

**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 120**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY
213th LEGISLATURE**

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2008 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ALISON LITTELL MCHOSE

District 24 (Sussex, Hunterdon and Morris)

Assemblyman MICHAEL J. DOHERTY

District 23 (Warren and Hunterdon)

Assemblyman JOHN DIMAIO

District 23 (Warren and Hunterdon)

Assemblyman JAY WEBBER

District 26 (Morris and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Chiusano, Thompson and Biondi

SYNOPSIS

Proposes constitutional amendment to provide that only the union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as marriage.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/8/2009)

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** proposing to amend Article I of the
2 New Jersey Constitution by adding a new paragraph.

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4 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New
5 Jersey (the Senate concurring):

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7 1. The following proposed amendment to the Constitution of
8 the State of New Jersey is agreed to:

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10 **PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

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12 Amend Article I by adding a new paragraph 23 to read as
13 follows:

14 23. Only the union of one man and one woman shall be valid or
15 recognized as a marriage in the State of New Jersey.

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17 2. When this proposed amendment to the Constitution is finally
18 agreed to pursuant to Article IX, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, it
19 shall be submitted to the people at the next general election
20 occurring more than three months after the final agreement and
21 shall be published at least once in at least one newspaper of each
22 county designated by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the
23 General Assembly and the Attorney General, not less than three
24 months prior to the general election.

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26 3. This proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be
27 submitted to the people at that election in the following manner and
28 form:

29 There shall be printed on each official ballot to be used at the
30 general election, the following:

31 a. In every municipality in which voting machines are not used,
32 a legend which shall immediately precede the question as follows:

33 If you favor the proposition printed below make a cross (X), plus
34 (+), or check (✓) in the square opposite the word "Yes." If you are
35 opposed thereto make a cross (X), plus (+) or check (✓) in the
36 square opposite the word "No."

37 b. In every municipality the following question:

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	YES	<p>CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROVIDING THAT ONLY THE UNION OF ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN SHALL BE VALID IN NEW JERSEY</p> <p>Shall the proposed amendment of Article I of the Constitution, agreed to by the Legislature, providing that only the union of one man and one woman shall be valid as a marriage in the State of New Jersey, be approved?</p>
	NO	<p>INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT</p> <p>Approval of this amendment would prohibit official recognition as a marriage of any union not between one man and one woman.</p>

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STATEMENT

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The proposed constitutional amendment specifies that only the union of one man and one woman shall be valid as a marriage in the State of New Jersey. This amendment is not intended to affect any equal benefits or domestic partnership rights provided by law. The amendment is in response to the New Jersey Supreme Court's opinion in Lewis v. Harris, 188 N.J. 415 (2006).

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