

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred a
3 proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Vermont entitled
4 “Proposal 2” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the proposal be amended by striking out the proposal in its
6 entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 PROPOSAL 2

8 Sec. 1. PURPOSE

9 This proposal would amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont to
10 clarify that slavery in any form is prohibited.

11 Sec. 2. Article 1 of Chapter I of the Vermont Constitution is amended to read:

12 Article 1. [All persons born free; their natural rights; slavery prohibited]

13 That all persons are born equally free and independent, and have certain
14 natural, inherent, and unalienable rights, amongst which are the enjoying and
15 defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and
16 pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety; therefore slavery in any form is
17 prohibited; and no person born in this country, or brought from over sea, ought
18 to be holden by law, to serve any person as a servant, ~~slave~~ or apprentice, ~~after~~
19 ~~arriving to the age of twenty one years~~, unless bound by the person’s own
20 consent, ~~after arriving to such age~~, or bound by law for the payment of debts,
21 damages, fines, costs, or the like.

1 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

2 The amendment set forth in Sec. 2 shall become a part of the Constitution of
3 the State of Vermont on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November
4 2022 when ratified and adopted by the people of this State in accordance with
5 the provisions of 17 V.S.A. chapter 32.

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10 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE