



General Assembly

**Senate Joint  
Resolution No. 193**

*February Session, 2024*

LCO No. 2413



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION  
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

**RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE  
CONSTITUTION REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS.**

Resolved by this Assembly:

1 Section 1. That the following be proposed as an amendment to the  
2 Constitution of the State, which, when approved and adopted in the  
3 manner provided by the Constitution, shall, to all intents and purposes,  
4 become a part thereof:

5 Article first of the Constitution is amended by adding section 21 as  
6 follows:

7 Sec. 21. Each person shall have an individual right to clean and  
8 healthy air, water, soil, ecosystems and environment and a safe and  
9 stable climate for the benefit of public health, safety and the general  
10 welfare. The state shall not infringe upon these rights and shall protect  
11 these rights equitably for all people regardless of race, ethnicity, tribal  
12 affiliation, gender, socioeconomic status or geography. The state shall  
13 serve as trustee of all of the natural resources of this state, including its  
14 waters, air, flora, fauna, soils, and climate, and shall conserve, protect,

15 and maintain these resources for the benefit of all people, including  
16 present and future generations. Any funds supporting the state in its  
17 obligations as trustee as stated in this section shall not be diverted for  
18 nontrust purposes. The rights stated in this section are equivalent to all  
19 other inalienable rights and may be directly invoked and enforced by  
20 the residents of this state.

21 RESOLVED: That the foregoing proposed amendment to the  
22 Constitution be continued to the next session of the General Assembly  
23 elected at the general election to be held on November 5, 2024, and  
24 published with the laws passed at the present session, or be presented  
25 to the electors at the general election to be held on November 5, 2024,  
26 whichever the case may be, according to article sixth of the amendments  
27 to the Constitution. The designation of said proposed amendment to be  
28 used on the ballots at such election shall be "Shall the Constitution of the  
29 State be amended to provide each citizen an individual right to clean  
30 and healthy air, water, soil, ecosystems and environment, and a safe and  
31 stable climate for the benefit of public health, safety and the general  
32 welfare, and to place certain obligations on the state as trustee of the  
33 state's natural resources?"