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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 609**

Offered January 11, 2017

Prefiled January 6, 2017

*Proposing an amendment to Section 1 of Article II of the Constitution of Virginia, relating to the qualification of voters.*

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Patron—Marshall, D.W.

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Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, a majority of the members elected to each house agreeing, That the following amendment to the Constitution of Virginia be, and the same hereby is, proposed and referred to the General Assembly at its first regular session held after the next general election of members of the House of Delegates for its concurrence in conformity with the provisions of Section 1 of Article XII of the Constitution of Virginia, namely:

Amend Section 1 of Article II of the Constitution of Virginia as follows:

**ARTICLE II****FRANCHISE AND OFFICERS**

Section 1. Qualifications of voters.

In elections by the people, the qualifications of voters shall be as follows: Each voter shall be a citizen of the United States, shall be eighteen years of age, shall fulfill the residence requirements set forth in this section, and shall be registered to vote pursuant to this article. No person who has been convicted of a felony shall be qualified to vote unless his civil rights have been restored by the Governor or other appropriate authority. *For purposes of this section, "other appropriate authority" shall include the circuit courts, as authorized by law.* As prescribed by law, no person adjudicated to be mentally incompetent shall be qualified to vote until his competency has been reestablished.

INTRODUCED

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