

SJR 2 — Class Size Requirements for Public Schools

by Senators Gaetz, Thrasher, Detert, Wise, Bennett, Fasano, Richter, Haridopolos, Baker, Negron, Dean, Gardiner, Constantine, Oelrich, Ring, Siplin, Alexander, Peaden, Storms, and Lynn

This Senate Joint Resolution proposes amending Section 1, Article IX of the State Constitution to revise the maximum class size requirements. Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, maximum class size would be the school level average number of students who can be assigned to each teacher in the following grade categories:

- 18 students in prekindergarten through grade 3;
- 22 students in grades 4 through 8; and
- 25 students in grades 9 through 12.

Also, the joint resolution requires the maximum number of students who may be assigned to a teacher (while not exceeding the school level average) be as follows:

- 21 students in prekindergarten through grade 3;
- 27 students in grades 4 through 8; and
- 30 students in grades 9 through 12.

The joint resolution also:

- Retains the application of the class size amendment to core-curricula classes;
- Repeals the requirement for a reduction of an average of two students in each classroom per year; and
- Provides that the constitutional class size requirements do not apply to virtual classes.

To take effect upon approval by the electors of this state and to operate retroactively to the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year.

Vote: Senate 26-12; House 77-41