

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2016 REGULAR SESSION

Committee Substitute

for

Senate Joint Resolution 14

BY SENATORS KARNES, LEONHARDT, BLAIR, CLINE,
MAYNARD, SYPOLT, BEACH, LAIRD, MILLER, WILLIAMS
AND WOELFEL

[Originating in the Committee on the Judiciary;
reported on February 27, 2016]

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of West Virginia amending article III
2 thereof, by adding thereto a new section, designated section twenty-three, relating to the
3 right to farm and ranch; numbering and designating such proposed amendment; and
4 providing a summarized statement of the purpose of such proposed amendment.

5 *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia, two thirds of the members elected to each*
6 *house agreeing thereto:*

7 That the question of ratification or rejection of an amendment to the Constitution of the
8 State of West Virginia be submitted to the voters of the state at the next general election to be
9 held in 2016, which proposed amendment is that article III thereof be amended by adding thereto
10 a new section, designated section twenty-three, to read as follows:

ARTICLE III. BILL OF RIGHTS.

§ 23. RIGHT TO FARM AND RANCH.

1 The right of farmers and ranchers to engage in natural, traditional or modern farming and
2 ranching practices is forever guaranteed in this state.

3 *Resolved further,* That in accordance with the provisions of article eleven, chapter three
4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, such amendment is hereby numbered
5 “Amendment No. 1” and designated as the “Right to Farm and Ranch Amendment” and the
6 purpose of the proposed amendment is summarized as follows: “To add a new section to article
7 III of the West Virginia Constitution, to recognize the right of citizens of West Virginia to farm and
8 ranch.”