

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 133

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE KELLY (141).

5536H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the qualified voters of Missouri an amendment to Article I of the Constitution of Missouri, by adopting one new section relating to the protection of children.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring therein:

That at the next general election to be held in the state of Missouri, on Tuesday next
2 following the first Monday in November, 2024, or at a special election to be called by the
3 governor for that purpose, there is hereby submitted to the qualified voters of this state, for
4 adoption or rejection, the following amendment to Article I of the Constitution of the state of
5 Missouri:

Section A. Article I, Constitution of Missouri, is amended by adopting one new
2 section, to be known as Section 36, to read as follows:

Section 36. 1. This section shall be known as "Protect Children First".

2 **2. That our children are our future, and they are a blessing and gift from**
3 **Almighty God. The strength and success of Missouri is dependent on healthy and happy**
4 **children and their mothers and families, as well as on stable home lives.**

5 **3. It is the public policy of the state of Missouri to give special consideration to**
6 **the care of our children, born and unborn, especially those children who are orphans or**
7 **children in foster care, and those children who are victims of abuse.**

8 **4. Nothing in this constitution shall be construed to secure or protect a right to**
9 **abortion, or to require the funding of abortion by taxpayers or by any other means.**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

10 **5. The general assembly shall have the authority to enact laws and make**
11 **appropriations to carry out the provisions of this section.**

 Section B. Pursuant to chapter 116, and other applicable constitutional provisions and
2 laws of this state allowing the general assembly to adopt ballot language for the submission of
3 this joint resolution to the voters of this state, the official summary statement of this
4 resolution shall be as follows:

5 "Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:

- 6 • Protect children first;
- 7 • Recognize children as our future and a blessing from God;
- 8 • Provide care for children, especially orphans, foster children, and children who are
9 victims of abuse; and
- 10 • Guarantee that the Constitution does not protect a right to abortion or taxpayer-
11 funded abortion?".

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