Session of 2008

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1622

By Senators Petersen, Donovan, Huelskamp, Journey, Lynn, Ostmeyer, Palmer, Pyle, Taddiken, Wagle and Wilson

3-17

A PROPOSITION to amend the bill of rights of the constitution of the 10state of Kansas by adding a new section thereto, relating to the public 11 12 right to hunt and fish. 13 Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the 1415members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate and twothirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House 16of Representatives concurring therein: 1718Section 1. The following proposition to amend the constitution of the state of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state 1920for their approval or rejection: The bill of rights of the constitution of the 21state of Kansas is amended by adding a new section thereto to read as 22 follows: 23 "§ 21. Right of public to hunt, fish and trap. The people have a right to hunt, fish, trap and harvest game, subject to reason-24 able regulations approved by the state legislature. Consistent with 2526the public trust to conserve birds, fish, game and wildlife, traditional 27 methods may be used to take non-threatened species. Public hunt-28ing, fishing and trapping shall be the preferred means of managing 29 and controlling non-threatened wildlife. Nothing in this amend-30 ment shall be construed to modify any provision of common law or statutes relating to trespass, eminent domain or any other property 3132 rights." 33 Sec. 2. The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with 34 the amendment as a whole: 35 "Explanatory statement. This amendment is to preserve constitu-36 tionally the right of the public to hunt, fish and trap wildlife 37 subject to the governing laws and regulations. The right of the 38 public to hunt, fish and trap shall not modify any provision of 39 common law or statutes relating to trespass, eminent domain or 40 any other private property rights. "A vote for this proposition would constitutionally preserve the right 41of the public to hunt, fish and trap wildlife that has traditionally 42been taken by hunters, trappers and anglers. This public right is 43

subject to state laws and regulations regarding the management 1 2 of wildlife and does not change or diminish common law or stat-3 utory rights relating to trespass, eminent domain or private property. 4 "A vote against this proposition would provide for no constitutional $\mathbf{5}$ 6 right of the public to hunt, fish and trap wildlife. It would main-7 tain existing state laws and regulations governing hunting, fishing and trapping wildlife." 8 Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members 9 elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate, and two-thirds of the 10members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Repre-11 sentatives shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas and 1213 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 1415to the electors of the state at the general election in the year 2008 unless 16 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 1718state at the special election.