

By Commissioner Langley

1 A proposal to revise
2 ARTICLE IV, s. 6, and ARTICLE VII, s. 9, Fla.
3 Const.; creating five executive departments of
4 water management and eliminating ad valorem
5 taxing authority for water management purposes.

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

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10 Section 1. Section 6 of Article IV of the Florida
11 Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:

12 ARTICLE IV

13 EXECUTIVE

14 SECTION 6. Executive departments.--All functions of
15 the executive branch of state government shall be allotted
16 among not more than thirty ~~twenty-five~~ departments, exclusive
17 of those specifically provided for or authorized in this
18 constitution. Five of the departments authorized by this
19 section are the Department of Northwest Florida Water
20 Management, the Department of Suwannee River Water Management,
21 the Department of St. Johns River Water Management, the
22 Department of Southwest Florida Water Management, and the
23 Department of South Florida Water Management.The
24 administration of each department, unless otherwise provided
25 in this constitution, shall be placed by law under the direct
26 supervision of the governor, the lieutenant governor, the
27 governor and cabinet, a cabinet member, or an officer or board
28 appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the governor,
29 except:

30 (a) When provided by law, confirmation by the senate
31 or the approval of three members of the cabinet shall be

1 required for appointment to or removal from any designated
2 statutory office.

3 (b) Boards authorized to grant and revoke licenses to
4 engage in regulated occupations shall be assigned to
5 appropriate departments and their members appointed for fixed
6 terms, subject to removal only for cause.

7 Section 2. Section 9 of Article VII of the Florida
8 Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:

9 ARTICLE VII

10 FINANCE AND TAXATION

11 SECTION 9. Local taxes.--

12 (a) Counties, school districts, and municipalities
13 shall, and special districts may, be authorized by law to levy
14 ad valorem taxes and may be authorized by general law to levy
15 other taxes, for their respective purposes, except ad valorem
16 taxes on intangible personal property and taxes prohibited by
17 this constitution.

18 (b) Ad valorem taxes, exclusive of taxes levied for
19 the payment of bonds and taxes levied for periods not longer
20 than two years when authorized by vote of the electors who are
21 the owners of freeholds therein not wholly exempt from
22 taxation, shall not be levied in excess of the following
23 millages upon the assessed value of real estate and tangible
24 personal property: for all county purposes, ten mills; for all
25 municipal purposes, ten mills; for all school purposes, ten
26 mills; ~~for water management purposes for the northwest portion~~
27 ~~of the state lying west of the line between ranges two and~~
28 ~~three east, 0.05 mill; for water management purposes for the~~
29 ~~remaining portions of the state, 1.0 mill; and for all other~~
30 special districts a millage authorized by law approved by vote
31 of the electors who are owners of freeholds therein not wholly

1 exempt from taxation. A county furnishing municipal services
2 may, to the extent authorized by law, levy additional taxes
3 within the limits fixed for municipal purposes.
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