

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 23

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE PERKINS.

5904H.021

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, Article I, Section 1, of the Missouri Constitution recognizes that "All
2 political power is vested in and derived from the people"; and

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4 **WHEREAS**, the Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution affirms that any
5 powers not delegated to the federal government are reserved to the states or the people,
6 reinforcing the principle of federalism; and

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8 **WHEREAS**, the states have long served as laboratories of democracy, uniquely
9 positioned to establish election laws and policies that reflect the needs and interests of their
10 citizens; and

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12 **WHEREAS**, a robust system of state-led election governance strengthens self-
13 government, promotes accountability, and preserves the integrity of the electoral process by
14 ensuring that the people of each state determine how best to protect their representation and
15 participation in democratic processes; and

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17 **WHEREAS**, the framers of the United States Constitution recognized the role of the
18 states in structuring election laws and mechanisms, understanding that a one-size-fits-all
19 federal approach is neither necessary nor desirable; and

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21 **WHEREAS**, the people of Missouri and other states have a vested interest in ensuring
22 that their electoral processes remain responsive to their needs and are free from
23 disproportionate influence by foreign entities or individuals that may not reflect the
24 priorities of the electorate; and

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26 **WHEREAS**, the principle of self-governance requires that states retain the ability to
27 establish laws governing the influence of money in elections, consistent with their unique
28 circumstances and policy considerations; and

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30 **WHEREAS**, the constitutional amendment process provides an avenue for
31 reaffirming the role of the states in overseeing elections and ensuring that their authority
32 in this realm is preserved:

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34 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
35 Representatives of the One Hundred Third General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the
36 Senate concurring therein, hereby call upon the members of the Missouri congressional
37 delegation to uphold the principles of federalism and to be proponents of appropriate action,
38 including, if necessary, a constitutional amendment that affirms the authority of states to
39 govern their election processes and establishes the ability of the states to enact policies
40 regarding campaign finance and election influence, in a manner consistent with established
41 constitutional principles; and

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43 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
44 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
45 members of the Missouri congressional delegation.

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