



The Legislature  
of the  
State of New Mexico

49th Legislature, Second Session

LAWS 2010

CHAPTER CA 3

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 6

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Introduced by

SENATOR HOWIE C. MORALES  
SENATOR TIMOTHY Z. JENNINGS



# Constitutional Amendment 3

## A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 7, SECTION 1 OF THE  
CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO TO MODERNIZE LANGUAGE ON QUALIFIED  
ELECTORS BY REMOVING LANGUAGE DENIGRATING PERSONS WITH  
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, ADOPTING FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS TO  
VOTE, DEFINING MENTAL INCAPACITY FOR VOTING PURPOSES AND  
RESTRICTING FELONS FROM VOTING EXCEPT AS RESTORED BY STATUTE.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Article 7, Section 1  
of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

"Every person who is a qualified elector pursuant to the  
constitution and laws of the United States and a citizen  
thereof shall be qualified to vote in all elections in New  
Mexico, subject to residency and registration requirements  
provided by law, except as restricted by statute either by  
reason of criminal conviction for a felony or by reason of  
mental incapacity, being limited only to those persons who  
are unable to mark their ballot and who are concurrently also  
unable to communicate their voting preference. The  
legislature may enact laws providing for absentee voting by  
qualified electors. All school elections shall be held at  
different times from other elections.

The legislature shall have the power to require the  
registration of the qualified electors as a requisite for

1 voting and shall regulate the manner, time and places of  
2 voting. The legislature shall enact such laws as will secure  
3 the secrecy of the ballot and the purity of elections and  
4 guard against the abuse of elective franchise. Not more than  
5 two members of the board of registration and not more than  
6 two judges of election shall belong to the same political  
7 party at the time of their appointment."

8 Section 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution  
9 shall be submitted to the people for their approval or  
10 rejection at the next general election or at any special  
11 election prior to that date that may be called for that  
12 purpose.

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Diane D. Denish

Diane D. Denish, President  
Senate

Lenore M. Naranjo  
Lenore M. Naranjo, Chief Clerk  
Senate

Ben Lujan

Ben Lujan, Speaker  
House of Representatives

Stephen R. Arias  
Stephen R. Arias, Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

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