

By Commissioner Washington

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1 A proposal to amend
2 Section 7 of Article IX of the State Constitution to
3 establish the minimum vote threshold required to be
4 met by the board of trustees of a state university and
5 the Board of Governors of the State University System
6 in order to implement any tuition or fee increase.

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8 Be It Proposed by the Constitution Revision Commission of
9 Florida:

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11 Section 7 of Article IX of the State Constitution is
12 amended to read:

13 ARTICLE IX

14 EDUCATION

15 SECTION 7. State University System.—

16 (a) PURPOSES. In order to achieve excellence through
17 teaching students, advancing research and providing public
18 service for the benefit of Florida's citizens, their communities
19 and economies, the people hereby establish a system of
20 governance for the state university system of Florida.

21 (b) STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM. There shall be a single state
22 university system comprised of all public universities. A board
23 of trustees shall administer each public university and a board
24 of governors shall govern the state university system.

25 (c) LOCAL BOARDS OF TRUSTEES. Each local constituent
26 university shall be administered by a board of trustees
27 consisting of thirteen members dedicated to the purposes of the
28 state university system. The board of governors shall establish
29 the powers and duties of the boards of trustees. Each board of
30 trustees shall consist of six citizen members appointed by the
31 governor and five citizen members appointed by the board of
32 governors. The appointed members shall be confirmed by the

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33 senate and serve staggered terms of five years as provided by
34 law. The chair of the faculty senate, or the equivalent, and the
35 president of the student body of the university shall also be
36 members.

37 (d) STATEWIDE BOARD OF GOVERNORS. The board of governors
38 shall be a body corporate consisting of seventeen members. The
39 board shall operate, regulate, control, and be fully responsible
40 for the management of the whole university system. These
41 responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to, defining
42 the distinctive mission of each constituent university and its
43 articulation with free public schools and community colleges,
44 ensuring the well-planned coordination and operation of the
45 system, and avoiding wasteful duplication of facilities or
46 programs. The board's management shall be subject to the powers
47 of the legislature to appropriate for the expenditure of funds,
48 and the board shall account for such expenditures as provided by
49 law. The governor shall appoint to the board fourteen citizens
50 dedicated to the purposes of the state university system. The
51 appointed members shall be confirmed by the senate and serve
52 staggered terms of seven years as provided by law. The
53 commissioner of education, the chair of the advisory council of
54 faculty senates, or the equivalent, and the president of the
55 Florida student association, or the equivalent, shall also be
56 members of the board.

57 (e) TUITION OR FEE INCREASES. Any proposal or action that
58 increases tuition or fees of a constituent university must be
59 approved by at least nine affirmative votes of the members of
60 the board of trustees of the constituent university and at least
61 twelve affirmative votes of the members of the board of

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governors in order to take effect.