

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 10 of the 81st Session—Assemblymen
Watts, C.H. Miller, Frierson, Brittney Miller, Monroe-
Moreno; Summers-Armstrong and Thomas

Joint Sponsors: Senators D. Harris, Neal and Spearman

FILE NUMBER.....

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION—Proposing to amend the
Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution and the Nevada
Constitution to remove language authorizing the use of slavery
and involuntary servitude as a criminal punishment.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Under the Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution and the Nevada Constitution, slavery and involuntary servitude are prohibited except as punishment for a crime. (Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution; Nev. Const. Art. 1, § 17) This resolution proposes to amend the Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution and the Nevada Constitution to remove language authorizing the use of slavery and involuntary servitude as a criminal punishment. If this resolution is passed by the 2021 Legislature, it must also be passed by the next Legislature and then approved and ratified by voters in an election before the proposed amendments become effective.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE OF THE STATE OF
NEVADA, JOINTLY, That the Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution
be amended to read as follows:

In obedience to the requirements of an act of the Congress
of the United States, approved March twenty-first, A.D.
eighteen hundred and sixty-four, to enable the people of
Nevada to form a constitution and state government, this
convention, elected and convened in obedience to said
enabling act, do ordain as follows, and this ordinance shall be
irrevocable, without the consent of the United States and the
people of the State of Nevada:

First. That there shall be in this state neither slavery nor
involuntary servitude . ~~[, otherwise than in the punishment for
crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted.]~~

Second. That perfect toleration of religious sentiment shall
be secured, and no inhabitant of said state shall ever be
molested, in person or property, on account of his or her mode
of religious worship.

Third. That the people inhabiting said territory do agree and
declare, that they forever disclaim all right and title to the
unappropriated public lands lying within said territory, and that



the same shall be and remain at the sole and entire disposition of the United States; and that lands belonging to citizens of the United States, residing without the said state, shall never be taxed higher than the land belonging to the residents thereof; and that no taxes shall be imposed by said state on lands or property therein belonging to, or which may hereafter be purchased by, the United States, unless otherwise provided by the congress of the United States.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That Section 17 of Article 1 of the Nevada Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 17. Neither Slavery nor involuntary servitude ~~[unless for the punishment of crimes]~~ shall ever be tolerated in this State.

And be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution becomes effective upon passage.

