

ENROLLED HOUSE
JOINT
RESOLUTION NO. 1013

By: Steidley, Webb,
Satterfield and Perry of
the House

and

Dickerson and Wright of
the Senate

A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State to refer to the people for their approval or rejection a proposed amendment to Section 10 of Article VI of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma; authorizing the Legislature to establish minimum mandatory periods of confinement prior to parole eligibility; providing ballot title; directing filing; and ordering a special election.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 44TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law, the following proposed amendment to Section 10 of Article VI of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma to read as follows:

Section 10. There is hereby created a Pardon and Parole Board to be composed of five members; three to be appointed by the Governor; one by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; one by the Presiding Judge of the Criminal Court of Appeals or its successor. An attorney member of the Board shall be prohibited from representing in the courts of this state persons charged with felony offenses. The appointed members shall hold their offices coterminous with that of the Governor and shall be removable for cause only in the manner provided by law for elective officers not liable to impeachment. It shall be the duty of the Board to make an impartial investigation and study of applicants for commutations, pardons or paroles, and by a majority vote make its recommendations to the Governor of all deemed worthy of clemency. Provided, the Pardon and Parole Board shall have no authority to make recommendations regarding parole for convicts sentenced to death or sentenced to life imprisonment without parole. The Governor shall have the power to grant, after conviction and after favorable recommendation by a majority vote of the said Board, commutations, pardons and paroles for all offenses, except cases of impeachment, upon such conditions and with such restrictions and limitations as he may deem proper, subject to such regulations as may be prescribed by law. Provided, the Governor shall not have the power to grant paroles if a convict has been sentenced to death or sentenced to life imprisonment without parole. The Legislature shall have the authority to prescribe ~~for those persons convicted of three felonies arising out of separate and distinct transactions~~ a minimum mandatory period of confinement which must be served by a person prior to being eligible to be considered for parole. The Governor shall have power to grant after conviction, reprieves, or leaves of

absence not to exceed sixty (60) days, without the action of said Board.

He shall communicate to the Legislature, at each regular session, each case of reprieve, commutation, parole or pardon, granted, stating the name of the convict, the crime of which he was convicted, the date and place of conviction, and the date of commutation, pardon, parole and reprieve.

SECTION 2. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional amendment as set forth in SECTION 1 of this resolution shall be in the following form:

BALLOT TITLE

Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

This measure would amend the State Constitution. It would amend Section 10 of Article VI. This section deals with pardon and parole. The change would let the Legislature set minimum prison terms for all convicted felons. The minimum term would have to be served before a person could be paroled. Currently, the Legislature does not have the power to set minimum prison terms except for persons convicted of three or more felonies. SHALL THIS AMENDMENT BE APPROVED BY THE PEOPLE?

 / / YES, FOR THE AMENDMENT

 / / NO, AGAINST THE AMENDMENT

SECTION 3. The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, immediately after the passage of this resolution, shall prepare and file one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 2 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney General.

SECTION 4. A special election is hereby ordered to be held throughout the State of Oklahoma on the date of the next statewide primary election, at which time the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma, as set forth in SECTION 1 of this resolution, shall be submitted to the people of Oklahoma for their approval or rejection as and in the manner provided by law.

Passed the House of Representatives the 26th day of May, 1994.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the 27th day of May, 1993.

President of the Senate