LC005463

2020 -- H 8077

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

JOINT RESOLUTION

TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH, AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE (CHANGE THE NAME OF THE STATE)

Introduced By: Representatives Williams, Almeida, Solomon, Alzate, and Hull

Date Introduced: June 19, 2020

Referred To: House Judiciary

1	RESOLVED, That a majority of all members elected to each house of the general
2	assembly voting therefor, the following amendment to the Constitution of the state be proposed to
3	the qualified electors of the state in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV of the
4	constitution for their approval and that it take the place of the Title and the Preamble to the
5	constitution and Article III, Section 3, and Article IX, Section 8, all of which are hereby amended
6	to read as follows:
7	CONSTITUTION
8	OF THE
9	STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
10	PREAMBLE
11	We, the people of this State which state shall henceforth be known as the state of Rhode
12	Island, grateful to Almighty God for the civil and religious liberty which He hath so long
13	permitted us to enjoy, and looking to Him for a blessing upon our endeavors to secure and to
14	transmit the same, unimpaired, to succeeding generations, do ordain and establish this
15	Constitution of government.
16	ARTICLE III
17	OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE
18	Section 3. Oath of general officers All general officers shall take the following
19	engagement before they act in their respective offices, to wit: You being by the free vote of the

1	electors of this state of Rhode Island, elected unto the place of do solemnly swear (or, affirm) to
2	be true and faithful unto this state, and to support the Constitution of this state and of the United
3	States; that you will faithfully and impartially discharge all the duties of your aforesaid office to
4	the best of your abilities, according to law: So help you God. [Or: This affirmation you make and
5	give upon the peril of the penalty of perjury.]
6	ARTICLE IX
7	OF THE EXECUTIVE POWER
8	Section 8. Commissions All commissions shall be in the name and by authority of the
9	State of Rhode Island; shall be sealed with the state seal, signed by the governor, and attested by
10	the secretary.
11	RESOLVED, That this amendment shall take, in the Constitution of the State, the place
12	of the Title and the Preamble to the constitution, and of Article III, Section 3, and Article IX,
13	Section 8, of the constitution;
14	IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, That the said proposition of amendment contained in this
15	resolution shall be submitted to the electors for their approval or rejection at the next statewide
16	general election to be held in November, 2020. The voting places in the several cities and towns
17	shall be kept open during the hours required by law for voting therein for the members of the
18	general assembly and such other officials as may be up for election; and be it further
19	RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause the said proposition of amendment to
20	be published as a part of this resolution in the newspapers of the state prior to the date of the said
21	meetings of the electors; and the said proposition shall be inserted in the warrants or notices to be
22	issued previous to said meetings of the electors for the purpose of warning the town, ward, or
23	district meetings, and said proposition shall be read by the town, ward or district clerks to the
24	electors in the town, ward or district meetings to be held as aforesaid; and be it further
25	RESOLVED, That the town, ward and district meetings to be held aforesaid shall be
26	warned, and the list of voters shall be canvassed and made up, and the said town, ward and
27	district meetings shall be conducted in the same manner as now provided by law for the town,
28	ward and district meetings for the election of members of the general assembly and such other
29	officials as may be up for election.

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