

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. J. RES. 186

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative
to the fundamental right to vote.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 27, 2026

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. WELCH) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United
States relative to the fundamental right to vote.

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled*
3 *(two-thirds of each House concurring therein),* That the fol-
4 lowing article is proposed as an amendment to the Con-
5 stitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all
6 intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when
7 ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several
8 States:

1 “ARTICLE —

2 “SECTION 1. Every citizen of the United States, who
3 is of legal voting age, shall have the fundamental right
4 to vote in any public election held in the jurisdiction in
5 which the citizen resides.

6 “SECTION 2. The fundamental right of citizens of the
7 United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by
8 the United States or by any State or political subdivision
9 within a State unless such denial or abridgment is in fur-
10 therance of a compelling governmental interest and is the
11 least restrictive means of furthering that compelling gov-
12 ernmental interest.

13 “SECTION 3. The portion of section 2 of the four-
14 teenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the
15 United States that consists of the phrase ‘or other crime,’
16 is repealed.

17 “SECTION 4. The Congress shall have the power to
18 enforce this article and protect against any denial or
19 abridgement of the fundamental right to vote by legisla-
20 tion.”.

○