

By Senator Gruters

22-00247A-23

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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 require members of a district school board to be elected in a partisan election.

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 partisan ~~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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202394__

30 joint educational programs.

31 ARTICLE XII

32 SCHEDULE

33 Partisan election of members of district school boards.-

34 This section and the amendment to Section 4 of Article IX
 35 requiring members of a district school board to be elected in a
 36 partisan election rather than a nonpartisan election shall take
 37 effect upon approval by the electors, except that members of
 38 district school boards may not be elected on a partisan basis
 39 until the general election held in November 2026. However,
 40 partisan primary elections may occur before the general election
 41 held on November 3, 2026, for purposes of nominating political
 42 party candidates to that office for placement on the 2026
 43 general election ballot.

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

46 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

47 ARTICLE IX, SECTION 4

48 ARTICLE XII

49 PARTISAN ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS.-

50 Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to require
 51 members of a district school board to be elected in a partisan
 52 election rather than a nonpartisan election and to specify that
 53 the amendment only applies to elections held on or after the
 54 November 2026 general election. However, partisan primary
 55 elections may occur before the 2026 general election for
 56 purposes of nominating political party candidates to that office
 57 for placement on the 2026 general election ballot.