

SENATE BILL NO. 31

BY SENATORS APPEL AND WALSWORTH

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

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

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, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article I Section 10.1 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§10.1. Disqualification from Seeking or Holding an Elective Office or Appointment

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

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

(2) A person who has been convicted within this state of a felony and who has exhausted all legal remedies, or who has been convicted under the laws of any other state or of the United States or of any foreign government or country of a crime which, if committed in this state, would be a felony and who has exhausted all legal remedies and has not afterwards been pardoned either by the governor of this state or by the officer of the state, nation, government, or country having such authority to pardon in the place where the person was convicted and sentenced.

1 **(B) Exception. The provisions of Paragraph (A) of this Section shall not**
2 **prohibit a person convicted of a felony from qualifying as a candidate for**
3 **elective public office or holding such elective public office or appointment of**
4 **honor, trust, or profit if more than five years have elapsed since the completion**
5 **of his original sentence for the conviction.**

6 **(C) The provisions of Paragraph (A) of this Section shall not prohibit a**
7 **person from being employed by the state or a political subdivision.**

8 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
9 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 6,
10 2018.

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

15 Do you support an amendment to prohibit a convicted felon from seeking or
16 holding public office or appointment within five years of completion of his
17 sentence unless he is pardoned?

18 (Adds Article I, Section 10.1)

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES