

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 February 7, 2017

3 SENATE JOINT
4 RESOLUTION NO. 42

By: Sykes of the Senate

5
6 A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State
7 to refer to the people for their approval or
8 rejection a proposed amendment to Section 3 of
9 Article VII of the Oklahoma Constitution; requiring
10 partisan elections for certain judicial officers;
11 providing ballot title; and directing filing.

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 1ST SESSION OF THE 56TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

14 SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for
15 their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law,
16 the following proposed amendment to Section 3 of Article VII of the
17 Oklahoma Constitution to read as follows:

18 Section 3. From each of the Supreme Court districts and Court
19 of Criminal Appeals districts, the voters thereof shall elect a
20 Justice of the Supreme Court and a Judge of the Court of Criminal
21 Appeals at a ~~non-partisan~~ partisan election, in a manner provided by
22 statute. In the event intermediate appellate courts are created,
23 the judges thereof shall be elected at a ~~non-partisan~~ partisan
24 election, in a manner provided by statute. In the event of a
vacancy the Governor shall, by appointment from said district, fill

1 such vacancy until the next election for State Officers, and at such
2 election the vacancy for the unexpired term shall be filled by a
3 ~~non-partisan~~ partisan election in a manner provided by statute.

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

7 BALLOT TITLE

8 Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

9 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

10 This measure would amend Section 3 of Article 7 of the Oklahoma
11 Constitution. It would require Supreme Court justices and Court
12 of Criminal Appeals judges to be elected in partisan elections.
13 It would require intermediate appellate judges to be elected in
14 partisan elections.

15 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

16 FOR THE PROPOSAL — YES _____

17 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL — NO _____

18 SECTION 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall,
19 immediately after the passage of this resolution, prepare and file
20 one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 2
21 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney
22 General.

23 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
24 February 7, 2017 - DO PASS