

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE JOINT
RESOLUTION 41

By: Jett

AS INTRODUCED

A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State to refer to the people for their approval or rejection a proposed amendment to add a new Section 2A of Article II of the Oklahoma Constitution; recognizing the inherent right of parents to parent their children; requiring the state to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that interference is warranted; requiring that evidentiary standards mirror criminal proceedings; providing ballot title; and directing filing.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2ND SESSION OF THE 60TH 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 add a new Section 2A of Article II of the Oklahoma Constitution to read as follows:

Section 2A. Parents have the inherent right to raise or otherwise parent their children without unreasonable interference from the state. Such an inherent right shall only be interfered

1 with where the state shows beyond a reasonable doubt that the parent
2 is unfit to parent his or her child without interference from the
3 state. Evidentiary standards for depriving parents of this right
4 shall mirror that of criminal proceedings in this state.

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

8 BALLOT TITLE

9 Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

10 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

11 This measure will amend the Oklahoma Constitution by adding a
12 new Section 2A to Article 2. The measure will recognize the
13 inherent right of parents to parent their children without
14 interference from the state. The measure will require the state
15 to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that interference is
16 justified. The measure will require evidentiary standards to
17 match that of criminal proceedings.

18 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

19 FOR THE PROPOSAL — YES _____

20 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL — NO _____

21 SECTION 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall,
22 immediately after the passage of this resolution, prepare and file
23 one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 2
24

1 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney
2 General.
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