

Amendment No. 1

Commissioner(s) _____ offered the following:

Amendment (with ballot statement and title amendments)

Remove lines 10-74 and insert:

That the following amendment to Section 3 of Article VII and the creation of a new section in Article XII 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 3. Taxes; exemptions.-

(a) All property owned by a municipality and used exclusively by it for municipal or public purposes shall be exempt from taxation. A municipality, owning property outside the municipality, may be required by general law to make payment to the taxing unit in which the property is located. Such portions of property as are used predominantly for educational, literary, scientific, religious or charitable purposes may be exempted by general law from taxation.

(b) There shall be exempt from taxation, cumulatively, to every head of a family residing in this state, household goods and personal effects to the value fixed by general law, not less than one thousand dollars, and to every widow or widower or person who is blind or totally and permanently disabled,

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27 property to the value fixed by general law not less than five
28 hundred dollars.

29 (c) Any county or municipality may, for the purpose of its
30 respective tax levy and subject to the provisions of this
31 subsection and general law, grant community and economic
32 development ad valorem tax exemptions to new businesses and
33 expansions of existing businesses, as defined by general law.
34 Such an exemption may be granted only by ordinance of the county
35 or municipality, and only after the electors of the county or
36 municipality voting on such question in a referendum authorize
37 the county or municipality to adopt such ordinances. An
38 exemption so granted shall apply to improvements to real
39 property made by or for the use of a new business and
40 improvements to real property related to the expansion of an
41 existing business and shall also apply to tangible personal
42 property of such new business and tangible personal property
43 related to the expansion of an existing business. The amount or
44 limits of the amount of such exemption shall be specified by
45 general law. The period of time for which such exemption may be
46 granted to a new business or expansion of an existing business
47 shall be determined by general law. The authority to grant such
48 exemption shall expire ten years from the date of approval by
49 the electors of the county or municipality, and may be renewable
50 by referendum as provided by general law.

51 (d) By general law and subject to conditions specified
52 therein, there may be granted an ad valorem tax exemption to a
53 renewable energy source device and to real property on which

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54 such device is installed and operated, to the value fixed by
55 general law not to exceed the original cost of the device, and
56 for the period of time fixed by general law not to exceed ten
57 years.

58 (e) Any county or municipality may, for the purpose of its
59 respective tax levy and subject to the provisions of this
60 subsection and general law, grant historic preservation ad
61 valorem tax exemptions to owners of historic properties. This
62 exemption may be granted only by ordinance of the county or
63 municipality. The amount or limits of the amount of this
64 exemption and the requirements for eligible properties must be
65 specified by general law. The period of time for which this
66 exemption may be granted to a property owner shall be determined
67 by general law.

68 (f) Real property used for conservation purposes shall be
69 exempt from ad valorem taxation. The legislature shall define
70 "conservation purposes," and may make the exemption subject to
71 conditions established by law.

ARTICLE XII

SCHEDULE

74 The amendment to Article VII, Section 3, creating an ad
75 valorem tax exemption for real property used for conservation
76 purposes, and this section, shall take effect January 1, 2010.
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81 == B A L L O T S T A T E M E N T A M E N D M E N T ==

82 Remove lines 79-83 and insert:

83 ARTICLE XII

84 AD VALOREM TAXATION OF LAND USED FOR CONSERVATION

85 PURPOSES.--This amendment to the State Constitution creates an
86 ad valorem tax exemption for real property used for conservation
87 purposes. The Legislature must define "conservation purposes"
88 and may make the exemption subject to conditions established by
89 law.

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

91 . Remove lines 3-6 and insert:

92 Article VII and the creation of a new section in Article XII of
93 the State Constitution to create an ad valorem tax exemption for
94 real property used for conservation purposes and to require the
95 Legislature to define conservation purposes and to permit the
96 Legislature to make the exemption subject to conditions
97 established by law.