

By Commissioner Wetherington

1 A proposal to revise
2 ARTICLE V, s. 8, Fla. Const., and to create
3 ARTICLE XII, s. 21, Fla. Const.; providing for
4 an increase in the length of membership in the
5 Florida bar which is required of a candidate
6 for the office of circuit judge or county
7 judge; providing that a circuit judge or county
8 judge who is in office when this amendment
9 takes effect retains eligibility to serve in
10 that office.

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12 It is proposed by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission
13 that:

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15 Section 1. Section 8 of Article V of the Florida
16 Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:

17 ARTICLE V
18 JUDICIARY

19 SECTION 8. Eligibility.--No person shall be eligible
20 for office of justice or judge of any court unless the person
21 ~~he~~ is an elector of the state and resides in the territorial
22 jurisdiction of the respective ~~his~~ court. No justice or judge
23 shall serve after attaining the age of seventy years except
24 upon temporary assignment or to complete a term, one-half of
25 which the justice or judge ~~he~~ has served. No person is
26 eligible for the office of justice of the supreme court, ~~or~~
27 judge of a district court of appeal, or judge of the circuit
28 court unless the person ~~he~~ is, and has been for the preceding
29 ten years, a member of the bar of Florida. ~~No person is~~
30 ~~eligible for the office of circuit judge unless he is, and has~~
31 ~~been for the preceding five years, a member of the bar of~~

1 ~~Florida.~~Unless otherwise provided by general law, no person
2 is eligible for the office of county court judge unless the
3 person he is, and has been for the preceding ten ~~five~~ years, a
4 member of the bar of Florida. Unless otherwise provided by
5 general law, a person shall be eligible for election or
6 appointment to the office of county court judge in a county
7 having a population of 40,000 or less if the person he is a
8 member in good standing of the bar of Florida.

9 Section 2. Article XII of the Florida Constitution is
10 revised by adding section 21 to that article to read:

11 ARTICLE V

12 JUDICIARY

13 SECTION 21. Circuit and county judges.--Any circuit
14 court judge or county court judge who is in office on the date
15 that the amendment to Section 8 of Article V takes effect,
16 relating to Florida bar membership of 10 years for any such
17 judge, is eligible to qualify and continue to serve in that
18 office.