

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 31

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HAAHR.

1627H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the qualified voters of Missouri, an amendment to article I of the Constitution of Missouri, and adopting one new section in lieu thereof relating to parental rights.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring therein:

That at the next general election to be held in the state of Missouri, on Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 2016, or at a special election to be called by the governor for that purpose, there is hereby submitted to the qualified voters of this state, for adoption or rejection, the following amendment to article I of the Constitution of the state of Missouri:

Section A. Article I, Constitution of Missouri, is amended by adding one new section, to be known as section 39, to read as follows:

Section 39. 1. That parents have a responsibility to ensure that their minor children receive a program of academic instruction which they regularly attend while the child is of an age prescribed by law for school attendance. Parents have a fundamental right to choose to educate their children in public schools, private schools, parochial schools, parish schools, or in-home education, or a combination thereof, to prepare them for future obligations in life.

2. Neither the state nor any political subdivision, nor any agency, entity, or person acting on behalf of the state or any political subdivision, shall dictate through statute, rule, regulation, or other device the content of curriculum to be used by private schools, parochial schools, parish schools, or for in-home instruction or a combination thereof, with the exception of laws which may require instruction in the United States Constitution and this constitution. Neither the state nor any political subdivision, nor any agency, entity, or

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

13 **person acting on behalf of the state or any political subdivision shall require any private,**
14 **parochial, or parish school to include in its curriculum any concept, topic, or practice in**
15 **conflict with the school's religious doctrines or beliefs, nor to exclude from its curriculum**
16 **any concept, topic, or practice consistent with the school's religious doctrines or beliefs; nor**
17 **shall the state or any political subdivision, or any agency, entity, or person acting on behalf**
18 **of the state or any political subdivision require a parent providing in-home education to**
19 **include in a student's curriculum any concept, topic, or practice in conflict with the**
20 **parent's religious beliefs, nor to exclude from a student's curriculum any concept, topic,**
21 **or practice consistent with the parent's religious beliefs.**

Section B. Pursuant to chapter 116, RSMo, and other applicable constitutional provisions
2 and laws of this state allowing the general assembly to adopt ballot language for the submission
3 of a joint resolution to the voters of this state, the official ballot title of the amendment proposed
4 in section A shall be as follows:

5 "Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to ensure that parents have a fundamental
6 right to choose to educate their children in public schools, private schools, parochial schools, or
7 in-home education, or a combination thereof?"

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