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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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A N A C T

APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF  
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION -- OF QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICE

Introduced By: Senators McKenney, Tikoian, Bissailon, and Gallo

Date Introduced: February 07, 2025

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 RESOLVED, That a majority of all members elected to each house of the general assembly  
2 voting therefor, the following amendment to the Constitution of the state be proposed to the  
3 qualified electors of the state in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV of the Constitution,  
4 for their approval, and that Section 9 shall be added to Article III, which is hereby amended,  
5 effective January 1, 2027, to read as follows:

6 ARTICLE III

7 OF QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICE

8 SECTION 9. Residency and registration for general officers.

9 No person shall hold office as governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney  
10 general, or general treasurer, unless that person has been a resident and a registered voter in the  
11 State of Rhode Island for at least two (2) years, continuously, prior to taking office.

12 RESOLVED, That this amendment shall be, in the Constitution of the State, added to  
13 Article III of the Constitution;

14 It is further

15 RESOLVED, That said proposition of amendment shall be submitted to the electors for  
16 their approval or rejection at the next statewide general election. The voting places in the several  
17 cities and towns shall be kept open during the hours required by law for voting therein for general  
18 officers of the state; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause the said proposition of amendments to  
2 be published as a part of this resolution in the newspapers of the state prior to the date of the said  
3 meetings of the said electors; and the said proposition shall be inserted in the warrants or notices to  
4 be issued previous to said meetings of the electors for the purpose of warning the town, ward, or  
5 district meetings, and said proposition shall be read by the town, ward, or district meetings to be  
6 held as aforesaid; and be it further

7           RESOLVED, That the town, ward, and district meetings to be held aforesaid shall be  
8 warned, and the list of voters shall be canvassed and made up, and the said town, ward, and district  
9 meetings shall be conducted in the same manner as now provided by law for the town, ward, and  
10 district meetings for the election of general officers of the state.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF  
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION -- OF QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICE

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1           This Joint Resolution would propose to the voters of the state a constitutional amendment  
2           which would provide that no person would hold office as governor, lieutenant governor, secretary  
3           of state, attorney general, or general treasurer, unless that person had been a resident and a  
4           registered voter in the State of Rhode Island for at least two years, continuously, prior to taking  
5           office.

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