COMMITTEE REPORT

April 13, 2016

**S. 719**

Introduced by Senators Bright, Cromer, Bryant, S. Martin, Turner, Fair, Shealy, Grooms, Massey, Verdin, Young and Davis

S. Printed 4/13/16--S.

Read the first time April 28, 2015.

**THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

To whom was referred a Joint Resolution (S. 719) proposing an amendment to Section 3, Article I of the Constitution of South Carolina, 1895, relating to privileges and immunities of citizens of this state, so as to extend, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass with amendment:

Amend the joint resolution, as and if amended, page 1, by striking lines 11 and 12 of the title and inserting therein the following:

/ PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE I OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, /

Amend the joint resolution further, as and if amended, page 1, by striking lines 22 through 24, in SECTION 1, and inserting therein the following:

/ SECTION 1. It is proposed that Article I of the Constitution of this State be amended by adding the following new section: /

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

Majority favorable. Minority unfavorable.

LEE BRIGHT BRAD HUTTO

For Majority. MARGIE BRIGHT MATTHEWS

For Minority.

**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**

**Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill would have no expenditure impact on the general fund, federal funds, or other funds.

**Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**State Expenditure**

This bill amends Article I, Section III of the State Constitution by adding that the privileges, immunities, and rights of the citizens of South Carolina and the United States shall extend to both born and preborn persons beginning at conception. This amendment will be placed on the ballot at the next general election for representatives.

**State Election Commission.** The State Election Commission indicates this bill will have no expenditure impact on the general fund, federal funds, or other funds.

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director

Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office

**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 3, ARTICLE I OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF CITIZENS OF THIS STATE, SO AS TO EXTEND THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF CITIZENS OF THIS STATE TO BORN AND PREBORN PERSONS BEGINNING AT CONCEPTION.

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

SECTION 1. It is proposed that Section 3, Article I of the Constitution of this State be amended by adding the following new paragraph at the end:

“Section 3.a. The privileges and immunities of citizens of South Carolina and the United States shall not be abridged, so that no person shall be deprived of life without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of the laws. These rights shall extend to both born and preborn persons beginning at conception.”

SECTION 2. The proposed amendment in Section 1 must be submitted to the qualified electors at the next general election for representatives. Ballots must be provided at the various voting precincts with the following words printed or written on the ballot:

“Must Article I of the Constitution of this State be amended so as to add Section 3.a. to provide that the privileges and immunities of citizens of South Carolina and the United States shall not be abridged, so that no person shall be deprived of life without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of the laws. These rights shall extend to both born and preborn persons beginning at conception?

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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