

Session 115 - (2003-2004)

S 0243 Joint Resolution, By Ford

Summary: Constitutional amendment; Supreme Court composition; popular election of Supreme, Appeals and Circuit Court Judges

A JOINT RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 2 OF ARTICLE V OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE SUPREME COURT, SO AS TO INCREASE FROM FIVE TO SEVEN THE NUMBER OF JUSTICES COMPRISING THE SUPREME COURT ON JANUARY 1, 2007; TO SECTION 3, ARTICLE V, RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COURT, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT ASSOCIATE JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT SHALL BE POPULARLY ELECTED FROM CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS BY THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF EACH DISTRICT BEGINNING IN 2006 AND THAT THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT SHALL BE ELECTED FROM THE STATE AT-LARGE; TO SECTION 8, ARTICLE V, RELATING TO ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COURT OF APPEALS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT JUDGES OF THE COURT OF APPEALS SHALL BE POPULARLY ELECTED FROM CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS BY THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF EACH DISTRICT; AND TO SECTION 13, ARTICLE V, RELATING TO JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JUDGES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES SHALL BE POPULARLY ELECTED FROM STATE SENATORIAL DISTRICTS BY THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF EACH DISTRICT AND THAT THE CHIEF JUSTICE SHALL ASSIGN CIRCUIT JUDGES TO THE JUDICIAL CIRCUITS WITH REASONABLE EFFORTS MADE TO ACCOUNT FOR GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION.

01/22/03 Senate Introduced and read first time SJ-6

01/22/03 Senate Referred to Committee on Judiciary SJ-6