

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the Arkansas Constitution.

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4
5 By: Senator M. Johnson

SJR 4

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION PROVIDING
THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL PROVIDE BY LAW FOR
THE ESTABLISHMENT, MAINTENANCE, AND SUPPORT OF FREE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUBJECT TO SUCH CONDITIONS AND
LIMITATIONS AS THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY PRESCRIBE.

Subtitle

A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROVIDING THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL PROVIDE BY LAW FOR
THE ESTABLISHMENT, MAINTENANCE, AND
SUPPORT OF FREE PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUBJECT TO
SUCH CONDITIONS AND LIMITATIONS AS THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY PRESCRIBE.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
STATE OF ARKANSAS, AND BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, A MAJORITY OF ALL
MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:

THAT the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of
the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state
for approval or rejection at the next general election for Representatives
and Senators, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the election
adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the Constitution of
the State of Arkansas, to wit:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Constitution, Article 14, § 1, is amended to read
as follows:



1 § 1. Free school system.

2 ~~Intelligence and virtue being the safeguards of liberty and the bulwark~~
3 ~~of a free and good government, the State shall ever maintain a general,~~
4 ~~suitable and efficient system of free public schools and shall adopt all~~
5 ~~suitable means to secure to the people the advantages and opportunities of~~
6 ~~education. The specific intention of this amendment is to authorize that in~~
7 ~~addition to existing constitutional or statutory provisions the General~~
8 ~~Assembly and/or public school districts may spend public funds for the~~
9 ~~education of persons over twenty one (21) years of age and under six (6)~~
10 ~~years of age, as may be provided by law, and no other interpretation shall be~~
11 ~~given to it~~ The General Assembly shall provide by law for the establishment,
12 maintenance, and support of free public schools subject to such conditions
13 and limitations as the General Assembly may provide.

14
15 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment shall be effective on and
16 after January 1, 2023.

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18 SECTION 3. BALLOT TITLE AND POPULAR NAME. When this proposed
19 amendment is submitted to the electors of this state on the general election
20 ballot:

21 (1) The title of this Joint Resolution shall be the ballot
22 title; and

23 (2) The popular name shall be "A Constitutional Amendment
24 Providing that the General Assembly Shall Provide By Law for the
25 Establishment, Maintenance, and Support of Free Public Schools Subject To
26 Such Conditions and Limitations as the General Assembly May Prescribe".