

Present constitution provides for suspension of right to register and vote while a person is interdicted and judicially declared mentally incompetent or is under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony.

Proposed constitutional amendment prohibits a convicted felon who has exhausted all legal remedies and who has not been pardoned and a person actually under an order of imprisonment from seeking or holding an elected office.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that a person who desires to qualify for or hold an elective office who has committed a felony, has served his sentence, and has not been pardoned for such felony shall be permitted to seek or hold such office if the date of qualifying for candidacy for the office is more than 15 years from the date of the completion of the original sentence.

Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at the congressional primary election in 1998.

(Amends Const. Art. I, Sec. 10)

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

##### Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to the original bill.

1. Deletes references to disqualification of voting rights.
2. Requires that a convicted felon must have exhausted all his legal remedies.
3. Adds a provision which allows a person convicted of a felony to seek or hold an elective office once 15 years has lapsed from date of the conviction to the date of qualification for candidacy.

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

##### Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the engrossed bill.

1. Clarifies that a convicted felon who has completed his sentence and has not been pardoned may seek or hold elective office if the date of qualification for candidacy is more than 15 years after completion of the original sentence.