

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 40

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States with
respect to the right to life.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 1997

Mr. OBERSTAR (for himself, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. HUNTER,
Mr. HULSHOF, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. STEARNS, and Mr. WATTS
of Oklahoma) introduced the following joint resolution; which was re-
ferred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United
States with respect to the right to life.

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, to be valid only if ratified
6 by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States
7 within seven years after the date of final passage of this
8 joint resolution:

1 “ARTICLE —

2 “SECTION 1. With respect to the right to life, the
3 word ‘person’ as used in this article and in the fifth and
4 fourteenth articles of amendment to the Constitution of
5 the United States applies to all human beings irrespective
6 of age, health, function, or condition of dependency, in-
7 cluding their unborn offspring at every stage of their bio-
8 logical development.

9 “SECTION 2. No unborn person shall be deprived of
10 life by any person: *Provided, however,* That nothing in this
11 article shall prohibit a law permitting only those medical
12 procedures required to prevent the death of the mother.

13 “SECTION 3. The Congress and the several States
14 shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate leg-
15 islation.”.

○