

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 81

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE COSTLOW.

2606H.011

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the qualified voters of Missouri an amendment to Article I of the Constitution of Missouri, by adopting one new section relating to educational freedom.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring therein:

That at the next general election to be held in the state of Missouri, on Tuesday next
2 following the first Monday in November, 2026, or at a special election to be called by the
3 governor for that purpose, there is hereby submitted to the qualified voters of this state, for
4 adoption or rejection, the following amendment to Article I of the Constitution of the state of
5 Missouri:

Section A. Article I, Constitution of Missouri, is amended by adopting one new
2 section, to be known as Section 37, to read as follows:

**Section 37. That the government shall not deny or infringe upon a parent's
2 fundamental right to participate in and direct the education of his or her child. Such
3 right shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:**

**(1) The right to home school or otherwise educate a child outside of the public
4 school system free from any and all government regulation, restriction, or record-
5 keeping requirements, regardless of whether the parent receives state aid, grant moneys,
6 scholarship funds, or any other financial assistance or programming from the
7 government, either directly or indirectly, for purposes of educating a child;
8**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

9 **(2) The right to transparent access to the curricula and lesson plans of the public**
10 **school and school district in which a child is enrolled via the public school's or school**
11 **district's publicly accessible website;**

12 **(3) The right to educate a child in a public school that does not teach students or**
13 **train teachers or other staff members on:**

14 **(a) Critical race theory, as such term is defined by law, or any concept that**
15 **promotes the idea that an individual, by virtue of race, religion, or gender, is inherently**
16 **racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously; or**

17 **(b) Diversity-equity-inclusion, as such term is defined by law, or any concept**
18 **that promotes differential treatment of individuals based on race, gender, religion,**
19 **ethnicity, or sexual preference, but not including equal opportunity or equal**
20 **employment opportunity instruction designed to inform individuals about the**
21 **prohibition on discrimination based on protected class under state and federal law; and**

22 **(4) The right to educate a child in a public school that is free from any**
23 **requirement to adopt or develop a curriculum designed to conform to any statewide**
24 **learning standards or academic performance standards defining the knowledge, skills,**
25 **and competencies students must achieve in each grade level and course.**

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