

A JOINT RESOLUTION, Proposing and submitting to the electors at the next general election an amendment to Article V, section 7 of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, providing for the merit selection of circuit court judges.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

Section 1. That at the next general election held in the state, the following amendment to Article V, section 7 of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, as set forth in section 2 of this Joint Resolution, which is hereby agreed to, shall be submitted to the electors of the state for approval.

Section 2. That Article V, section 7 of the Constitution, of the State of South Dakota, be amended to read as follows:

§ 7. A vacancy, as defined by law, in the office of a Supreme Court justice or circuit court judge, shall be filled by appointment of the Governor from one of two or more persons nominated by the judicial qualifications commission. The appointment to fill a vacancy of a Supreme Court justice or a circuit court judge shall be subject to approval or rejection as hereinafter set forth.

Retention of each Supreme Court justice or circuit court judge shall, in the manner provided by law, be subject to approval or rejection on a nonpolitical ballot at the first general election following the expiration of three years from the date of appointment. Thereafter, each Supreme Court justice and circuit court judge shall be subject to approval or rejection in like manner every eighth year. All incumbent Supreme Court justices and circuit court judges at the time of the effective date of this amendment shall be subject to a retention election in the general election in the year in which their respective existing terms expire. Each Supreme Court justice shall be subject to a statewide retention election and each circuit court judge shall be subject to a retention election by the electorate of the circuit the judge represents.

Proposing and submitting to the electors at the next general election an amendment to Article V, section 7 of the Constitution of the State of South Dakota, providing for the merit selection of circuit court judges.

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I certify that the attached
Resolution originated in the

HOUSE as Joint Resolution No.
1003

Chief Clerk

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Speaker of the House

Attest:

Chief Clerk

President of the Senate

Attest:

Secretary of the Senate

House Joint Resolution No. 1003
File No. _____
Chapter No. _____

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STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,
ss.
Office of the Secretary of State

Filed _____, 20____
at _____ o'clock __ M.

Secretary of State

By _____
Asst. Secretary of State

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