

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1607

By Senator Pyle

2-4

1 A PROPOSITION to amend article 6 of the constitution of the state of
2 Kansas by creating a new section limiting the authority to close a
3 school district or attendance center within a school district to locally
4 elected boards of education.

5
6 *Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the*
7 *members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate and two-*
8 *thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the*
9 *House of Representatives concurring therein:*

10 Section 1. The following proposition to amend the constitution of
11 the state of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state
12 for their approval or rejection: Article 6 of the constitution of the state of
13 Kansas is hereby amended by adding a new section thereto to read as
14 follows:

15 **"§ 11. Closure of school districts or attendance centers.**

16 (a) The locally elected board of a school district shall be the
17 only government entity that may close a school district or
18 attendance center within such school district, except as provided
19 by law.

20 (b) The executive branch, judicial branch, state board of
21 education or any constitutional officer of the executive
22 department shall not have the authority to effectuate the closure
23 of a school district or attendance center within such school
24 district by limiting, transferring, redirecting or stopping the
25 expenditure of funds appropriated by law, except as provided by
26 law."

27 Sec. 2. The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with
28 the amendment as a whole:

29 *"Explanatory statement.* The purpose of this amendment is to
30 clarify that except as provided by law, the locally elected
31 board of a school district shall be the only governmental
32 entity that may close schools and the executive branch,
33 judicial branch, state board of education or any
34 constitutional officer of the executive department shall not
35 have the authority to effectuate the closure of a school by
36 limiting, transferring, redirecting or stopping the expenditure

1 of funds appropriated by law.

2 "A vote for this proposition would clarify that except as
3 provided by law, the locally elected board of education of a
4 school district shall be the only governmental entity that may
5 close schools.

6 "A vote against this proposition would provide no change to the
7 Kansas constitution."

8 Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members
9 elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate and two-thirds of the
10 members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of
11 Representatives, shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas
12 and nays. The secretary of state shall cause this resolution to be published
13 as provided by law and shall cause the proposed amendment to be
14 submitted to the electors of the state at the general election in November
15 in the year 2022, unless a special election is called at a sooner date by
16 concurrent resolution of the legislature, in which case it shall be
17 submitted to the electors of the state at the special election.