



1 SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for  
2 their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law,  
3 the repeal of Section 3 of Article VII-B and the following proposed  
4 amendment to Sections 1, 2, and 4 of Article VII-B of the Oklahoma  
5 Constitution to read as follows:

6 Section 1. ~~(a)~~ The A. After November 5, 2024, the provisions  
7 of this Article shall govern the selection and tenure of all  
8 Justices of the Supreme Court and Judges of the Court of Criminal  
9 Appeals and any intermediate appellate court of the State of  
10 Oklahoma, to which the provisions hereof may be extended as  
11 hereinafter provided, other provisions of the Constitution or  
12 statutes of the State of Oklahoma to the contrary notwithstanding,  
13 and the provisions of Article VII as proposed by House Joint  
14 Resolution No. 508 of the First Session of the Thirty-first Oklahoma  
15 Legislature to the contrary notwithstanding.

16 ~~(b)~~ B. As used in this Section Article, "Judicial Office" means  
17 the offices of Justice of the Supreme Court and Judges of the Court  
18 of Criminal Appeals and any intermediate appellate court and  
19 "Judicial Officer" means a Justice or Judge of each such court,  
20 excluding retired or supernumerary Justices or Judges.

21 Section 2. At the general election next before his or her term  
22 expires, any Judicial Officer may seek retention in office by filing  
23 with the Secretary of State, not less than sixty (60) days before  
24 the date of such election, a declaration of candidacy to succeed

1 himself. Thereupon, at such election, there shall be submitted to  
2 the qualified electors of the State, on a separate ballot, without  
3 party designation, this question:

4 "Shall (Here insert name of Justice or Judge) of (Here  
5 insert the title of the court) be retained in Office?"

6  YES

7  NO

8 The question shall be decided by a majority of those voting  
9 thereon. If the decision is "yes" the Judicial Officer shall be  
10 retained in office for the next ensuing six (6) year term. If the  
11 decision is "no", or if no declaration of candidacy is filed, the  
12 office shall be vacant upon expiration of the term then being  
13 served, and the former Judicial Officer shall not be eligible for  
14 appointment to succeed himself. Retention in office may be sought  
15 for successive terms without limit as to number, except for  
16 retirement as may be provided by the Legislature for a maximum  
17 retirement age.

18 Section 4. When a vacancy in any Judicial Office, however  
19 arising, occurs or is certain to occur, ~~the Judicial Nominating~~  
20 ~~Commission shall choose and submit to the Governor and the Chief~~  
21 ~~Justice of the Supreme Court three (3) nominees, each of whom has~~  
22 ~~previously notified the Commission in writing that he will serve as~~  
23 ~~a Judicial Officer if appointed. The the Governor shall appoint one~~  
24 ~~(1) of the nominees to fill the vacancy, but if he fails to do so~~

1 ~~within sixty (60) days the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall~~  
2 ~~appoint one (1) of the nominees, the appointment to be certified by~~  
3 ~~the Secretary of State~~ nominate and, with the advice and consent of  
4 the Senate and the House of Representatives, shall appoint all  
5 Judicial Officers. If the Senate and the House of Representatives  
6 are not in session when a nomination is made, the Governor may call  
7 the Legislature into special session to advise and consent on any  
8 such nomination. Confirmation shall require an affirmative vote of  
9 a majority of the members elected to and constituting the Senate and  
10 an affirmative vote of a majority of the members elected to and  
11 constituting the House of Representatives, respectively.

12 SECTION 2. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional  
13 amendment as set forth in SECTION 1 of this resolution shall be in  
14 the following form:

15 BALLOT TITLE  
16 Legislative Referendum No. \_\_\_\_\_ State Question No. \_\_\_\_\_

17 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

18 This measure would amend Article 7-B of the Oklahoma  
19 Constitution. The measure would amend Sections 1, 2, and 4 of  
20 Article 7-B to establish a new process for appointing Supreme  
21 Court justices and judges of the Court of Criminal Appeals and  
22 any intermediate appellate court to resemble the process  
23 established by the United States Constitution. The Governor  
24 will nominate new appellate justices and judges, subject to

1 confirmation by the Senate and the House of Representatives.  
2 The measure would repeal Section 3 of Article 7-B which  
3 established the Judicial Nominating Commission.

4 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

5 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES \_\_\_\_\_

6 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO \_\_\_\_\_

7 SECTION 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall,  
8 immediately after the passage of this resolution, prepare and file  
9 one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 2  
10 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney  
11 General.

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13 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON RULES, dated 04/09/2024 - DO PASS,  
14 As Amended and Coauthored.  
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