

HJR 1947

2004

House Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 3 of Article XI of the State Constitution to extend the filing deadline for initiative petitions and provide for regulation of the initiative petition process by general law.

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

That the amendment to Section 3 of Article XI of the State Constitution set forth below is 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, not later than two hundred forty days prior to the next general election, a petition containing a copy of the proposed revision or amendment, signed by a number of electors in each of one half of the congressional districts of the state, and of the state as a whole, equal to 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.

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31        (b) The initiative petition process, including  
 32        registration of petitioning organizations, the form of  
 33        petitions, signature gathering and validation, initiative  
 34        campaign finance disclosure, the timing of judicial review, and  
 35        other matters, shall be regulated by general law.

36                BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the title and substance of the  
 37        amendment proposed herein shall appear on the ballot as follows:

38                                FILING AND REGULATION OF INITIATIVE PETITIONS

39                Proposes an amendment to Section 3 of Article XI of the  
 40        State Constitution to extend to 240 days the minimum time  
 41        between the filing of an initiative petition and the election on  
 42        the amendment to or revision of the State Constitution proposed  
 43        by that initiative and provides for regulation of the initiative  
 44        petition process, including registration of petitioning  
 45        organizations, the form of petitions, signature gathering and  
 46        validation, initiative campaign finance disclosure, the timing  
 47        of judicial review, and other matters, by general law.