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SENATE CHAMBER

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

OF THE STATE OF VERMONT

Offered by: Senators Benning and McCormack

Subject: Declaration of rights; right to privacy

PROPOSAL 3

Sec. 1. PURPOSE

This proposal would amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont specifically to provide that each individual has a right to privacy, including the right to keep personal information private; to communicate with others privately; and to make decisions concerning his or her body. The proposal shall not be construed to modify the public's right of access to public records and open meetings as provided by law.

Sec. 2. Article 22 of Chapter I of the Vermont Constitution is added to read:

Article 22. [RIGHT TO PRIVACY]

That each individual has a right to privacy that shall not be infringed without the showing of a compelling State interest. This right includes the individual's right to keep personal information private; to communicate with others privately; and to make decisions concerning his or her body.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

The amendment set forth in Sec. 2 shall become a part of the Constitution of the State of Vermont on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of

- 1 November 2022 when ratified and adopted by the people of this State in
- 2 accordance with the provisions of 17 V.S.A. chapter 32.