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House Concurrent Resolution No. 5044

By Representative Larkin

2-6

A PROPOSITION to amend section 1 of article 5 of the constitution of the state of Kansas, relating to qualifications of electors.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate concurring therein:

Section 1. The following proposition to amend the constitution of the state of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state for their approval or rejection: Section 1 of article 5 of the constitution of the state of Kansas is hereby amended to read as follows:

"\1. Qualifications of electors. Every citizen of the United States who has attained the age of eighteen years and who resides in the voting area in which he or she such citizen seeks to vote shall be deemed a qualified elector. In addition thereto, every citizen of the United States who has attained the age of eighteen years on or before the date of any general election, and is otherwise qualified as provided by law, shall be deemed a qualified elector for the purpose of voting at the primary election held for the purpose of nominating candidates for such general election.

Laws of this state relating to voting for presidential electors and candidates for the office of president and vice-president of the United States shall comply with the laws of the United States relating thereto. A citizen of the United States, who is otherwise qualified to vote in Kansas for presidential electors and candidates for the offices of president and vice-president of the United States may vote for such officers either in person or by absentee ballot notwithstanding the fact that such person may have become a nonresident of this state if his or her such person's removal from this state occurs during a period in accordance with federal law next preceding such election.

A person who is otherwise a qualified elector may vote in the voting area of his or her such person's former residence either in person or by absentee ballot notwithstanding the fact that such person may have become a nonresident of such voting area during a 1 2

period prescribed by law next preceding the election at which he or she such person seeks to vote, if his such new residence is in another voting area in the state of Kansas."

Sec. 2. The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with the amendment as a whole:

- "Explanatory statement. The purpose of this amendment is to authorize persons becoming 18 years of age on or before the date of any general election to vote at the primary election held for the nomination of candidates for such general election even though such person is 17 years of age at the time of the primary election.
- "A vote for this amendment would favor authorizing persons becoming 18 years of age on or before the date of any general election to vote at the primary election held for the nomination of candidates for such general election.
- "A vote against this amendment would favor making no change in the current law requiring that a person has attained the age of 18 years to become a qualified elector for the purpose of voting."
- Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate, shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas and nays. The secretary of state shall cause this resolution to be published as provided by law and shall cause the proposed amendment to be submitted to the electors of the state at the general election in the year 2002 unless a special election is called at a sooner date by concurrent resolution of the legislature, in which case it shall be submitted to the electors of the state at the special election.