

**As Reported by the House State and Local Government Committee**

**134th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2021-2022**

**H. J. R. No. 4**

**Representatives Edwards, Seitz**

**Cosponsors: Representatives John, Creech, Fowler Arthur, Stevens, Stewart**

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**A JOINT RESOLUTION**

Proposing to amend Section 1 of Article V, Section 3 of 1  
Article X, and Section 3 of Article XVIII of the 2  
Constitution of the State of Ohio to prohibit local 3  
governments from allowing persons who lack the 4  
qualifications of an elector to vote in local elections. 5

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of 6  
Ohio, three-fifths of the members elected to each house 7  
concurring herein, that there shall be submitted to the electors 8  
of the state, in the manner prescribed by law at the general 9  
election to be held on November 8, 2022, a proposal to amend 10  
Section 1 of Article V, Section 3 of Article X, and Section 3 of 11  
Article XVIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to read 12  
as follows: 13

**ARTICLE V** 14

**Section 1.** ~~Every~~ Only a citizen of the United States, of 15  
the age of eighteen years, who has been a resident of the state, 16  
county, township, or ward, such time as may be provided by law, 17  
and has been registered to vote for thirty days, has the 18  
qualifications of an elector, and is entitled to vote at all 19

elections. No person who lacks those qualifications shall be 20  
permitted to vote at any state or local election held in this 21  
state. Any elector who fails to vote in at least one election 22  
during any period of four consecutive years shall cease to be an 23  
elector unless ~~he~~ the elector again registers to vote. 24

**ARTICLE X** 25

**Section 3.** The people of any county may frame and adopt or 26  
amend a charter as provided in this article but the right of the 27  
initiative and referendum is reserved to the people of each 28  
county on all matters which such county may now or hereafter be 29  
authorized to control by legislative action. Every such charter 30  
shall provide the form of government of the county and shall 31  
determine which of its officers shall be elected and the manner 32  
of their election, subject to the requirements of Section 1 of 33  
Article V of this constitution. It shall provide for the 34  
exercise of all powers vested in, and the performance of all 35  
duties imposed upon counties and county officers by law. Any 36  
such charter may provide for the concurrent or exclusive 37  
exercise by the county, in all or in part of its area, of all or 38  
of any designated powers vested by the constitution or laws of 39  
Ohio in municipalities; it may provide for the organization of 40  
the county as a municipal corporation; and in any such case it 41  
may provide for the succession by the county to the rights, 42  
properties, and obligations of municipalities and townships 43  
therein incident to the municipal power so vested in the county, 44  
and for the division of the county into districts for purposes 45  
of administration or of taxation or of both. Any charter or 46  
amendment which alters the form and offices of county government 47  
or which provides for the exercise by the county of powers 48  
vested in municipalities by the constitution or laws of Ohio, or 49  
both, shall become effective if approved by a majority of the 50

electors voting thereon. In case of conflict between the 51  
exercise of powers granted by such charter and the exercise of 52  
powers by municipalities or townships, granted by the 53  
constitution or general law, whether or not such powers are 54  
being exercised at the time of the adoption of the charter, the 55  
exercise of power by the municipality or township shall prevail. 56  
A charter or amendment providing for the exclusive exercise of 57  
municipal powers by the county or providing for the succession 58  
by the county to any property or obligation of any municipality 59  
or township without the consent of the legislative authority of 60  
such municipality or township shall become effective only when 61  
it shall have been approved by a majority of those voting 62  
thereon (1) in the county, (2) in the largest municipality, (3) 63  
in the county outside of such municipality, and (4) in counties 64  
having a population, based upon the latest preceding federal 65  
decennial census, of 500,000 or less, in each of a majority of 66  
the combined total of municipalities and townships in the county 67  
(not including within any township any part of its area lying 68  
within a municipality.) 69

**ARTICLE XVIII** 70

**Section 3. Municipalities—Subject to the requirements of 71  
Section 1 of Article V of this constitution, municipalities 72  
shall have authority to exercise all powers of local self- 73  
government and to adopt and enforce within their limits such 74  
local police, sanitary and other similar regulations, as are not 75  
in conflict with general laws. 76**

**EFFECTIVE DATE** 77

If adopted by a majority of the electors voting on this 78  
proposal, Section 1 of Article V, Section 3 of Article X, and 79  
Section 3 of Article XVIII amended by this proposal shall take 80

effect immediately and the existing version of Section 1 of	81
Article V, the existing version of Section 3 of Article X, and	82
the existing version of Section 3 of Article XVIII of the	83
Constitution of the State of Ohio shall be repealed from that	84
effective date.	85