

February 20, 1967

Passed on File

*Judiciary 2-21, Pass 4-12  
Constitutional Amendments - Pass 5-3*

S. J. R. 24

By STANLEY, DENMAN, RIGLER,  
RILEY and KIBBIE

Passed Senate, Date 4-26-67

Passed House, Date 7-1-67

Vote: Ayes 54 Nays 3

Vote: Ayes 94 Nays 11

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

A Joint Resolution proposing a constitutional amendment relating to qualifications of electors.

*Be It Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

1 Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution  
2 of the State of Iowa is hereby proposed:

3 Section one (1) of Article two (II) of the Constitution,  
4 as amended in eighteen hundred sixty-eight (1868), is hereby  
5 repealed and the following is hereby adopted in lieu thereof:

6 "Section 1. Every citizen of the United States of the  
7 age of twenty-one (21) years, who shall have been a resident  
8 of this State for such period of time as shall be provided by  
9 law and of the county in which he claims his vote for such  
10 period of time as shall be provided by law, shall be entitled  
11 to vote at all elections which are now or hereafter may be  
12 authorized by law. The General Assembly may provide by law  
13 for different periods of residence in order to vote for  
14 various officers or in order to vote in various elections.  
15 The required periods of residence shall not exceed six (6)  
16 months in this State and sixty (60) days in the county."

1 Sec. 2. The foregoing proposed amendment is hereby  
2 referred to the General Assembly to be chosen at the next  
3 general election for members of the General Assembly, and  
4 shall be published as provided by law for three (3) consecutive  
5 months previous to the date of said general election.

## EXPLANATION

This constitutional amendment lets the general assembly set the residence requirements for voters. This would make it possible for the general assembly to reduce the residence requirements for some or all elections, or to allow all new residents of Iowa to vote for President and Vice-President.

In each election year millions of voters lose their votes because they move from one state to another and cannot meet the residence requirements. This amendment would allow the general assembly to correct this situation to whatever extent the general assembly deems advisable.

This amendment also removes the word "male" from the qualifications for voting. It recognizes that women now have the right to vote, and makes the Iowa constitution consistent with the Nineteenth Amendment to the Federal constitution (adopted in 1920).