

1 ward, and district meetings for the election of general officers of the state.

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LC004221
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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
JOINT RESOLUTION
TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE-ETHICS COMMISSION

1 This resolution would expand Article VI of the RI Constitution to permit legislators to be
2 questioned by the ethics commission in certain circumstances for speech in debate and votes
3 occurring in the House and Senate. However, legislators could not be questioned for what they
4 said in public discussion, prior to any vote, on the floor of the House or Senate or in committees
5 thereof. It would also expand Article III and give a legislator who is found by the ethics
6 commission to have violated the code of ethics for conduct that was criminal in nature at common
7 law the right to a trial de novo by jury. Further, it would amend the composition of the ethics
8 commission and the appointment of its members.

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