**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 12, ARTICLE III OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO PUNISHMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, TO PROVIDE THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY GRANT CONCURRENT OR EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION TO INVESTIGATE, ADJUDICATE, AND PUNISH ITS MEMBERS FOR ALLEGATIONS OF ETHICAL MISCONDUCT TO A STATE AGENCY, BOARD, OR COMMISSION AS IT DEEMS APPROPRIATE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. It is proposed that Section 12, Article III of the Constitution of this State be amended to read:

“Each house shall choose its own officers, determine its rules of procedure, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two‑thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause. Provided, the General Assembly may grant concurrent or exclusive jurisdiction to investigate, adjudicate, and punish its members for allegations of ethical misconduct to a state agency, board, or commission as it deems appropriate.”

SECTION 2. The proposed amendment in Section 1 must be submitted to the qualified electors at the next general election for representatives. Ballots must be provided at the various voting precincts with following words:

“Must Section 12, Article III of the South Carolina Constitution, relating to punishment of members of the General Assembly, be amended to provide that the General Assembly may grant concurrent or exclusive jurisdiction to investigate, adjudicate, and punish it members for allegations of ethical misconduct to a state agency, board, or commission as it deems appropriate?

Yes 

No 

Those voting in favor of the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word ‘Yes’, and those voting against the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word, ‘No’.”

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