

By Senator Kirkpatrick

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Senate Joint Resolution No. ____

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 4 of Article IX of the State Constitution, relating to education, to allow universities, community colleges, the state board of education, or any public entity to operate, control, and supervise public charter schools.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following amendment to Section 4 of Article IX of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE IX
EDUCATION

SECTION 4. School districts; school boards.--

(a) Each county shall constitute a school district; provided, two or more contiguous counties, upon vote of the electors of each county pursuant to law, may be combined into one school district. In each school district there shall be a school board composed of five or more members chosen by vote of the electors in a nonpartisan election for appropriately staggered terms of four years, as provided by law.

(b) The school board shall operate, control and supervise all free public schools within the school district and determine the rate of school district taxes within the limits prescribed herein. Two or more school districts may operate and finance joint educational programs.

1 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b),
2 universities, community colleges, the state board of
3 education, or any public entity may sponsor, operate, control,
4 and supervise public charter schools in any school district.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
6 placed on the ballot:

7 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

8 ARTICLE IX, SECTION 4

9 CONTROL OF CHARTER SCHOOLS.--Proposing an amendment to
10 the State Constitution to allow universities, communities, the
11 state board of education, or any public entity to sponsor,
12 operate, control, and supervise public charter schools.

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