

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 45th Legislature (1995)

HOUSE JOINT
RESOLUTION NO. 1016

By: Vaughn

AS INTRODUCED

A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State to refer to the people for their approval or rejection a proposed amendment to Section 2 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma; modifying percentage of legal voters required for initiative and referenda; providing ballot title; and directing filing.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 45TH 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 2 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma to read as follows:

Section 2. The first power reserved by the people is the initiative, and ~~eight~~ five per centum of the legal voters shall have the right to propose any legislative measure, and ~~fifteen~~ eight per centum of the legal voters shall have the right to propose amendments to the Constitution by petition, and every such petition shall include the full text of the measure so proposed. The second power is the referendum, and it may be ordered (except as to laws necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety), either by petition signed by five per centum of the legal voters or by the Legislature as other bills are enacted. The ratio and per centum of legal voters hereinbefore stated shall be based upon the total number of votes cast at the last general

election for the State office receiving the highest number of votes at such election.

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 amends the Oklahoma Constitution. It would amend Section 2 of Article 5. It changes the number of legal voters needed to have a vote on any new laws. It also changes the number of legal voters needed to have a vote on changes in the Oklahoma Constitution. Now, it takes eight percent of the number of votes cast in the last general election for the State office which had the highest number of votes to propose a new law. This is done with an initiative petition. If the amendment passes, the eight percent number would be lowered to five percent. Now, it takes fifteen percent of the number of votes cast in the last general election for the State office which had the highest number of votes to have a vote on changing the Oklahoma Constitution. This is done with a referendum petition. If the amendment passes, the fifteen percent number would be lowered to eight percent.

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.

45-1-6290

MAH