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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 216

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections
on January 31, 2017)

(Patrons Prior to Substitute—Senators Ebbin and Locke [SJ 220])

Proposing the repeal of Section 15-A of Article I of the Constitution of Virginia, relating to marriage.

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates 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:

Repeal Section 15-A of Article I of the Constitution of Virginia as follows:

**ARTICLE I
BILL OF RIGHTS**

Section 15-A. Marriage.

That only a union between one man and one woman may be a marriage valid in or recognized by this Commonwealth and its political subdivisions.

This Commonwealth and its political subdivisions shall not create or recognize a legal status for relationships of unmarried individuals that intends to approximate the design, qualities, significance, or effects of marriage. Nor shall this Commonwealth or its political subdivisions create or recognize another union, partnership, or other legal status to which is assigned the rights, benefits, obligations, qualities, or effects of marriage.

**SENATE
SUBSTITUTE**

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