

AMENDMENT NO. 7

AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE 7: ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE AND TO HOLD OFFICE

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES
PROPOSED BY THE

AMENDED CONSTITUTION AS PROPOSED
BY THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

The title of this Article has been changed to reflect the addition of new Section 3 with a uniform provision on eligibility to hold office.

Section 1: None

Section 2: None

Former Section 3 on defining domicile and residence is deleted entirely. The legislature has completed this task.
Former Section 3 provided:

Section 3: Domicile and Residence. The legislature shall implement section 1 by providing the criteria by which domicile and residence shall be determined for voting purposes and specifying the length of residence within the Commonwealth that shall be required.

Section 3: Uniform treatment of felony conviction as a bar to holding any elected office. This is new.

ARTICLE VII: ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE AND HOLD OFFICE

Section 1: Qualifications of Voters.

A person is eligible to vote who, on the date of election, is eighteen years of age or older, is domiciled in the Commonwealth, is a resident of the Commonwealth and has resided in the Commonwealth for a period of time provided by law, is not serving a sentence for a felony, has not been found by a court to be of unsound mind, and is either a citizen or national of the United States. The legislature may require that persons eligible to vote to be citizens of the United States.

Section 2: Prohibition of Literacy Requirement.

A person may not be denied the right to vote because that person is unable to read or write.

Section 3: Felony Conviction.

Any person who has been convicted of a felony in the Commonwealth or in any area under the jurisdiction of the United States, which conviction has become final, shall be disqualified from seeking or holding any elective office or any appointed office that requires legislative confirmation under this Constitution.