87S30104 SCL-F

By:  Vasut H.J.R. No. 5

A JOINT RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

Section 1.  Given that all human life begins at the moment of conception and has inherent dignity and immeasurable worth, a human being, from the moment of conception until death, irrespective of biological development, age, health, function, or condition of dependency, is a person as that term is used in this Article and in the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to this Constitution;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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