

By Senator Sobel

31-00363-11

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Senate Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 4 of Article VI of the State Constitution to disqualify a person who is convicted of a felony from voting only while the person is incarcerated.

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

That the following amendment to Section 4 of Article VI 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 VI

SUFFRAGE AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 4. Disqualifications.—

(a) (1) ~~A No~~ person ~~convicted of a felony, or~~ adjudicated in this or any other state to be mentally incompetent is not, ~~shall~~ be qualified to vote or hold office until ~~restoration of civil rights or~~ removal of disability.

(2) A person may not be disqualified from voting due to a felony conviction except while incarcerated for the felony conviction.

(b) ~~A No~~ person may not appear on the ballot for re-election to any of the following offices:

- (1) Florida representative,
- (2) Florida senator,
- (3) Florida Lieutenant governor,
- (4) any office of the Florida cabinet,

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30 (5) U.S. Representative from Florida, or

31 (6) U.S. Senator from Florida

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33 if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will
34 have served (or, but for resignation, would have served) in that
35 office for eight consecutive years.

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

38 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

39 ARTICLE VI, SECTION 4

40 VOTING RIGHTS OF FELONS.—The State Constitution currently
41 prohibits a person who was convicted of a felony from voting
42 until the person's civil rights are restored. This amendment
43 will prohibit a person convicted of a felony from voting only
44 while the person is incarcerated for the felony conviction.