

HB 367

2009

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to proposed constitutional amendments or
3 other public measures; amending s. 101.161, F.S.;
4 requiring that ballot summaries be expressed in single-
5 sentence explanatory statements; providing an effective
6 date.

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8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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10 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 101.161, Florida
11 Statutes, is amended to read:

12 101.161 Referenda; ballots.--

13 (1) Whenever a constitutional amendment or other public
14 measure is submitted to the vote of the people, the substance of
15 such amendment or other public measure shall be summarized in a
16 brief one-sentence explanatory statement using ~~printed in~~ clear
17 and unambiguous language. The explanatory statement shall appear
18 on the ballot after the list of candidates, followed by the word
19 "yes" and also by the word "no," and shall be styled in such a
20 manner that a "yes" vote will indicate approval of the proposal
21 and a "no" vote will indicate rejection. The wording of the
22 substance of the amendment or other public measure and the
23 ballot title to appear on the ballot shall be embodied in the
24 joint resolution, constitutional revision commission proposal,
25 constitutional convention proposal, taxation and budget reform
26 commission proposal, or enabling resolution or ordinance. Except
27 for amendments and ballot language proposed by joint resolution,
28 the substance of the amendment or other public measure shall be

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29 | an explanatory statement, not exceeding 75 words in length, of
30 | the chief purpose of the measure. In addition, for every
31 | amendment proposed by initiative, the ballot shall include,
32 | following the ballot summary, a separate financial impact
33 | statement concerning the measure prepared by the Financial
34 | Impact Estimating Conference in accordance with s. 100.371(5).
35 | The ballot title shall consist of a caption, not exceeding 15
36 | words in length, by which the measure is commonly referred to or
37 | spoken of.

38 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.