

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 98

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

6592H.02C

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the qualified voters of Missouri an amendment repealing section 2 of article I of the Constitution of Missouri, and adopting one new section in lieu thereof relating to the right to life.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring therein:

That at the next general election to be held in the state of Missouri, on Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 2016, or at a special election to be called by the governor for that purpose, there is hereby submitted to the qualified voters of this state, for adoption or rejection, the following amendment to article I of the Constitution of the state of Missouri:

Section A. Section 2, article I, Constitution of Missouri, is repealed and one new section adopted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 2, to read as follows:

Section 2. That all constitutional government is intended to promote the general welfare of the people; that all persons, **including unborn human children at every stage of biological development**, have a natural right to life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness and the enjoyment of the gains of their own industry; that all persons are created equal and are entitled to equal rights and opportunity under the law; that to give security to these things is the principal office of government, and that when government does not confer this security, it fails in its chief design.

(1) That this state recognizes the right to life of every unborn human child at every stage of biological development and shall protect such life from deprivation by the state or private action to the extent permitted by the federal constitution.

(2) Nothing in this constitution secures or protects a right to abortion or requires the funding of an abortion. The people retain the right through their elected state representatives and state senators to enact, amend, or repeal statutes regarding abortion.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

Section B. Under section 116.155 and other applicable constitutional provisions and laws of this state authorizing the general assembly to adopt ballot language for the submission of a joint resolution to the voters of this state, the official ballot title of the amendment proposed in section A shall be as follows:

“Should the Missouri Constitution be amended to protect pregnant women and unborn children by recognizing that an unborn child is a person with a right to life which cannot be deprived by state or private action without due process and equal protection of law?”.

Section C. Under section 116.155 and other applicable constitutional provisions and laws of this state authorizing the general assembly to adopt a fiscal note summary for the submission of a joint resolution to the voters of this state, the official fiscal note summary of the amendment proposed by section A shall be as follows:

“This change is expected to have no fiscal impact.”.

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