

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

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

SJR 4

By: Senator M. Johnson

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. Free school system.

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

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

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

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

(2) The popular name shall be "A Constitutional Amendment 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".