

By Senator Clemens

27-00289-16

2016192\_\_

Senate Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 4 of Article VI of the State Constitution to automatically restore the rights to vote and hold office of certain convicted felons.

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) No person convicted of a felony, or adjudicated in this or any other state to be mentally incompetent, shall be qualified to vote or hold office, except:

(1) If convicted of a felony involving a sexual offense or a felony involving a homicide, upon restoration of the person's civil rights;

(2) If convicted of any felony not specified in paragraph (1), upon the person's completion of sentence; or

(3) If adjudicated mentally incompetent, upon ~~until~~ restoration of civil rights or removal of disability.

(b) No person may appear on the ballot for re-election to any of the following offices:

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- 30 (1) Florida representative,
- 31 (2) Florida senator,
- 32 (3) Florida lieutenant governor,
- 33 (4) any office of the Florida cabinet,
- 34 (5) U.S. Representative from Florida, or
- 35 (6) U.S. Senator from Florida

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

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

42 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

43 ARTICLE VI, SECTION 4

44 AUTOMATIC RESTORATION OF CERTAIN FELONS' RIGHTS TO VOTE AND  
 45 HOLD OFFICE.—Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to  
 46 automatically restore the rights to vote and hold office of a  
 47 person convicted of a felony, other than one involving a sexual  
 48 offense or a homicide, upon completion of sentence.