

By: Vasut

H.J.R. No. 16

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 applying to the Congress of the United States to call a convention
2 under Article V of the United States Constitution for the limited
3 purpose of proposing an amendment to the constitution to prohibit
4 abortion, euthanasia, and certain other acts.

5 WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution provides
6 that on application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the
7 several states the Congress of the United States shall call a
8 convention for the purpose of proposing for ratification an
9 amendment to the United States Constitution; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the 87th Texas Legislature hereby
11 respectfully applies to the Congress of the United States to call a
12 convention pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution
13 for the limited purpose of proposing, and submitting for
14 ratification, an amendment to the United States Constitution
15 abrogating *Roe v. Wade* and clearly prohibiting abortion,
16 euthanasia, and all other acts that deprive any person of life, from
17 the moment of conception to natural death, without due process of
18 law; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the 87th Texas Legislature encourages the
20 delegates to the convention to consider the following recommended
21 text for the proposed constitutional amendment:

22 Section 1. Given that all human life begins at the moment of
23 conception and has inherent dignity and immeasurable worth, a human
24 being, from the moment of conception until death, irrespective of

1 biological development, age, health, function, or condition of
2 dependency, is a person as that term is used in this Article and in
3 the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to this Constitution;

4 Section 2. Euthanasia and abortion are unlawful under the
5 laws of the United States and any territory subject to their
6 jurisdiction;

7 Section 3. Euthanasia includes the intentional, knowing, or
8 reckless rendering of material assistance to aid another person in
9 committing, or attempting to commit, suicide;

10 Section 4. Abortion includes the intentional, knowing, or
11 reckless killing of any person before birth;

12 Section 5. If, in the reasonable opinion of a medical
13 professional or other state or federal official, the mother is in
14 danger of suffering imminent death or serious bodily injury, a
15 person may be removed from the mother's body at the mother's
16 election by natural or artificial methods even if the person cannot
17 survive outside the mother's body;

18 Section 6. The Congress, and the several states, have power
19 to enforce this Article by appropriate legislation; and, be it
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That this application constitutes a continuous and
22 ongoing application, in accordance with Article V of the United
23 States Constitution, until: (1) the Texas Legislature considers it
24 fitting to rescind the application; or (2) at least two-thirds of
25 the legislatures of the several states have similarly applied for a
26 convention to propose a constitutional amendment and Congress has
27 performed its constitutionally obligated duty to call that

1 convention; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
3 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
4 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
5 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
6 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
7 this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as an
8 application to Congress for a convention under Article V of the
9 United States Constitution for the limited purpose of proposing an
10 amendment to the constitution to prohibit abortion, euthanasia, and
11 all other acts that deprive any person of life, from the moment of
12 conception to natural death, without due process of law; and, be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
15 copies of this resolution to the secretaries of state and to the
16 presiding officers of the legislatures of the several states with
17 the request that they join this state in applying to Congress for a
18 convention under Article V of the United States Constitution for
19 the limited purpose of proposing an amendment to the constitution
20 to prohibit abortion, euthanasia, and all other acts that deprive
21 any person of life, from the moment of conception to natural death,
22 without due process of law.