

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MERIDETH (80).

0436H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the qualified voters of Missouri an amendment repealing Section 2 of Article VIII of the Constitution of Missouri, and adopting three new sections in lieu thereof relating to voting.

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, 2020, 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 VIII of the Constitution of the state of Missouri:

Section A. Section 2, Article VIII, Constitution of Missouri, is repealed and three new sections adopted in lieu thereof, to be known as Section 2, Section 8, and Section 9, to read as follows:

Section 2. All citizens of the United States, including occupants of soldiers' and sailors' homes, over the age of eighteen who are residents of this state and of the political subdivision in which they offer to vote are entitled to vote at all elections by the people, if the election is one for which registration is required if they are registered within the time prescribed by law, or if the election is one for which registration is not required, if they have been residents of the political subdivision in which they offer to vote for thirty days next preceding the election for which they offer to vote: Provided however, no person who has a guardian of his or her estate or person by reason of mental incapacity, appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction and no person who is involuntarily confined in a mental institution pursuant to an adjudication of a court

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.

10 of competent jurisdiction shall be entitled to vote, and persons convicted of [~~felony, or~~] a crime
11 connected with the exercise of the right of suffrage may be excluded by law from voting.

**Section 8. Voters of the state shall be entitled to vote in advance of election day,
2 without having to state an excuse, in-person or by mail for all federal or state general
3 elections as follows:**

4 **(1) Early voting shall be conducted from the sixth Tuesday before the election until
5 the close of regular business hours on the Monday immediately before the election for both
6 in-person and mail-in voting. The hours for conducting early voting shall be the regular
7 business hours of each election authority. For the twenty-one days immediately before
8 election day, the hours for early voting shall also include from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on
9 Saturday and Sunday. On the Thursday immediately before election day, the hours for
10 conducting early voting shall be 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

11 **(2) Local election authorities shall establish early voting locations as follows:**

12 **(a) Each local election authority with fewer than one hundred seventy five thousand
13 registered voters shall conduct early voting at a central location;**

14 **(b) Each local election authority with more than one hundred seventy five thousand
15 but fewer than two hundred fifty thousand registered voters shall establish one satellite
16 early voting location in addition to the central location;**

17 **(c) Each local election authority with more two hundred and fifty thousand
18 registered voters but fewer three hundred twenty five thousand voters shall establish two
19 satellite early voting locations in addition to the central location; and**

20 **(d) Each local election authority with more than three hundred twenty five
21 thousand voters shall establish three satellite early voting locations in addition to the
22 central location.**

23

24 **The number of registered voters within a local election authority shall be determined by
25 the number of registered voters in that local election authority in the previous federal
26 general election.**

27 **(3) In determining where to locate the satellite early voting locations, the election
28 authority shall consider factors including, but not limited to, the geographic location and
29 demographics of voters in the previous federal general election, current United States
30 census data, and the availability of suitable satellite early voting locations within the
31 election authority.**

32 **(4) The election authority shall provide adequate public notice of the designated
33 central and satellite early voting locations by posting the hours and locations for early**

34 voting at the election authority's office, on the election authority's website, and by other
35 reasonable methods selected by the election authority.

36 (5) Local election authorities shall appoint at least one election judge from each
37 major political party to serve at the central early voting location and at any satellite early
38 voting locations. Procedures for selection of election judges, designating election
39 challengers, casting ballots, and tabulating ballots shall be the same as provided in general
40 election law.

41 (6) The state and all local election authorities shall make available a list of all voters
42 who cast ballots during the early voting period. The list shall include voter information
43 that is a matter of public record, as determined under general election law. The list shall
44 be available in both paper and electronic format to anyone who requests a copy of the list.

Section 9. (1) The office of the secretary of state shall establish a process to conduct
2 automatic voter registration based on driver's license information that shall provide
3 recommendations to local election authorities for the automatic registration of eligible
4 voters.

5 (2) The department of revenue and the motor vehicle and driver licensing division
6 shall, on an annual basis, provide the secretary of state's office with such information as
7 the office of the secretary of state specifies is necessary to conduct recommendations for
8 automatic voter registration.

9 (3) The office of the secretary of state shall provide lists of nonbinding
10 recommendations for inclusion on voter registration lists to local election authorities, and
11 such authorities shall include such recommendations on voter registration lists subject to
12 existing verification procedures for determining whether an individual is eligible to register
13 to vote and eligible to vote. Local election authorities shall retain full jurisdiction and
14 power to decline to register individuals not verified to be eligible to vote and to remove the
15 names of individuals who are no longer eligible to vote from voter registration lists.

16 (4) Within two months of receipt of a proposed voter registration list, but prior to
17 including a recommended individual on a voter registration list, the local election authority
18 shall send notice of potential automatic registration, which shall include a paid postcard
19 for the purpose of declining registration. If, after a period of one month, the postcard is
20 not returned to the local election authority, the individual's name shall be added to the
21 voter registration list; except that, any time a postcard is received, the individual's name
22 shall be removed from the voter registration list. This subsection shall not be construed
23 to prevent removal from voter registration lists by any other method allowed under general
24 law.

25 **(5) The provisions of this section allow for automatic voter registration in addition**
26 **to any other method of registration allowed under general law and shall not be interpreted**
27 **to invalidate any other method for voter registration.**

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