

ACT No. 246

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 298

BY REPRESENTATIVES JORDAN, BOYD, WILFORD CARTER, CORMIER, DUPLESSIS, FISHER, GAINES, GREEN, HUGHES, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, NELSON, NEWELL, PIERRE, SELDERS, AND WILLARD AND SENATORS BARROW, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CONNICK, HEWITT, JACKSON, LUNEAU, PRICE, TALBOT, AND TARVER

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

To amend Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to the prohibition of slavery and involuntary servitude; to provide relative to the administration of criminal justice; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§3. Right to Individual Dignity

Section 3. (A) No person shall be denied the equal protection of the laws. No law shall discriminate against a person because of race or religious ideas, beliefs, or affiliations. No law shall arbitrarily, capriciously, or unreasonably discriminate against a person because of birth, age, sex, culture, physical condition, or political ideas or affiliations.

(B)(1) Slavery and involuntary servitude are prohibited; ~~except in the latter case as punishment for crime.~~

1 (2) Subparagraph (1) of this Paragraph does not apply to the otherwise
2 lawful administration of criminal justice.

3 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
4 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 8,
5 2022.

6 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,
7 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted
8 to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as
9 follows:

10 Do you support an amendment to prohibit the use of involuntary servitude
11 except as it applies to the otherwise lawful administration of criminal justice?
12 (Amends Article I, Section 3)

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE