

Subject Proposed constitutional amendment to prohibit slavery or involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime

Authors Pinto and others

Analyst Ben Johnson (ben.johnson@house.mn.gov)

Date January 20, 2023

Overview

Article I of the Minnesota Constitution is the state Bill of Rights. Section 2 of that article relates to rights and privileges and says: “No member of this state shall be disfranchised or deprived of any of the rights or privileges secured to any citizen thereof, unless by the law of the land or the judgment of his peers. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the state otherwise than as punishment for a crime of which the party has been convicted.”

This bill would remove the exception that allows slavery or involuntary servitude as a punishment for a crime.

Summary

Section	Description
---------	-------------

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | <p>Constitutional amendment proposed.</p> <p>Proposes a constitutional amendment to amend article I, section 2 of the state constitution to remove an exception that would permit slavery or involuntary servitude in the state as punishment for a crime. The proposed question submitted to voters would be: “Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to prohibit slavery or involuntary servitude as criminal punishment for a crime?”</p> |
|---|--|