

By the Committee on Judiciary; and Senators King, Smith, Fasano, Haridopolos and Atwater

590-1859-05

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Senate Joint Resolution No. 6

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 5 of Article XI of the State Constitution; requiring that a proposed amendment to or revision of the State Constitution be approved by at least sixty percent of the electors of the state voting on the measure.

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, as amended by Revision No. 2, 2004, 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 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.

1 (b) A proposed amendment or revision of this  
2 constitution, or any part of it, by initiative shall be  
3 submitted to the electors at the general election provided the  
4 initiative petition is filed with the custodian of state  
5 records no later than February 1 of the year in which the  
6 general election is held.

7 (c) The legislature shall provide by general law,  
8 prior to the holding of an election pursuant to this section,  
9 for the provision of a statement to the public regarding the  
10 probable financial impact of any amendment proposed by  
11 initiative pursuant to section 3.

12 (d) Once in the tenth week, and once in the sixth week  
13 immediately preceding the week in which the election is held,  
14 the proposed amendment or revision, with notice of the date of  
15 election at which it will be submitted to the electors, shall  
16 be published in one newspaper of general circulation in each  
17 county in which a newspaper is published.

18 (e) If the proposed amendment or revision is approved  
19 by vote of at least sixty percent of the electors voting on  
20 the measure, it shall be effective as an amendment to or  
21 revision of the constitution of the state on the first Tuesday  
22 after the first Monday in January following the election, or  
23 on such other date as may be specified in the amendment or  
24 revision.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be  
26 placed on the ballot:

27 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

28 ARTICLE XI, SECTION 5

29 APPROVAL OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS OR

30 REVISIONS.--Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution  
31 to require that a proposed constitutional amendment or

1 revision be approved by at least sixty percent of the electors  
2 of the state voting on the measure rather than by a simple  
3 majority.

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5 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
6 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
7 Senate Joint Resolution 6

8 The committee substitute makes the following changes to the  
9 underlying joint resolution:

- 10 -- Adds the number "6" to the title of the underlying joint  
11 resolution, thereby designating the joint resolution as  
12 Senate Joint Resolution No. 6; and  
13 -- Replaces the three-fifths approval threshold for the  
14 adoption of constitutional amendments with a 60-percent  
15 approval threshold.  
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