

1 A proposal to revise
2 ARTICLE IX, s. 4, Fla. Const.; authorizing
3 certain counties to be divided into more than
4 one school district.
5
6 It is proposed by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission
7 that:
8
9 Section 1. Section 4 of Article IX of the Florida
10 Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:
11 ARTICLE IX
12 EDUCATION
13 SECTION 4. School districts; school boards.--
14 (a) Each county shall constitute a school district;
15 provided, two or more contiguous counties, upon vote of the
16 electors of each county pursuant to law, may be combined into
17 one school district; and provided further that a county with
18 more than 75,000 students in the district schools within the
19 county may be divided into two or more school districts, each
20 school district to have no fewer than 15,000 students, as
21 provided by law and subject to approval by a vote of the
22 electors of the county. In order to divide a county school
23 district under this provision, and notwithstanding other
24 provisions of this constitution, a commission made up of
25 residents of the county shall be created by special law to
26 draw district boundary lines, allocate assets, and provide for
27 the contractual obligations, debts, and bonded indebtedness of
28 the school district, all of which shall be subject to review
29 and approval by the circuit court for compliance with state
30 and federal law and to ensure racial and ethnic balance.
31 Funding for operation and capital outlay in school districts

1 divided pursuant to this section shall be determined on a
2 countywide basis and distributed to the districts per student
3 per capita as provided by law. Local school taxes in counties
4 divided pursuant to this section, including voted millage for
5 bonded indebtedness, shall be levied on a countywide basis as
6 provided by law.

7 **(b)** In each school district there shall be a school
8 board composed of five or more members chosen by vote of the
9 electors for appropriately staggered terms of four years, as
10 provided by law.

11 **(b)** The school board shall operate, control and
12 supervise all free public schools within the school district
13 and determine the rate of school district taxes within the
14 limits prescribed herein. Two or more school districts may
15 operate and finance joint educational programs.

16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31