



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 389**

February Session, 2022

Senate Joint Resolution No. 30

*Senate, April 11, 2022*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. FLEXER of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the joint resolution ought to be adopted.

**RESOLUTION PROPOSING A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO RECOGNIZE A RIGHT OF PERSONAL REPRODUCTIVE AUTONOMY AND FREEDOM.**

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 Section 1. That the following be proposed as an amendment to the  
2 Constitution of the State, which, when approved and adopted in the  
3 manner provided by the Constitution, shall, to all intents and purposes,  
4 become a part thereof:

5 Article first of the Constitution is amended by adding section 21 as  
6 follows:

7 Sec. 21. No law shall be enacted to deny or infringe the right of  
8 personal reproductive autonomy and freedom, fundamental to the  
9 liberty and dignity of self-determination, unless such law is justified by  
10 a compelling state interest and achieves such interest by the least  
11 restrictive means.

12 RESOLVED: That the foregoing proposed amendment to the

13 Constitution be continued to the next session of the General Assembly  
14 elected at the general election to be held on November 8, 2022, and  
15 published with the laws passed at the present session, or be presented  
16 to the electors at the general election to be held on November 8, 2022,  
17 whichever the case may be, according to article sixth of the amendments  
18 to the Constitution. The designation of said proposed amendment to be  
19 used on the ballots at such election shall be "Shall the Constitution of the  
20 State be amended to recognize a right of personal reproductive  
21 autonomy and freedom?"

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable*

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 23 \$	FY 24 \$
Secretary of the State	GF - Cost	5,000	None

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

This resolution proposes a constitutional amendment to prohibit enactment of any law that denies or infringes on personal reproductive autonomy and freedom unless there is a compelling state interest, and it can be achieved by the least restrictive means.

The Secretary of the State is anticipated to incur a cost of \$5,000 in FY 23 (for the November 2022 election) for providing posters with proposed constitutional amendment question and explanation to each polling place in every municipality. This cost will cover the printing and mailing of the posters.

Since all materials required for placing a constitutional amendment on the ballot are supplied by the State, and the vote will occur on the same day as a regularly scheduled statewide election, no cost will be incurred by municipalities.

**The Out Years**

The cost identified above is one-time. However, the FY 23 cost may be shifted into FY 25 pursuant to the requirements of the constitutional amendment process.

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**OLR Bill Analysis****SJ 30****RESOLUTION PROPOSING A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO RECOGNIZE A RIGHT OF PERSONAL REPRODUCTIVE AUTONOMY AND FREEDOM.****SUMMARY**

This resolution proposes a constitutional amendment to prohibit the enactment of any law that denies or infringes on personal reproductive autonomy and freedom unless there is a compelling state interest and the law achieves it by the least restrictive means. The proposed amendment specifies that the right of personal reproductive autonomy and freedom is fundamental to the liberty and dignity of self-determination.

The ballot designation to be used when the amendment is presented at the general election is “Shall the Constitution of the State be amended to recognize a right of personal reproductive autonomy and freedom?”

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** If the resolution passes by at least three-fourths of the membership of each house of the General Assembly, it will be placed on the 2022 general election ballot. If it passes by a majority of the membership of each house but less than three-fourths, it will be referred to the 2023 session of the legislature. If it passes in that session by a majority of each house, it will appear on the 2024 general election ballot. If a majority of those voting on the amendment in the general election approve it, the amendment will become part of the state constitution.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 12    Nay 5    (03/29/2022)