



CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMISSION

2017 - 2018

CARLOS BERUFF, CHAIRMAN

May 26, 2017

Dear fellow Commissioners:

I wanted to give you an update on two important items.

First, I know several Commissioners have questions as it relates to the schedule over the next year. I recognize that we all have busy schedules and important commitments. That being said, I asked our staff to coordinate a proposed schedule and balance that with the many moving timelines, logistics and individual Commissioner schedules. Once the Commission has adopted Rules, the specifics of the schedule should be led by the Rules and Administration Committee, after getting input from each of you. In the meantime though, for planning purposes, following is the proposed block calendar:

- June 6, 2017 – Full Commission Meeting for purpose of considering Rules (Orlando).
- June 22, 2017 – Public hearing in Central Florida, details to follow.
- July and August 2017 – Voluntary training on various procedural and substantive issues.
- August 23 or 24, 2017 – Final public hearing of the first phase of public hearings in Broward County.
- Late August to December 2017 – Committee meetings (being considerate of the Legislature's committee schedule and fall holidays).
- Late February and March 2018 – Public hearing phase two; we will take public input on the work of the Commission up to that point, prior to any votes on final passage.
- March and April – Full Commission meetings for the purpose of hearing proposals.
- May 10, 2018 – Final report due to the Florida Department of State.

Next, I have an update on the development of our Rules. As you know, I asked the Rules Working Group to convene with the purpose of finding consensus on the Rules where possible. Although consensus was achieved in some areas, there were many other areas where consensus was not reached. In light of the extensive time required by the working group to continue its work and the likelihood that much of their discussion will need to be reiterated with the full Commission, I think you will agree that consensus on Rules must be achieved on an expedited timeline to ensure we can continue our very important commitment to Floridians.

With the ultimate objective to include all of you in our rule development process, I am noticing a full meeting of the Commission to convene on Tuesday, June 6 at 9:00 am for the sole purpose of considering the Rules of the Commission. The Commission meeting will be held in Orlando to provide for a more central location for Commissioners. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided. I intend to break for lunch from 12:30 – 2:00 pm, which will provide time for Commissioners to eat at the restaurant of their choosing. Lunch will be at your discretion. After lunch, the meeting will continue until the Commission has finished its work.

In terms of the amendatory process, you can anticipate the following:

1. The Commission will take up the same proposed Rules that were presented at the organization meeting on March 20. Staff will re-send those proposed Rules in resolution format to all Commissioners.
2. The Commission will hear and vote on all amendments timely filed by Commissioners.
3. Any Commissioner can propose an amendment to the Rules. Each amendment will be taken up in the order in which it was filed and disposed of in this manner:
 - a. Each amendment sponsor is responsible for moving his or her amendment, explaining the amendment, and answering questions on the amendment. Sponsors will also close debate on their amendment.
 - b. Adoption of amendments will be by a majority vote of Commissioners present and voting.
 - c. Amendments will be disposed of by a voice vote and results declared by the Chairman.
 - d. If the call of the Chair is doubted by the showing of hands of at least 5 Commissioners, a roll call vote will be taken and recorded.
 - e. The vote on final adoption of the Rules will be taken by a roll call vote.
4. The amendment filing deadline is set for noon on Thursday, June 1.
5. Adhering amendment deadline is set for noon on Friday, June 2 (i.e. amendment to amendment).
6. Because of staffing and technology limitations, floor amendments will not be permitted.
7. All amendments must be filed by email and sent to Elisa Weber at elisa.weber@flcrc.gov.
8. Staff will send out daily emails with all filed amendments by close of business each day and post all amendments to the Commission website.
9. Staff is available to assist any Commissioner who wishes to amend the proposed rules.

If you have any concerns with the draft block calendar or amendatory process, please let Jeff Woodburn know.

Sincerely,



Carlos Beruff

Chairman
Constitution Revision Commission