

Bill No. CS for SJR 2090

Barcode 301386

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Education Appropriations (Lynn) recommended  
the following amendment:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the resolving clause

and insert:

That the following amendment to Section 1 of Article IX  
and the creation of Section 26 of Article XII of the State  
Constitution are 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 IX

EDUCATION

SECTION 1. Public education.--

(a) The education of children is a fundamental value  
of the people of the State of Florida. It is, therefore, a  
paramount duty of the state to make adequate provision for the  
education of all children residing within its borders.  
Adequate provision shall be made by law for a uniform,

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1 efficient, safe, secure, and high quality system of free  
 2 public schools that allows students to obtain a high quality  
 3 education and for the establishment, maintenance, and  
 4 operation of institutions of higher learning and other public  
 5 education programs that the needs of the people may require.  
 6 To assure that children attending public schools obtain a high  
 7 quality education, the legislature shall make adequate  
 8 provision to ensure that, by the beginning of the 2007 ~~2010~~  
 9 school year, there are a sufficient number of classrooms so  
 10 that:

11           (1) The district average ~~maximum~~ number of students  
 12 who are assigned to each teacher who is teaching in public  
 13 school classrooms for prekindergarten through grade 3 does not  
 14 exceed 18 students;

15           (2) The district average ~~maximum~~ number of students  
 16 who are assigned to each teacher who is teaching in public  
 17 school classrooms for grades 4 through 8 does not exceed 22  
 18 students; and

19           (3) The district average ~~maximum~~ number of students  
 20 who are assigned to each teacher who is teaching in public  
 21 school classrooms for grades 9 through 12 does not exceed 25  
 22 students.

23  
 24 The class size requirements of this subsection do not apply to  
 25 extracurricular classes. Payment of the costs associated with  
 26 reducing class size to meet these requirements is the  
 27 responsibility of the state and not of local school ~~schools~~  
 28 districts. Beginning with the 2003-2004 fiscal year, the  
 29 legislature shall provide sufficient funds to reduce the  
 30 district average class size ~~number of students in each~~  
 31 ~~classroom~~ by at least two students per year until the district

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1 average class size ~~maximum number of students per classroom~~  
2 does not exceed the requirements of this subsection.

3 (b) The minimum salary for each public school teacher  
4 shall be provided by law but must be no less than \$35,000 and  
5 must be higher than the national average beginning salary for  
6 public school teachers.

7 (c)(b) Every four-year old child in Florida shall be  
8 provided by the State a high quality prekindergarten  
9 ~~pre-kindergarten~~ learning opportunity in the form of an early  
10 childhood development and education program which shall be  
11 voluntary, high quality, free, and delivered according to  
12 professionally accepted standards. An early childhood  
13 development and education program means an organized program  
14 designed to address and enhance each child's ability to make  
15 age appropriate progress in an appropriate range of settings  
16 in the development of language and cognitive capabilities and  
17 emotional, social, regulatory and moral capacities through  
18 education in basic skills and such other skills as the  
19 Legislature may determine to be appropriate.

20 (d)(c) The early childhood education and development  
21 programs provided by reason of subsection (c) ~~subparagraph (b)~~  
22 shall be implemented no later than the beginning of the 2005  
23 school year through funds generated in addition to those used  
24 for existing education, health, and development programs.  
25 Existing education, health, and development programs are those  
26 funded by the State as of January 1, 2002, that provided for  
27 child or adult education, health care, or development.

28 ARTICLE XII

29 SCHEDULE

30 SECTION 26. Maximum class size and minimum teacher  
31 salary.--The amendment to Section 1 of Article IX relating to

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1 public education, which provides that maximum class size  
 2 requirements shall be based on the district average number of  
 3 students who are assigned to a teacher in specified grades and  
 4 which establishes a minimum teacher salary, shall take effect  
 5 July 1 following its approval by the electors.

6  
 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be  
 8 placed on the ballot:

9 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

10 ARTICLE IX, SECTION 1; ARTICLE XII, SECTION 26

11 REVISING MAXIMUM CLASS SIZE REQUIREMENTS AND

12 ESTABLISHING A MINIMUM TEACHER SALARY.--Proposing an amendment  
 13 to Section 1 of Article IX and the creation of Section 26 of  
 14 Article XII of the State Constitution to provide that maximum  
 15 class size requirements shall be based on the district average  
 16 number of students who are assigned to a teacher in specified  
 17 grades; to move forward the date for implementation of the  
 18 class size requirements; to require that the minimum salary  
 19 for each public school teacher shall be no less than \$35,000  
 20 and shall be higher than the national average beginning salary  
 21 for public school teachers as provided by law; and to provide  
 22 for taking effect July 1 following approval by the electors.

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25 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

26 And the title is amended as follows:

27 Delete everything before the resolving clause

28  
29 and insert:

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

31 A joint resolution proposing an amendment to

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1 Section 1 of Article IX of the State  
2 Constitution, relating to public education, to  
3 amend the class-size requirements for students  
4 in grades prekindergarten through 12 and to  
5 prescribe minimum salary standards for public  
6 school teachers, and the creation of Section 26  
7 of Article XII of the State Constitution to  
8 prescribe a schedule for such amendment.

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