

By the Committee on Government Efficiency Appropriations; and
Senator Haridopolos

593-2404-06

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Senate Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing the creation of
Section 19 of Article VII of the State
Constitution, relating to a limitation on state
appropriations.

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

That the following creation of Section 19 of Article
VII 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 VII

FINANCE AND TAXATION

Section 19. State appropriations limitation.--

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section,
state appropriations for any fiscal year shall be limited to
the state appropriations allowed for the prior fiscal year
plus an adjustment for growth. For the 2007-2008 fiscal year,
state appropriations allowed under this section shall be
limited to state appropriations for the prior fiscal year plus
an adjustment of growth. As used in this section, "growth"
means an amount equal to the average annual rate of growth in
Florida personal income over the most recent twenty quarters
times the state appropriations allowed under this section for
the prior fiscal year. Florida personal income shall be
determined by the legislature based on information available
from the United States Department of Commerce or its successor

1 on the first day of February prior to the beginning of the
2 fiscal year.

3 (b) For purposes of calculating the limitation on
4 state appropriations, "state appropriations" shall be
5 determined by the legislature and shall include annual
6 appropriations contained in the general appropriations act and
7 substantive bills containing appropriations. However, "state
8 appropriations" does not include appropriations to meet a
9 state emergency declared by the governor; appropriations of
10 federal funds; or appropriations of the proceeds of, or
11 appropriations to retire, general obligation and revenue bonds
12 of the state.

13 (c) The state appropriations allowed under this
14 section for any fiscal year may be increased by a three-fifths
15 vote of the membership of each house of the legislature in a
16 separate bill that contains no other subject and that sets
17 forth the dollar amount by which the state appropriations
18 allowed will be increased. The vote may not be taken less than
19 seventy-two hours after the second reading of the bill.

20 (d) An adjustment to the limitation on state
21 appropriations shall be made by the legislature to reflect the
22 fiscal impact of transfers of responsibility for the funding
23 of governmental functions between the state and other levels
24 of government.

25 (e) This section is self-executing, but the
26 legislature may provide for the implementation of this section
27 by general law.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
29 placed on the ballot:

30 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
31 ARTICLE VII, SECTION 19

