

House Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing the creation of Section 8 of Article IX of the State Constitution relating to education.

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

That the following creation of Section 8 of Article IX 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 IX

EDUCATION

SECTION 8. Opportunity to receive a quality education.--

(a) Every child deserves an equal opportunity to receive a quality education regardless of his or her family's income, religion, or race. Funding for quality education through classroom instruction is paramount, and the legislature shall ensure that funding provided for public schools shall primarily be used for classroom instruction rather than administrative expenditures. Classroom instruction and administrative expenditures shall be defined by law.

(b) Every child's opportunity to receive a quality education requires that the student, therefore, may participate, as provided by law, in public or private prekindergarten through college education programs for students who are disabled, economically disadvantaged, or underserved by traditional

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29 educational alternatives or who would otherwise benefit from the
 30 availability of such programs to increase educational choices.

31 (c) The legislature is not limited from enacting and
 32 funding for the people education programs, public or private,
 33 without regard to the religious nature of any provider or
 34 participant and notwithstanding any other provision of Section 3
 35 of Article I or Section 1 of Article IX of this constitution.
 36 The power of the people through their legislature to enact any
 37 such programs for the good of the people unless explicitly
 38 forbidden by the literal text of this constitution shall not be
 39 abridged.

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

42 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

43 ARTICLE IX, SECTION 8

44 OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE A QUALITY EDUCATION.--Proposing an
 45 amendment to the State Constitution to provide that every child
 46 deserves an equal opportunity to receive a quality education
 47 regardless of his or her family's income, religion, or race; to
 48 provide that funding for quality education through classroom
 49 instruction is paramount and to require the Legislature to
 50 ensure that funding provided for public schools shall primarily
 51 be used for classroom instruction rather than administrative
 52 expenditures; to provide that classroom instruction and
 53 administrative expenditures shall be defined by law; to provide
 54 that every child's opportunity to receive a quality education
 55 requires that the student, therefore, may participate, as
 56 provided by law, in public or private prekindergarten through

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57 college education programs for students who are disabled,
58 economically disadvantaged, or underserved by traditional
59 educational alternatives or who would otherwise benefit from the
60 availability of such programs to increase educational choices;
61 to provide that the Legislature is not limited from enacting and
62 funding for the people education programs, public or private,
63 without regard to the religious nature of any provider or
64 participant and notwithstanding any other provision of Section 3
65 of Article I or Section 1 of Article IX of the State
66 Constitution; and to provide that the power of the people
67 through their Legislature to enact any such programs for the
68 good of the people unless explicitly forbidden by the literal
69 text of the State Constitution shall not be abridged.