House Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 6 of Article X of the State Constitution relating to eminent domain.

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

That the following amendment to Section 6 of Article X 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 X

### MISCELLANEOUS

# SECTION 6. Eminent domain. --

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- (a) No private property shall be taken except for a public purpose and with full compensation therefor paid to each owner or secured by deposit in the registry of the court and available to the owner.
- (b) Provision may be made by law for the taking of easements, by like proceedings, for the drainage of the land of one person over or through the land of another.
- (c) If a petition is filed on or after January 2, 2007, to initiate eminent domain proceedings regarding a parcel of real property in this state, ownership or control of property acquired pursuant to such petition shall not be conveyed by the condemning authority or any other entity to a natural person or

private entity, except that ownership or control of property acquired pursuant to such petition may be conveyed to:

(1) A natural person or private entity for use in providing common carrier services or systems;

- (2) A natural person or private entity for use as a road or other right-of-way or means open to the public for transportation, whether at no charge or by toll;
- (3) A natural person or private entity that is a public or private utility for use in providing electricity services or systems, natural or manufactured gas services or systems, water and wastewater services or systems, stormwater or runoff services or systems, sewer services or systems, pipeline facilities, telephone services or systems, or similar services or systems;
- (4) A natural person or private entity for use in providing public infrastructure;
- (5) A natural person or private entity that occupies, pursuant to a lease, an incidental part of a public property or a public facility for the purpose of providing goods or services to the public;
- (6) A natural person or private entity if the property was owned and controlled by the condemning authority or a governmental entity for at least 5 years after the condemning authority acquired title to the property; or
- (7) A natural person or private entity in accordance with subsection (d).

(d) If ownership of property is conveyed to a natural person or private entity pursuant to any of paragraphs (c)(1)-(5), and that natural person or private entity retains ownership and control of the property for at least 5 years after acquiring title, the property may subsequently be transferred to another natural person or private entity without restriction.

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

# CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

# ARTICLE X, SECTION 6

EMINENT DOMAIN.--Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to prohibit the transfer of ownership or control of private real property taken by eminent domain pursuant to a petition filed on or after January 2, 2007, to any natural person or private entity, except that:

- (a) Ownership or control of such property may be conveyed to:
- (1) A natural person or private entity for use in providing common carrier services or systems;
- (2) A natural person or private entity for use as a road or other right-of-way or means open to the public for transportation, whether at no charge or by toll;
- (3) A natural person or private entity that is a public or private utility for use in providing electricity services or systems, natural or manufactured gas services or systems, water and wastewater services or systems, stormwater or runoff services or systems, sewer services or systems, pipeline

facilities, telephone services or systems, or similar services or systems;

(4) A natural person or private entity for use in providing public infrastructure;

- (5) A natural person or private entity that occupies, pursuant to a lease, an incidental part of a public property or a public facility for the purpose of providing goods or services to the public;
- (6) A natural person or private entity if the property was owned and controlled by the condemning authority or a governmental entity for at least 5 years after the condemning authority acquired title to the property; or
- (7) A natural person or private entity in accordance with subsection (b).
- (b) If ownership of property is conveyed to a natural person or private entity pursuant to any of paragraphs (a)(1)-(5), and that natural person or private entity retains ownership and control of the property for at least 5 years after acquiring title, the property may subsequently be transferred to another natural person or private entity without restriction.