

Amendment No. 12

Commissioner M. Barnett offered the following:

**Amendment to Substitute Amendment (Amendment No. 8) (with  
ballot statement and title amendments)**

Remove lines 5-121 and insert:

That the following creation of Section 19 of Article VII of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE VII

FINANCE AND TAXATION

SECTION 19. State and local government fiscal  
responsibility commission.--

(a) The legislature shall by general law create the State  
and Local Government Fiscal Responsibility Commission, to  
convene between May 15, 2009 and December 31, 2010.

(b) The State and Local Government Fiscal Responsibility  
Commission shall study, examine, and determine whether to  
recommend revisions to Florida's state and local fiscal system  
through revenue limits on the state, counties, municipalities,  
special districts and school districts. The commission shall  
study the following issues in its deliberations:

1. options by which to calculate any recommended revenue  
limit, including but not limited to growth indices;

2. exclusions for the fiscal impact of transfers of  
responsibility for the funding of governmental functions and

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services among local governments or between local governments  
and the state;

3. incentives for prudent governmental fiscal practices;

4. exclusions and exemptions for fiscally distressed  
governmental units;

5. the identification of revenues to be limited;

6. exemptions and exclusions from any revenue limit and  
from the defined categories of revenues; and

7. maintenance of community control over the ability to  
suspend any revenue limits based on local conditions and needs.

(c) The commission shall consist of 15 members, as  
follows: nine members appointed by the Governor, one of whom  
shall be the chairperson, three of whom shall be members of the  
governing board of a county or appointed county officials at the  
time of appointment, three of whom shall be elected or appointed  
municipal officials at the time of appointment, three of whom  
shall be elected or appointed school board officials at the time  
of appointment; three members appointed by the President of the  
Florida Senate; and three members appointed by the Speaker of  
the Florida House of Representatives. Vacancies in the  
membership of the commission shall be filled in the same manner  
as the original appointments.

(d) The commission shall conduct its study, examination,  
and deliberations pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section by  
incorporating the expertise and learning of prior task forces,  
commissions, committees, studies and academic institutions  
engaged in local government studies and state agencies with  
responsibility for assisting local governments. The commission

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56 may request documents, conduct public hearings, take the  
57 testimony of witnesses in the form and manner which it deems  
58 most efficient, and take all other actions necessary to carry  
59 out its functions.

60 (e) The commission shall submit a report setting forth its  
61 recommendations, including any recommendations for proposed  
62 constitutional amendments or revisions and other legislative  
63 action to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the  
64 Speaker of the House of Representatives, by December 31, 2010.

65 (f) The legislature shall make annual state appropriations  
66 to ensure that the commission has sufficient funds to fulfill  
67 its constitutional duty.

68  
69 == B A L L O T S T A T E M E N T A M E N D M E N T ==

70 Remove lines 124-136 and insert:

71 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

72 ARTICLE VII, SECTION 19

73 LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY COMMISSION.--

74 Requires the Legislature to create the State and Local  
75 Government Fiscal Responsibility Commission to study and  
76 recommend whether Florida's state and local governments should  
77 be subject to revenue limits and how those limits, if  
78 recommended, should be designed. Requires the Commission to  
79 report its findings to the Governor, President of the Senate,  
80 and Speaker of the House by December 31, 2010; requires adequate  
81 state funding of the commission.

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

Remove lines 139-144 and insert:

Resolution of the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission

A resolution creating Section 19 of Article VII of the State  
Constitution to require the legislature to create the State and  
Local Government Fiscal Responsibility Commission to study  
Florida's fiscal system through revenue limits on the state,  
counties, municipalities, special districts and school  
districts; require a report to be filed by December 31, 2010  
with recommended proposed legislative or constitutional  
amendments or revisions; require adequate state funding of the  
commission.