

By Senator Altman

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Senate Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 3 of Article I of the State Constitution to provide that an individual may not be barred from participating in any public program because of choosing to use public benefits at a religious provider and to delete a prohibition against using public revenues in aid of any church, sect, or religious denomination or any sectarian institution.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following amendment to Section 3 of Article I of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE I

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

SECTION 3. Religious freedom.—There shall be no law respecting the establishment of religion or prohibiting or penalizing the free exercise thereof. Religious freedom shall not justify practices inconsistent with public morals, peace or safety. An individual may not be barred from participating in any public program because that individual has freely chosen to use his or her program benefits at a religious provider. ~~No revenue of the state or any political subdivision or agency thereof shall ever be taken from the public treasury directly or indirectly in aid of any church, sect, or religious denomination~~

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30 ~~er in aid of any sectarian institution.~~

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
32 placed on the ballot:

33 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

34 ARTICLE I, SECTION 3

35 RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.—Proposing an amendment to the State
36 Constitution to provide that an individual may not be barred
37 from participating in any public program because that individual
38 has chosen to use his or her program benefits at a religious
39 provider, and to delete the prohibition against using revenues
40 from the public treasury directly or indirectly in aid of any
41 church, sect, or religious denomination or in aid of any
42 sectarian institution.