

By Senator Cowin

20-1168-03

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Senate Joint Resolution No. ____

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 5 of Article XI of the State Constitution to revise requirements for ratification of proposed amendments to the State Constitution.

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

That the following amendment to Section 5 of Article XI 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 XI
AMENDMENTS

SECTION 5. Amendment or revision election.--

(a) A proposed amendment to or revision of this constitution, or any part of it, shall be submitted to the electors at the next general election held more than ninety days after the joint resolution, initiative petition or report of revision commission, constitutional convention or taxation and budget reform commission proposing it is filed with the custodian of state records, unless, pursuant to law enacted by the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the membership of each house of the legislature and limited to a single amendment or revision, it is submitted at an earlier special election held more than ninety days after such filing.

(b) The legislature shall provide by general law, prior to the holding of an election pursuant to this section, for the provision of a statement to the public regarding the

1 probable financial impact of any amendment proposed by
2 initiative pursuant to section 3.

3 (c) Once in the tenth week, and once in the sixth week
4 immediately preceding the week in which the election is held,
5 the proposed amendment or revision, with notice of the date of
6 election at which it will be submitted to the electors, shall
7 be published in one newspaper of general circulation in each
8 county in which a newspaper is published.

9 (d) If the proposed amendment or revision is approved
10 by vote of the electors and by the vote of a majority of those
11 voting on the matter in at least thirty-four counties, it
12 shall be effective as an amendment to or revision of the
13 constitution of the state on the first Tuesday after the first
14 Monday in January following the election, or on such other
15 date as may be specified in the amendment or revision.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
17 placed on the ballot:

18 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

19 ARTICLE XI, SECTION 5

20 REQUIREMENTS FOR RATIFICATION OF PROPOSED

21 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.--Proposing an amendment to the
22 State Constitution to require that, in addition to the present
23 requirement that ratification be approved by a majority of
24 electors voting statewide, a proposed amendment submitted for
25 ratification after January 4, 2005, be approved by a majority
26 of the electors voting in at least 34 of the state's 67
27 counties.

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