OLR Bill Analysis
SJ 28

RESOLUTION PROPOSING A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ALLOW INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE ATTAINED THE AGE OF SIXTEEN TO APPLY FOR ADMISSION AS ELECTORS AND TO BE SO ADMITTED UPON ATTAINING THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN.

SUMMARY

This resolution proposes a constitutional amendment allowing 16-year-old citizens to apply for admission as electors (i.e., voters). Under the resolution, an individual must apply and otherwise qualify for admission. Upon turning 18, the individual’s electoral rights attach.

By law and under the constitution, a 17-year-old who has applied and qualified for admission as an elector, and who will turn age 18 on or before the day of a regular election, may vote in the primary for that election. A “regular election” is any municipal or state election.

The ballot designation to be used when the amendment is presented at the general election is: "Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to allow any citizen to apply for admission as an elector, when he or she attains the age of sixteen years, for the purpose of being admitted as an elector on his or her eighteenth birthday?"

EFFECTIVE DATE: If the resolution passes by at least three-fourths of the membership of each house of the General Assembly, it will be placed on the 2020 general election ballot. If it passes by a majority of the membership of each house but less than three-fourths, it will be referred to the 2021 session of the legislature. If it passes in that session by a majority of each house, it will appear on the 2022 general election ballot. If a majority of those voting on the amendment in the general election approves it, the amendment will become part of the state constitution.
COMMITTEE ACTION
Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 12  Nay 4  (03/20/2019)