

By Commissioner Planas

1 A proposal to revise
2 ARTICLE III, s. 15, Fla. Const., and ARTICLE
3 VI, s. 4, Fla. Const.; increasing the term of
4 office of state representatives and state
5 senators; increasing the number of years such
6 officers may serve.

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8 It is proposed by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission
9 that:

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11 Section 1. Section 15 of Article III of the Florida
12 Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:

13 ARTICLE III

14 LEGISLATURE

15 SECTION 15. Terms and qualifications of legislators.--

16 (a) SENATORS. Senators shall be elected for terms of
17 six four years, those from ~~odd-numbered~~ districts the number
18 ~~in the years the numbers~~ of which is divisible by three in
19 each even-numbered year the number of which is a multiple of
20 three; those from even-numbered districts the number of which
21 is not divisible by three in the second year following an
22 even-numbered year the number of which is a multiple of three;
23 and those from odd-numbered districts the number of which is
24 not divisible by three in the fourth year following an
25 even-numbered year the number of which is a multiple of three
26 ~~are multiples of four and those from even-numbered districts~~
27 ~~in even-numbered years the numbers of which are not multiples~~
28 ~~of four; except, at the election next following a~~
29 reapportionment, some senators shall be elected for terms of
30 two years and some for terms of four years when necessary to
31 maintain staggered terms.

1 (b) REPRESENTATIVES. Members of the house of
2 representatives shall be elected for terms of four ~~two~~ years,
3 those from odd-numbered districts in the years the numbers of
4 which are multiples of four and those from even-numbered
5 districts in even-numbered years the numbers of which are not
6 multiples of four; except, at the election next following a
7 reapportionment, some representatives shall be elected for
8 terms of two years when necessary to maintain staggered terms
9 ~~in each even-numbered year.~~

10 (c) QUALIFICATIONS. Each legislator shall be at least
11 twenty-one years of age, an elector and resident of the
12 district from which elected and shall have resided in the
13 state for a period of two years prior to election.

14 (d) ASSUMING OFFICE; VACANCIES. Members of the
15 legislature shall take office upon election. Vacancies in
16 legislative office shall be filled only by election as
17 provided by law.

18 Section 2. Section 4 of Article VI of the Florida
19 Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:

20 ARTICLE VI

21 SUFFRAGE AND ELECTIONS

22 SECTION 4. Disqualifications.--

23 (a) No person convicted of a felony, or adjudicated in
24 this or any other state to be mentally incompetent, shall be
25 qualified to vote or hold office until restoration of civil
26 rights or removal of disability.

27 (b) No person may appear on the ballot for re-election
28 to any of the following offices:

29 (1) Florida representative, or

30 (2) Florida senator,

31 ~~(3) Florida Lieutenant governor,~~

- 1 ~~(4) any office of the Florida cabinet,~~
2 ~~(5) U.S. Representative from Florida, or~~
3 ~~(6) U.S. Senator from Florida~~
4

5 if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will
6 have served (or, but for resignation, would have served) in
7 that office for twelve ~~eight~~ consecutive years.

8 (c) No person may appear on the ballot for re-election
9 to any of the following offices:

- 10 (1) Florida lieutenant governor,
11 (2) Any office of the Florida cabinet,
12 (3) U.S. Representative from Florida, or
13 (4) U.S. Senator from Florida
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15 if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will
16 have served (or, but for resignation, would have served) in
17 that office for eight consecutive years.
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