SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 80

By Akbari, Gilmore, Campbell, Rose, Robinson, Stevens, Walley

and

Representatives Towns, Parkinson, Gloria Johnson, Chism, Shaw, Hardaway, Warner, Hakeem, Stewart, McKenzie, Love, Camper, Dixie

A RESOLUTION to propose an amendment to Article I, Section 33 of the Constitution of Tennessee, to prohibit slavery and involuntary servitude.

WHEREAS, Senate Joint Resolution No. 159 of the One Hundred Eleventh General Assembly, which proposed amendment of Article I of the Constitution of Tennessee, relative to prohibiting slavery and involuntary servitude, was considered and agreed upon by a majority of all the members elected to each of the two houses, as shown by the yeas and nays entered on their journals; and

WHEREAS, such resolution proposing such amendment was published in accordance with Article XI, Section 3 of the Constitution of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, freedom from slavery and involuntary servitude is a right of every individual within the United States and any place subject to its jurisdiction, which right is secured by the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly ratified the Thirteenth Amendment in April 1865; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that a two-thirds majority of all the members of each house concurring, as shown by the yeas and nays entered on their journals, that it is proposed that Article I, Section 33 of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by deleting the section and substituting instead the following:

Section 33. Slavery and involuntary servitude are forever prohibited. Nothing in this section shall prohibit an inmate from working when the inmate has been duly convicted of a crime.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, in accordance with Article XI, Section 3 of the Constitution of Tennessee, the foregoing proposed amendment shall be submitted to the people at the next general election in which a governor is to be chosen, the same being the 2022 November general election, and the Secretary of State is directed to place such proposed amendment on the ballot for that election.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Senate is directed to deliver copies of this resolution to the Secretary of State, with this final resolving clause being deleted from such copies.
ADOPTED: May 4, 2021

RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
The Honorable Tre Hargett  
Secretary of State  
First Floor, State Capitol  
600 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37243

Dear Secretary Hargett:

Enclosed is a copy of Senate Joint Resolution No. 80, a resolution to propose an amendment to Article I, Section 33 of the Constitution of Tennessee.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 80 was read by the Senate of the One Hundred Twelfth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee for the first time on March 8, 2021, for the second time on March 11, 2021, and for the third and final time on March 15, 2021, and was thereupon adopted by the Senate by a two-thirds majority.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 80 was read by the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Twelfth General Assembly of the State of Tennessee for the first time on April 29, 2021, for the second time on May 3, 2021, and for the third and final time on May 4, 2021, and was thereupon concurred in by the House of Representatives by a two-thirds majority.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 80 was signed by the Speaker of the Senate and by the Speaker of the House of Representatives on May 13, 2021.

As directed in the Resolution, I am transmitting herewith a copy of Senate Joint Resolution No. 80 to you. With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Russell A. Humphrey  
Chief Clerk of the Senate

RECEIVED
MAY 20 2021
Secretary of State  
Division of Publications