



### III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Senate Joint Resolution 244 removes the constitutional bar in Article VI, Section 4, disqualifying a convicted felon from being eligible to vote until his or her civil rights have been restored. It replaces it with a requirement that the person's right to vote has been restored, *as provided by law*. Under this joint resolution, a person would still be required to have his or her civil rights restored in order to *hold office*.

The joint resolution is to be implemented through Senate Bill 246, which amends a provision of Florida Statutes addressing qualifications to register to vote. Senate Bill 246 maintains current law by disqualifying persons convicted of a felony from being eligible to register or vote while incarcerated or otherwise under supervision or control. However, Senate Bill 246 provides that the right to vote is automatically restored one year after the date of completion and satisfaction of all non-monetary components of the sentences imposed, unless a majority of the members of the Board of Executive Clemency object. If a majority of the Board does object, the convicted felon must petition the Board for restoration of the right to register or vote.

### IV. Constitutional Issues:

#### A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

#### B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

#### C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

### V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

#### A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

#### B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

#### C. Government Sector Impact:

Each constitutional amendment is required to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in each county, once in the sixth week and once in the tenth week preceding the general election. Costs for advertising vary depending on the length of the amendment; however, it is estimated that the cost per amendment averages about \$46,000.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

The missing Senate Joint Resolution number should be inserted in the title.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Amendments:**

#1 by Ethics and Elections:

Technical. Inserts a missing joint resolution number.

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This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.

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