

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1605

By Committee on Ethics and Elections

1-28

9 A PROPOSITION to amend section 2 of article 5 of the constitution of
10 the state of Kansas, relating to qualification of voters.

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12 *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the*
13 *members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate and two-*
14 *thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House*
15 *of Representatives concurring therein:*

16 Section 1. The following proposition to amend the constitution of the
17 state of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state
18 for their approval or rejection: Section 2 of article 5 of the constitution
19 of the state of Kansas is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 “**§ 2 Disqualification to vote.** The legislature may, by law, ex-
21 clude persons from voting because of ~~mental illness or~~ commitment
22 to a jail or penal institution. No person convicted of a felony under
23 the laws of any state or of the United States, unless pardoned or
24 restored to his civil rights, shall be qualified to vote.”

25 Sec. 2. The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with
26 the amendment as a whole:

27 “*Explanatory statement.* This amendment would authorize the legis-
28 lature to permit persons with mental illness to be eligible to vote.

29 “A vote for this amendment would permit the legislature to allow per-
30 sons suffering from mental illness to vote.

31 “A vote against this amendment would continue the current prohibi-
32 tion against such persons voting.”

33 Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members
34 elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate, and two-thirds of the
35 members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Repre-
36 sentatives shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas and
37 nays. The secretary of state shall cause this resolution to be published as
38 provided by law and shall cause the proposed amendment to be submitted
39 to the electors of the state at the general election in the year 2010.