
OLR Bill Analysis

SJ 35

RESOLUTION PROPOSING A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT CONCERNING DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX UNDER THE EQUAL PROTECTION CLAUSE.

SUMMARY

This resolution proposes amending an existing constitutional amendment that guarantees equal protection of the law and prohibits segregation or discrimination in the exercise or enjoyment of a person's civil or political rights because of sex (among other protected classes).

The amendment specifies that sex discrimination includes discrimination, in intent or effect, based on pregnancy, including preventing, initiating, continuing, or terminating a pregnancy; sexual orientation; gender identity and expression; and related health care.

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 amend the equal protection clause to provide that discrimination on the basis of sex includes discrimination based on pregnancy, including preventing, initiating, continuing or terminating a pregnancy, sexual orientation and gender identity and expression?"

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 2026 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 2027 session of the legislature. If it passes in that session by a majority of each house, it will appear on the 2028 general election ballot. If a majority of those voting on the amendment in the general election approve it, the amendment will become part of the state constitution.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13 Nay 6 (02/28/2025)