To: Rules

By: Representative Arnold

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 28

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 241, MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890, TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON WHO IS OTHERWISE A QUALIFIED ELECTOR AND HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY SHALL HAVE HIS OR HER RIGHT TO VOTE SUSPENDED UPON 5 CONVICTION AND SHALL NOT HAVE HIS OR HER RIGHT TO VOTE RESTORED UNTIL HE OR SHE HAS SATISFIED ALL OF THE SENTENCING REQUIREMENTS 7 OF THE CONVICTION; AND PROPOSING THE REPEAL OF SECTION 253, MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890, WHICH PROVIDES THAT THE 8 LEGISLATURE MAY, BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF BOTH HOUSES, OF ALL 9 MEMBERS ELECTED, RESTORE THE RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE TO ANY PERSON 10 11 DISQUALIFIED BY REASON OF CRIME.

- 12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF
- 13 MISSISSIPPI, That the following amendments to the Mississippi
- Constitution of 1890 are proposed to the qualified electors of the 14
- 15 state:
- 16 I.
- Amend Section 241, Mississippi Constitution of 1890, to read 17
- 18 as follows:
- 19 "Section 241. (1) Every inhabitant of this state, except
- 20 idiots and insane persons, shall be a qualified elector if he or
- 21 she is:

22 (a) * * * A citizen of the United States of

- 23 America * * *;
- 24 <u>(b)</u> Eighteen (18) years old and upward * * *;
- 25 (c) * * * A resident of this state for one (1) year,
- 26 and for one (1) year in the county in which he or she offers to
- 27 vote, and for six (6) months in the election precinct or in the
- 28 incorporated city or town in which he or she offers to vote * * *;
- 29 and
- 30 (d) * * * Duly registered as provided in this
- 31 article * * *<u>.</u>
- 32 (2) A person who is otherwise a qualified elector under the
- 33 provisions of subsection (1) and has been convicted of a felony
- 34 shall have his or her right to vote suspended upon conviction and
- 35 shall not have his or her right to vote restored until he or she
- 36 has completed all of the sentencing requirements of the
- 37 conviction.
- 38 (3) * * * A person shall be qualified to vote for President
- 39 and Vice President of the United States if he or she meets the
- 40 requirements established by Congress therefor and is otherwise a
- 41 qualified elector."
- 42 II.
- 43 Amend the Mississippi Constitution of 1890 by repealing
- 44 Section 253, which reads as follows:
- "Section 253. The Legislature may, by a two-thirds vote of
- 46 both houses, of all members elected, restore the right of suffrage

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- 47 to any person disqualified by reason of crime; but the reasons
- 48 therefor shall be spread upon the journals, and the vote shall be
- 49 by yeas and nays."
- 50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That these proposed amendments shall
- 51 be submitted by the Secretary of State to the qualified electors
- 52 at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first
- 53 Monday of November 2023, as provided by Section 273 of the
- 54 Constitution and by general law, with the amendments in this
- 55 resolution being voted on as one (1) amendment since the proposed
- 56 amendments pertain to one (1) subject.
- 57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the explanation of this proposed
- 58 amendment for the ballot shall read as follows: "This proposed
- 59 constitutional amendment provides that a person who is otherwise a
- 60 qualified elector and has been convicted of a felony shall have
- 61 his or her right to vote suspended upon conviction and shall not
- 62 have his or her right to vote restored until he or she has
- 63 satisfied all of the sentencing requirements of the conviction."

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