Florida House of Representatives - 2002 By Representative Allen

House Joint Resolution 1 A joint resolution proposing an amendment to 2 Section 4 of Article VII of the State 3 Constitution relating to assessment of 4 5 homestead property. 6 7 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 8 9 That the amendment to Section 4 of Article VII of the 10 State Constitution set forth below is agreed to and shall be 11 submitted to the electors of Florida for approval or rejection 12 at the general election to be held in November 2002: 13 SECTION 4. Taxation; assessments. -- By general law 14 regulations shall be prescribed which shall secure a just 15 valuation of all property for ad valorem taxation, provided: 16 (a) Agricultural land, land producing high water recharge to Florida's aquifers or land used exclusively for 17 non-commercial recreational purposes may be classified by 18 19 general law and assessed solely on the basis of character or 20 use. 21 (b) Pursuant to general law tangible personal property 2.2 held for sale as stock in trade and livestock may be valued 23 for taxation at a specified percentage of its value, may be 24 classified for tax purposes, or may be exempted from taxation. 25 (c) All persons entitled to a homestead exemption 26 under Section 6 of this Article shall have their homestead 27 assessed at just value as of January 1 of the year following the effective date of this amendment. This assessment shall 28 29 change only as provided herein. 30 1. Assessments subject to this provision shall be changed annually on January 1st of each year; but those 31

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1 changes in assessments shall not exceed the lower of the 2 following: 3 (A) three percent (3%) of the assessment for the prior 4 year. 5 (B) the percent change in the Consumer Price Index for б all urban consumers, U.S. City Average, all items 1967=100, or 7 successor reports for the preceding calendar year as initially 8 reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of 9 Labor Statistics. 10 2.(A) No assessment shall exceed just value. 11 (B) No assessment shall change if just value does not 12 change, unless a reduction in assessment is required under 13 paragraph 1. 14 After any change of ownership, as provided by 3. general law, homestead property shall be assessed at just 15 16 value as of January 1 of the following year. Thereafter, the homestead shall be assessed as provided herein. 17 4. New homestead property shall be assessed at just 18 value as of January 1st of the year following the 19 20 establishment of the homestead. That assessment shall only 21 change as provided herein. 5. Changes, additions, reductions or improvements to 22 homestead property shall be assessed as provided for by 23 general law; provided, however, after the adjustment for any 24 change, addition, reduction or improvement, the property shall 25 26 be assessed as provided herein. 6. In the event of a termination of homestead status, 27 28 the property shall be assessed as provided by general law. 29 The provisions of this amendment are severable. 7. Ιf any of the provisions of this amendment shall be held 30 31 unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the 2

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decision of such court shall not affect or impair any 1 2 remaining provisions of this amendment. 3 (d) The legislature may, by general law, for 4 assessment purposes and subject to the provisions of this 5 subsection, allow counties and municipalities to authorize by б ordinance that historic property may be assessed solely on the 7 basis of character or use. Such character or use assessment 8 shall apply only to the jurisdiction adopting the ordinance. 9 The requirements for eligible properties must be specified by 10 general law. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in accordance with the 11 12 requirements of section 101.161, Florida Statutes, the 13 substance of the amendment proposed herein shall appear on the 14 ballot as follows: 15 ASSESSMENT OF HOMESTEAD PROPERTY Proposes an amendment to Section 4 of Article VII of 16 the State Constitution to prohibit changing an assessment of 17 homestead property if there is no increase in just value of 18 19 the property, except if a reduction in assessment is required 20 under the State Constitution. 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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