## Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1609

By Senator Pyle

12-21

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

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

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

## "§ 11. Closure of school districts or attendance centers.

- (a) The locally elected board of a school district shall be the only government entity that may close a school district or attendance center within such school district, except as provided by law.
- (b) The executive branch, judicial branch, state board of education or any constitutional officer of the executive department shall have no authority to effectuate the closure of a school district or attendance center within such school district by limiting, transferring, redirecting or stopping the expenditure of funds appropriated by law, except as provided by law."
- Sec. 2. The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with the amendment as a whole:

"Explanatory statement. The purpose of this amendment is to clarify that except as provided by law, the locally elected board of a school district shall be the only government entity that may close schools and the executive branch, judicial branch, state board of education or any constitutional officer of the executive department shall have no authority to effectuate the closure of a school by limiting, transferring, redirecting or stopping the expenditure of funds appropriated by law.

"A vote for this proposition would clarify that except as

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provided by law, the locally elected board of a school district shall be the only government entity that may close schools.

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

Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the meaning the school of the meaning that the school of the meaning that the school of the meaning that the school of the school of the meaning that the school of the sc

Sec. 3. This resolution, if approved by two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate, and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives shall be entered on the journals, together with the yeas and nays. The secretary of state shall cause this resolution to be published as provided by law and shall cause the proposed amendment to be submitted to the electors of the state at a special election on April 17, 2018, or the next practicable Tuesday following April 17, 2018.