

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 56th Legislature (2017)

3 SENATE JOINT  
4 RESOLUTION37

By: Bass

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6  
7 AS INTRODUCED

8 A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State  
9 to refer to the people for their approval or  
10 rejection a proposed amendment to Section 1 of  
11 Article I of the Oklahoma Constitution; clarifying  
12 status of United States Constitution; adding the Bill  
13 of Rights to our Constitution; providing ballot  
14 title; and directing filing.

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
16 1ST SESSION OF THE 56TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

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

21 Section 1. ~~The State of Oklahoma is an inseparable part of the~~  
22 ~~Federal Union, and the Constitution of the United States is the~~  
23 ~~supreme law of the land~~ To acknowledge as Article VI, paragraph II  
24 of the United States Constitution attests that the Constitution for  
the United States is the supreme law of the land, we reaffirm the

1 unalienable rights and freedoms derived from our creator which are  
2 guaranteed by the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution shall be  
3 the supreme law of the land in this state. We affirm and enshrine  
4 these same rights here in the Oklahoma Constitution.

5 As part of the supreme law, the Bill of Rights is contained therein  
6 as properly ratified by the states and those rights are enumerated  
7 as follows:

8 Amendment I

9 Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion,  
10 or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom  
11 of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to  
12 assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of  
13 grievances.

14 Amendment II

15 A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free  
16 state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be  
17 infringed.

18 Amendment III

19 No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house,  
20 without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a  
21 manner to be prescribed by law.

22 Amendment IV

23 The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses,  
24 papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures,

1 shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon  
2 probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly  
3 describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be  
4 seized.

5 Amendment V

6 No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise  
7 infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand  
8 jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the  
9 militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor  
10 shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in  
11 jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal  
12 case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life,  
13 liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private  
14 property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

15 Amendment VI

16 In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a  
17 speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and  
18 district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district  
19 shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of  
20 the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the  
21 witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining  
22 witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for  
23 his defense.

24 Amendment VII

1 In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed  
2 twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and  
3 no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any court  
4 of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

5 Amendment VIII

6 Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed,  
7 nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

8 Amendment IX

9 The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be  
10 construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

11 Amendment X

12 The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution,  
13 nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states  
14 respectively, or to the people.

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

18 BALLOT TITLE

19 Legislative Referendum No. \_\_\_\_\_ State Question No. \_\_\_\_\_

20 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

21 This measure amends Section 1 of Article 1 of the State  
22 Constitution. This change adds the listing of the United States  
23 Bill of Rights. The Bill of Rights is the first ten amendments  
24 to the United States Constitution.

1 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

2 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES \_\_\_\_\_

3 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO \_\_\_\_\_

4 SECTION 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall,  
5 immediately after the passage of this resolution, prepare and file  
6 one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 2  
7 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney  
8 General.

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