HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa relating to the qualifications of electors.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa is proposed:

Section 5 of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Iowa, as amended by the amendment of 2008, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5. Disqualified persons. A person adjudged mentally incompetent to vote or a person convicted of any infamous crime felony who has not discharged his or her sentence shall not be entitled to the privilege of an elector.

Sec. 2. REFERRAL AND PUBLICATION. The foregoing proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa is referred to the general assembly to be chosen at the next general election for members of the general assembly, and shall be published as provided by law for three consecutive months previous to the date of that election.

EXPLANATION

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation’s substance by the members of the general assembly.

This joint resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa relating to the qualifications of electors. The amendment provides that a person who is convicted of a felony is not entitled to the privileges of an elector until that person discharges his or her sentence. Under current law, a person convicted of any infamous crime is not entitled to the privileges of an elector unless that person’s rights are restored by the governor.

The resolution, if adopted, would be published and then referred to the next general assembly (89th) for adoption, before being submitted to the electorate for ratification.