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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 7

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

LISA L. LUTZ

FOR THE ELECTION CODE RECODIFICATION COMMITTEE

A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 7 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO TO STRIKE THE RESTRICTION ON WHEN LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS MAY BE HELD AND TO CLARIFY VOTER REQUIREMENTS.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Article 7, Section 1 of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

"Every citizen of the United States who is ~~[over the age of twenty-one]~~ at least eighteen years of age and ~~[has resided in New Mexico twelve months, in the county ninety days and in the precinct in which he offers to vote thirty days, next preceding the election, except idiots, insane persons and persons]~~ who meets residency requirements, as provided by law, except a person determined by a court to be mentally incompetent or a person convicted of a felonious or infamous crime unless

Underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 restored to political rights, shall be qualified to vote at all  
2 elections for public officers. The legislature may enact laws  
3 providing for absentee voting by qualified electors. [~~All~~  
4 ~~school elections shall be held at different times from other~~  
5 ~~elections.~~]

6 The legislature shall have the power to require the  
7 registration of the qualified electors as a requisite for  
8 voting, and shall regulate the manner, time and places of  
9 voting. The legislature shall enact such laws as will secure  
10 the secrecy of the ballot, the purity of elections and guard  
11 against the abuse of elective franchise. Not more than two  
12 members of the board of registration, and not more than two  
13 judges of election shall belong to the same political party at  
14 the time of their appointment. "

15 Section 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution shall  
16 be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at  
17 the next general election or at any special election prior to  
18 that date which may be called for that purpose.