

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 31

BY SENATOR APPEL

ELECTED OFFICIALS. Constitutional amendment to provide for disqualification from holding an elective office. (2/3-CA13sl(A))

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to Add Article I Section 10.1 of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to public
3 office; to prohibit convicted felons from seeking or holding public office within a
4 certain time period; and to specify an election for submission of the proposition to
5 electors and provide a ballot proposition.

6 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members
7 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for
8 their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article I Section
9 10.1 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

10 **§10.1. Disqualification from Seeking or Holding an Elective Office**

11 **Section 10.1.(A) Disqualification. The following persons shall not be**
12 **permitted to qualify as a candidate for elective public office or take public**
13 **elective office or appointment of honor, trust, or profit in this state:**

14 **(1) A person actually under an order of imprisonment for conviction of**
15 **a felony.**

16 **(2) A person who has been convicted within this state of a felony and who**
17 **has exhausted all legal remedies, or who has been convicted under the laws of**

Proposed constitutional amendment prohibits convicted felons who have exhausted all legal remedies from seeking or holding an elected office. Provides for restoration of certain rights by gubernatorial pardon.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that a person who desires to seek or hold an elective office who has committed a felony and has served his sentence will be permitted to seek or hold such office within 5 years from the date of the completion of the original sentence to the date of qualifying for candidacy.

Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held on November 6, 2018.

(Adds Const. Art I, Sec. 10.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Reduces the prohibition to run or hold office from 15 to 5 years.