kill a person; or

30 (b) In vitro fertilization or other methods of assisted31 reproduction; or

32 (c) Medical treatment for life threatening physical33 conditions intended to preserve life; or

34 (d) Unintentional termination of a pregnancy by35 spontaneous miscarriage."

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this proposed amendment, if 37 adopted, shall be known as "The Right to Life Amendment of 2014." 38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this proposed amendment shall be 39 submitted by the Secretary of State to the qualified electors at 40 an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday 41 of November 2014, as provided by Section 273 of the Constitution 42 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 provides that the right to life is the most fundamental right of a person; provides that the word "person" applies to all human beings from conception to natural

H. C. R. No. 14 ~ OFFICIAL ~ 13/HR40/R145 PAGE 2 (RF\BD) 48 death, with a certain exception; and specifies certain activities 49 that are not affected or prohibited by this section, including 50 contraception or birth control not killing a person; in vitro 51 fertilization or other methods of reproduction; medical treatment 52 intended to preserve life; or miscarriage."

H. C. R. No. 14 13/HR40/R145 PAGE 3 (RF\BD) T: Constitution; amend to provide that the right to life is a fundamental right and "person" applies to all humans from conception.