



**103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**State of Illinois**

**2023 and 2024**

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION**

**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT**

**SC0003**

Introduced 2/24/2023, by Sen. Don Harmon

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

ILCON Art. I, Sec. 1  
ILCON Art. I, Sec. 3  
ILCON Art. I, Sec. 8  
ILCON Art. I, Sec. 10  
ILCON Art. I, Sec. 12  
ILCON Art. I, Sec. 14

Proposes to amend the Bill of Rights Article of the Illinois Constitution. Replaces gendered language with gender-neutral language. Effective upon being declared adopted.

LRB103 31098 JDS 57756 e

1                                   SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION  
2                                   CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

3           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL  
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF  
5 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING HEREIN, that there shall be  
6 submitted to the electors of the State for adoption or  
7 rejection at the general election next occurring at least 6  
8 months after the adoption of this resolution a proposition to  
9 amend Sections 1, 3, 8, 10, 12, and 14 of Article I of the  
10 Illinois Constitution as follows:

11                                   ARTICLE I  
12                                   BILL OF RIGHTS

13                   (ILCON Art. I, Sec. 1)

14           SECTION 1. INHERENT AND INALIENABLE RIGHTS

15           All people ~~men~~ are by nature free and independent and have  
16 certain inherent and inalienable rights among which are life,  
17 liberty and the pursuit of happiness. To secure these rights  
18 and the protection of property, governments are instituted  
19 among people ~~men~~, deriving their just powers from the consent  
20 of the governed.

21           (Source: Illinois Constitution.)

22                   (ILCON Art. I, Sec. 3)

## 1 SECTION 3. RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

2 The free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession  
3 and worship, without discrimination, shall forever be  
4 guaranteed, and no person shall be denied any civil or  
5 political right, privilege or capacity, on account of that  
6 person's ~~his~~ religious opinions; but the liberty of conscience  
7 hereby secured shall not be construed to dispense with oaths  
8 or affirmations, excuse acts of licentiousness, or justify  
9 practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of the State.  
10 No person shall be required to attend or support any ministry  
11 or place of worship against that person's ~~his~~ consent, nor  
12 shall any preference be given by law to any religious  
13 denomination or mode of worship.

14 (Source: Illinois Constitution.)

15 (ILCON Art. I, Sec. 8)

## 16 SECTION 8. RIGHTS AFTER INDICTMENT

17 In criminal prosecutions, the accused shall have the right  
18 to appear and defend in person and by counsel; to demand the  
19 nature and cause of the accusation and have a copy thereof; to  
20 be confronted with the witnesses against the accused ~~him or~~  
21 ~~her~~ and to have process to compel the attendance of witnesses  
22 on in his or her behalf of the accused; and to have a speedy  
23 public trial by an impartial jury of the county in which the  
24 offense is alleged to have been committed.

25 (Source: Amendment adopted at general election November 8,

1 1994.)

2 (ILCON Art. I, Sec. 10)

3 SECTION 10. SELF-INCRIMINATION AND DOUBLE JEOPARDY

4 No person shall be compelled in a criminal case to give  
5 evidence against oneself ~~himself~~ nor be twice put in jeopardy  
6 for the same offense.

7 (Source: Illinois Constitution.)

8 (ILCON Art. I, Sec. 12)

9 SECTION 12. RIGHT TO REMEDY AND JUSTICE

10 Every person shall find a certain remedy in the laws for  
11 all injuries and wrongs received ~~which he receives~~ to one's  
12 ~~his~~ person, privacy, property or reputation. Every person ~~He~~  
13 shall obtain justice by law, freely, completely, and promptly.

14 (Source: Illinois Constitution.)

15 (ILCON Art. I, Sec. 14)

16 SECTION 14. IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT

17 No person shall be imprisoned for debt unless the person  
18 ~~he~~ refuses to deliver up the person's ~~his~~ estate for the  
19 benefit of the person's ~~his~~ creditors as provided by law or  
20 unless there is a strong presumption of fraud. No person shall  
21 be imprisoned for failure to pay a fine in a criminal case  
22 unless the person ~~he~~ has been afforded adequate time to make  
23 payment, in installments if necessary, and has willfully

1 failed to make payment.

2 (Source: Illinois Constitution.)

3 SCHEDULE

4 This Constitutional Amendment takes effect upon being  
5 declared adopted in accordance with Section 7 of the Illinois  
6 Constitutional Amendment Act.