

By Commissioner Langley

1 A proposal to revise
 2 ARTICLE V, s. 10, Fla. Const.; providing for
 3 the election of justices of the supreme court
 4 and judges of a district court of appeal;
 5 providing for public financing for judicial
 6 elections.
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 8 It is proposed by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission
 9 that:
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 11 Section 1. Section 10 of Article V of the Florida
 12 Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:
 13 ARTICLE V
 14 JUDICIARY
 15 SECTION 10. ~~Retention~~ Election and terms.--
 16 ~~(a) Any justice of the supreme court or any judge of a~~
 17 ~~district court of appeal may qualify for retention by a vote~~
 18 ~~of the electors in the general election next preceding the~~
 19 ~~expiration of his term in the manner prescribed by law. If a~~
 20 ~~justice or judge is ineligible or fails to qualify for~~
 21 ~~retention, a vacancy shall exist in that office upon the~~
 22 ~~expiration of the term being served by the justice or judge.~~
 23 ~~When a justice of the supreme court or a judge of a district~~
 24 ~~court of appeal so qualifies, the ballot shall read~~
 25 ~~substantially as follows: "Shall Justice (or Judge) ... (name~~
 26 ~~of justice or judge) ... of the ... (name of the court) ... be~~
 27 ~~retained in office?" If a majority of the qualified electors~~
 28 ~~voting within the territorial jurisdiction of the court vote~~
 29 ~~to retain, the justice or judge shall be retained for a term~~
 30 ~~of six years commencing on the first Tuesday after the first~~
 31 ~~Monday in January following the general election. If a~~

1 ~~majority of the qualified electors voting within the~~
2 ~~territorial jurisdiction of the court vote to not retain, a~~
3 ~~vacancy shall exist in that office upon the expiration of the~~
4 ~~term being served by the justice or judge.~~

5 (a)(b) Justices of the supreme court, judges of
6 district courts of appeal, circuit judges, and judges of
7 county courts shall be elected by vote of the qualified
8 electors within the territorial jurisdiction of their
9 respective courts. The terms of justices of the supreme
10 court, judges of a district court of appeal, and circuit
11 judges shall be for six years. The terms of judges of county
12 courts shall be for four years.

13 (b) The legislature, by general law, shall provide for
14 public financing of all judicial elections.
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