



896148

CRC ACTION

Commissioner .  
Comm: FAV .  
01/19/2018 .  
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The Committee on Executive (Diaz) recommended the following:

**CRC Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the proposing clause  
and insert:

Section 8 of Article V of the State Constitution is amended  
to read:

ARTICLE V

JUDICIARY

SECTION 8. Eligibility.—

No person shall be eligible for office of justice or judge  
of any court unless the person is an elector of the state and



12 resides in the territorial jurisdiction of the court. No justice  
13 or judge shall serve after attaining the age of seventy years  
14 except upon temporary assignment or to complete a term, one-half  
15 of which has been served. No person is eligible for the office  
16 of justice of the supreme court or judge of a district court of  
17 appeal unless the person is, and has been for the preceding ten  
18 years, a member of the bar of Florida. No person is eligible for  
19 the office of circuit judge unless the person is, and has been  
20 for the preceding five years, a member of the bar of Florida. No  
21 person is eligible for the office of circuit judge unless the  
22 person is, and has been for the preceding ten years, a member of  
23 a bar of one of the states or territories of the United States  
24 of America. No ~~Unless otherwise provided by general law, no~~  
25 person is eligible for the office of county court judge unless  
26 the person is, and has been for the preceding five years, a  
27 member of the bar of Florida. No person is eligible for the  
28 office of county court judge unless the person is, and has been  
29 for the preceding ten years, a member of a bar of one of the  
30 states or territories of the United States of America.  
31 Notwithstanding the foregoing, unless ~~Unless~~ otherwise provided  
32 by general law, a person shall be eligible for election or  
33 appointment to the office of county court judge in a county  
34 having a population of 40,000 or less if the person is a member  
35 in good standing of the bar of Florida.

36  
37 A new section is added to Article XII of the State  
38 Constitution to read:

39 ARTICLE XII  
40 SCHEDULE



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41       Qualifications of circuit judges and county court judges.-  
42 The amendment to Section 8 of Article V, which revises the  
43 qualifications for a person to be eligible for the office of  
44 circuit judge and county court judge, shall only apply  
45 prospectively from January 8, 2019. The amendment may not be  
46 construed to affect a person who has assumed the office of  
47 circuit judge or county court judge on or before January 8,  
48 2019, or any person who has been nominated for a vacancy in the  
49 office of circuit judge or county court judge by a judicial  
50 nominating commission, but has not yet assumed office, as of  
51 January 8, 2019.

52  
53 ===== T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T =====

54 And the title is amended as follows:

55       Delete everything before the proposing clause  
56 and insert:

57                       A proposal to amend  
58       Section 8 of Article V and to create a new section in  
59       Article XII of the State Constitution to require a  
60       person to have at least ten years membership in a bar  
61       in the United States of America, the preceding five of  
62       which must be in The Florida Bar, in order to be  
63       eligible to serve in the office of circuit or county  
64       judge.