



HJR 1877

2003

House Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing amendments to Sections 3 and 5 of Article XI of the State Constitution relating to amendments to or revisions of the State Constitution.

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

That the amendments to Sections 3 and 5 of Article XI of the State Constitution set forth below are agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of Florida for approval or rejection at the general election to be held in November 2004:

ARTICLE XI

AMENDMENTS

SECTION 3. Initiative.--

(a) The power to propose the revision or amendment of any portion or portions of this constitution by initiative is reserved to the people, provided that, any such revision or amendment, except for those limiting the power of government to raise revenue, shall embrace but one subject and matter directly connected therewith. It may be invoked by filing with the custodian of state records a petition containing a copy of the proposed revision or amendment, signed by a number of electors in three-fifths ~~each of one half~~ of the congressional districts of the state, and of the state as a whole, equal to ten ~~eight~~ percent of the votes cast in each of such districts respectively and in the state as a whole in the last preceding election in which presidential electors were chosen.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), any revision or amendment of this constitution adopted by initiative may be repealed by initiative limited to that purpose only and subject



HJR 1877

2003

31 to the same requirements for invoking and voter approval as were
32 applied to the petition proposing the revision or amendment to
33 be repealed.

34 SECTION 5. Amendment or revision election.--

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

46 (b) The legislature shall provide by general law, prior to
47 the holding of an election pursuant to this section, for the
48 provision of a statement to the public regarding the probable
49 financial impact of any amendment proposed by initiative
50 pursuant to section 3.

51 (c) Once in the tenth week, and once in the sixth week
52 immediately preceding the week in which the election is held,
53 the proposed amendment or revision, with notice of the date of
54 election at which it will be submitted to the electors, shall be
55 published in one newspaper of general circulation in each county
56 in which a newspaper is published.

57 (d) If the proposed amendment or revision is approved by
58 vote of two-thirds of the electors voting on the amendment or
59 revision in the election, it shall be effective as an amendment
60 to or revision of the constitution of the state on the first



HJR 1877

2003

61 Tuesday after the first Monday in January following the
62 election, or on such other date as may be specified in the
63 amendment or revision.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the title and substance of the
65 amendments proposed herein shall appear on the ballot as
66 follows:

67 AMENDMENT OR REVISION OF STATE CONSTITUTION

68 Proposes amendments to Sections 3 and 5 of Article XI of
69 the State Constitution to require signatures for initiative
70 petitions to amend or revise the State Constitution to be
71 gathered in three-fifths, rather than one half, of the
72 congressional districts, and of the state as a whole, equal to
73 ten percent of the votes cast in the last presidential election
74 and to increase the vote required to adopt an amendment to or
75 revision of the State Constitution from a majority of the
76 electors voting in favor of the proposal in the election to two-
77 thirds of the electors voting in favor of the proposal in the
78 election.