

By: Senator(s) Simmons (12th)

To: Constitution

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 521

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 241
2 OF THE MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890, TO RESTORE THE RIGHT TO
3 VOTE TO PERSONS CONVICTED OF FELONIES; TO REPEAL SECTION 44,
4 MISSISSIPPI CONSTITUTION OF 1890, WHICH PROVIDES THAT PERSONS
5 CONVICTED OF CERTAIN CRIMES ARE INELIGIBLE FOR OFFICE; AND FOR
6 RELATED PURPOSES.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF
8 MISSISSIPPI, That the following amendments to the Mississippi
9 Constitution of 1890 are proposed to the qualified electors of the
10 state:

11 I.

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

14 Section 241. Every inhabitant of this state, except idiots
15 and insane persons, who is a citizen of the United States of
16 America, eighteen (18) years old and upward, who has been a
17 resident of this state for one (1) year, and for one (1) year in
18 the county in which he or she offers to vote, and for six (6)
19 months in the election precinct or in the incorporated city or
20 town in which he or she offers to vote, and who is duly registered



21 as provided in this article, * * * is declared to be a qualified
22 elector, except that he or she shall be qualified to vote for
23 President and Vice President of the United States if he or she
24 meets the requirements established by Congress therefor and is
25 otherwise a qualified elector. Any prior disqualification from
26 voting arising from a conviction for murder, rape, bribery, theft,
27 arson, obtaining money or goods under false pretense, perjury,
28 forgery, embezzlement or bigamy shall terminate and voting rights
29 be restored.

30 II.

31 Section 44, Mississippi Constitution of 1890, which provides
32 that persons convicted of certain crimes are ineligible for
33 office, is hereby repealed.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the amendments in this
35 resolution be submitted by the Secretary of State to the qualified
36 electors at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the
37 first Monday of November 2025, as provided by Section 273 of the
38 Constitution and by general law.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the explanation of the amendment
40 for the ballot shall read as follows: "The current language of
41 the Mississippi Constitution prohibits all citizens of Mississippi
42 who have been convicted of a felony from voting in local and state
43 elections. Additionally, persons convicted of felonies are
44 ineligible to run for certain offices. By amending the
45 Constitution's language as proposed, individuals convicted of



46 felonies would be permitted to vote and run for office, regardless
47 of whether their sentence is completed."

