**South Carolina General Assembly**

120th Session, 2013-2014

**S. 245**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Joint Resolution

Sponsors: Senators Sheheen and Davis

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Introduced in the Senate on January 16, 2013

Currently residing in the Senate Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Constitutional convention

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

1/16/2013 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 14](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2013\01-16-13.docx))

1/16/2013 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 14](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2013\01-16-13.docx))

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[1/16/2013](file:///p:\pprever\2013-14\245_20130116.docx)

**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

PURSUANT TO SECTION 3, ARTICLE XVI OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO CALLING FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, TO PRESENT TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THIS STATE THE QUESTION OF WHETHER TO CONVENE A CONVENTION TO REVISE AND MODERNIZE THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION.

Whereas, the State of South Carolina is organized and operates under a Constitution ratified in 1895; and

Whereas, the governmental structure established by the 1895 Constitution is antiquated, inefficient, and ineffective; and

Whereas, the 1895 Constitution contains provisions that violate federal law and provisions that violate the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, a comprehensive study and revision of the 1895 Constitution is essential to ensure that the necessary foundations of government are sound and strong; and

Whereas, the State of South Carolina urgently needs an effective, efficient governmental structure that can rise to meet the needs of our modern society. Now, therefore

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

That the South Carolina Constitution of 1895 is in dire need of a fresh and open reexamination and revision in a public convention process to produce a constitution that protects the fundamental rights of all South Carolinians and establishes an efficient, effective government properly equipped to address the issues facing modern society.

SECTION 1. At the next election for representatives, the following question must be submitted to the qualified electors on ballots at the various voting precincts:

“South Carolina has been operating under its current Constitution since 1895. Do you favor holding a constitutional convention to revise and modernize our state’s constitution?

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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