

By the Committee on Ethics and Elections; and Senator Gruters

582-03038-20

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Senate Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 4 of Article IX and the creation of a new section in Article XII of the State Constitution to limit the terms of office for a member of a district school board.

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

That the following amendment to Section 4 of Article IX and the creation of a new section in Article XII of the State Constitution are 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 4. School districts; school boards.—

(a) Each county shall constitute a school district; provided, two or more contiguous counties, upon vote of the electors of each county pursuant to law, may be combined into one school district. In each school district there shall be a school board composed of five or more members chosen by vote of the electors in a nonpartisan election for appropriately staggered terms of four years, as provided by law.

(b) The school board shall operate, control and supervise all free public schools within the school district and determine the rate of school district taxes within the limits prescribed herein. Two or more school districts may operate and finance

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joint educational programs.

(c) A person may not appear on the ballot for reelection to the office of school board member if, by the end of his or her current term of office, the person will have served, or but for resignation would have served, in that office for eight consecutive years.

ARTICLE XII

SCHEDULE

Limitation on terms of office for members of a district school board.—This section and the amendment to Section 4 of Article IX imposing limits on the terms of office for members of a district school board shall take effect on the date they are approved by the electorate, but no service in a term of office that commenced before November 3, 2020, will be counted toward the limitation imposed by this amendment.

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

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

ARTICLE IX, SECTION 4

ARTICLE XII

LIMITATION ON TERMS OF OFFICE FOR MEMBERS OF A DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD.—Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to limit terms for school board members by prohibiting incumbent members who have held the office for the preceding eight years from appearing on a ballot for reelection to that office and to specify that the amendment applies only to terms of office beginning on or after November 3, 2020.