

By Senator Dawson

29-137-05

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Senate Joint Resolution No. \_\_\_\_

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 4 of Article VI of the State Constitution, relating to suffrage and elections, to authorize the Legislature to provide the conditions under which a convicted felon's right to register or vote may be restored.

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

That the following amendment to Section 4 of Article VI 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 VI

SUFFRAGE AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 4. Disqualifications.--

(a) No person convicted of a felony, or adjudicated in this or any other state to be mentally incompetent, shall be qualified to ~~vote or~~ hold office until restoration of civil rights or removal of disability. No person convicted of a felony shall be qualified to vote until the person's right to register or vote has been restored, as provided by law. No person adjudicated in this or any other state to be mentally incompetent shall be qualified to vote until removal of disability.

(b) No person may appear on the ballot for re-election to any of the following offices:

- (1) Florida representative,

- 1 (2) Florida senator,  
2 (3) Florida Lieutenant governor, or  
3 (4) any office of the Florida cabinet,  
4 ~~(5) U.S. Representative from Florida, or~~  
5 ~~(6) U.S. Senator from Florida~~  
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7 if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will  
8 have served (or, but for resignation, would have served) in  
9 that office for eight consecutive years.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be  
11 placed on the ballot:

12 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

13 ARTICLE VI, SECTION 4

14 QUALIFICATIONS OF FELONS TO VOTE.--Proposing an  
15 amendment to the State Constitution authorizing the  
16 Legislature to provide the conditions under which a convicted  
17 felon's right to register or vote may be restored by statute.  
18 The amendment also deletes inoperative provisions relating to  
19 term limits for members of Congress and U.S. Senators, which  
20 provisions have been determined by the U.S. Supreme Court to  
21 violate the U.S. Constitution.  
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