SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

Richard M. Romero

A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 7, SECTION 1 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO TO REMOVE THE BAN ON VOTING FOR PERSONS CONVICTED OF A FELONIOUS OR INFAMOUS CRIME.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Article 7, Section 1 of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

"A. Every citizen of the United States, who is over the age of twenty-one years, and has resided in New Mexico twelve months, in the county ninety days, and in the precinct in which he offers to vote thirty days, next preceding the election, except idiots and insane persons, [~~and persons convicted of a felonious or infamous crime unless restored to political rights~~] shall be qualified to vote at all elections for public officers.

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B. The legislature may enact laws providing for absentee voting by qualified electors.

C. All school elections shall be held at different times from other elections.

D. The legislature shall have the power to require the registration of the qualified electors as a requisite for voting, and shall regulate the manner, time and places of voting. The legislature shall enact such laws as will secure the secrecy of the ballot, the purity of elections and guard against the abuse of elective franchise. Not more than two members of the board of registration, and not more than two judges of election shall belong to the same political party at the time of their appointment."

Section 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at the next general election or at any special election prior to that date which may be called for that purpose.

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