Constitution Revision Commission Legislative Committee Proposal Analysis

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the proposal as of the latest date listed below.)

Proposal #: P 50

Relating to: LEGISLATURE, Terms and qualifications of legislators

Introducer(s): Commissioner Diaz

Article/Section affected: Article III/Section 15

Date: November 21, 2017

REFERENCE ACTION

1. LE **Pre-meeting**

I. SUMMARY:

Proposal 50 amends Section 15 of Article III of the State Constitution to require that, except in years of reapportionment, legislative candidates must be residents of the districts for which the candidates seek office at the time of qualifying.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

The language in Article III, Section 15 currently requires legislators to be residents of the district from which they are elected, but does not require legislative candidates to be residents. Residency qualifications must be met upon assuming office, rather than when qualifying to run for office.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Proposal 50 amends Section 15 of Article III of the Florida Constitution to require legislative candidates, at the time of qualifying, to be residents of the districts for which the candidates seek office. This requirement is not in effect during years of reapportionment.¹

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None.

¹ See Section 16 of Article III of the Florida Constitution regarding apportionment.

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III. Additional Information:

A. Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the current version and the prior version of the proposal.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

C. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

D. Related Issues:

Rule 1S-2.0001, F.A.C. - Designation of Division of Elections as Filing Office for Department of State; Requirements for Candidate Qualifying Papers; Withdrawal of Candidacy will need to be updated reflecting any changes resulting from the final passage of Proposal 50.