

Tab 1	SB 982 by Bernard ; Similar to H 00635 Candidate Qualifying
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Tab 2	SB 1170 by Yarborough ; Similar to H 00109 Conduct in Polling Places
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Tab 3	SJR 536 by Ingoglia ; Similar to H 00637 Term Limits Applicable to State Representatives and State Senators
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Tab 4	SJR 802 by Ingoglia ; Identical to H 00679 Term Limits for Members of Boards of County Commissioners and District School Boards
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The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

ETHICS AND ELECTIONS
Senator Gaetz, Chair
Senator Bernard, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Monday, March 17, 2025
TIME: 1:30—3:30 p.m.
PLACE: Mallory Horne Committee Room, 37 Senate Building

MEMBERS: Senator Gaetz, Chair; Senator Bernard, Vice Chair; Senators Avila, Bradley, Collins, Garcia, Grall, Polsky, and Rouson

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	SB 982 Bernard (Similar H 635, Compare H 1381, S 956, S 1414)	Candidate Qualifying; Authorizing a candidate to pay the filing fee by a debit card linked to the candidate's campaign account; revising the timeframe during which a candidate may pay a filing fee if the initial payment is rejected by a bank; providing for standing for challenges to a candidate's qualification for nomination or election to office; providing procedures and requirements regarding such challenges, etc. EE 03/17/2025 Fav/CS JU RC	Fav/CS Yeas 8 Nays 0
2	SB 1170 Yarborough (Similar H 109, Compare H 1381, S 1414)	Conduct in Polling Places; Authorizing members of the public to take photographs before the polls open and after the polls close, etc. EE 03/17/2025 Temporarily Postponed JU RC	Temporarily Postponed
3	SJR 536 Ingoglia (Similar HJR 637)	Term Limits Applicable to State Representatives and State Senators; Proposing amendments to the State Constitution to revise the term limits applicable to state representatives and state senators and to provide an effective date, etc. EE 03/10/2025 Temporarily Postponed EE 03/17/2025 Favorable JU RC	Favorable Yeas 6 Nays 2
4	SJR 802 Ingoglia (Identical HJR 679)	Term Limits for Members of Boards of County Commissioners and District School Boards; Proposing amendments to the State Constitution to provide term limits for members of boards of county commissioners and district school boards, etc. EE 03/10/2025 Temporarily Postponed EE 03/17/2025 Favorable CA RC	Favorable Yeas 6 Nays 2

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

Ethics and Elections

Monday, March 17, 2025, 1:30—3:30 p.m.

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
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Other Related Meeting Documents

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Ethics and Elections

BILL: CS/SB 982

INTRODUCER: Ethics and Elections Committee and Senator Bernard

SUBJECT: Candidate Qualifying

DATE: March 18, 2025

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Biehl</u>	<u>Roberts</u>	<u>EE</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2.	_____	_____	<u>JU</u>	_____
3.	_____	_____	<u>RC</u>	_____

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 982 makes the following changes regarding candidate qualifying and use of debit cards:

- Authorizes a candidate for an office, other than judicial office or school board member, to pay his or her filing fee by a debit card linked to the candidate's campaign account.
- Grants a candidate for nomination or election to an office the standing to challenge in a circuit court whether another candidate for the same office has met the requirements outlined in subsection for qualification.
- Revises the requirements for a candidate's or political committee's use of a debit card for expenses or expenditures.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.

II. Present Situation:

Qualifying Process

Current law prescribes the process by which a person seeking nomination or election to a public office may qualify to do so.¹ Such a person must file his or her qualification papers with, and pay the qualifying fee² to, the relevant filing officer.³ The law also provides a process by which a person can obtain a certain number of signed petitions in lieu of paying the qualifying fee.⁴

In order for a candidate⁵ for an office other than a judgeship or school board to be qualified, the following items must be received by the filing officer by the end of the qualifying period:⁶

- A properly executed check drawn upon the candidate's campaign account for the filing fee, unless the candidate qualified by petition.⁷ If a candidate's check is returned by the bank for any reason, the filing officer must immediately notify the candidate. The candidate has until the end of the qualifying period to pay the fee with a cashier's check purchased from funds of the campaign account.⁸
- The candidate's oath, as required by s. 99.021, F.S.
- If the office sought is partisan, the written statement of political party affiliation required by s. 99.021(1)(b), F.S.; or if the candidate is running without party affiliation for a partisan office, the written statement required by s. 99.021(1)(c), F.S.
- The completed form for the appointment of campaign treasurer and designation of campaign depository.
- The candidate's financial disclosure.⁹

¹ Sections 99.061 and 105.031, F.S.

² The qualifying fee consists of the filing fee and election assessment, and party assessment, if applicable (ss. 99.061(1), 99.092(1), and 105.031(3), F.S.). Write-in candidates are exempt from the filing fee requirement (s. 99.092(1), F.S.).

³ The filing officer for a federal, state, or multicounty district office, other than a judicial office or school board member, is the Department of State (s. 99.061(1), F.S.). The filing officer for a county office, or for a district office that is not multicounty, is the local supervisor of elections (s. 99.061(2), F.S.). Except for candidates for judicial office, nonpartisan candidates for multicounty office qualify with the Department of State, and nonpartisan candidates for countywide or less than countywide office file with the supervisor of elections. Candidates for county court judge file with the supervisor of elections; all other judicial candidates file with the Department of State. Section 105.031(1), F.S.

⁴ Sections 99.095 and 105.035, F.S.

⁵ Section 106.011(3), F.S., defines "candidate" to mean a person to whom any of the following applies: 1) a person who seeks to qualify for nomination or election by means of the petitioning process; 2) a person who seeks to qualify for election as a write-in candidate; 3) a person who receives contributions or makes expenditures, or consents for any other person to receive contributions or make expenditures, with a view to bring about his or her nomination or election to, or retention in, public office; 4) a person who appoints a treasurer and designates a primary depository; or 5) a person who files qualification papers and subscribes to a candidate's oath as required by law. The definition excludes any candidate for a political party executive committee.

⁶ The qualifying period for the following offices is between the 120th and 116th days prior to the primary election: federal office, state attorney, public defender, or judicial office. The qualifying period for the following offices is between the 71st and 67th days prior to the primary election: state or multicounty district office, other than state attorney or public defender; county office or single-county district office; or school board. See ss. 99.061 and 105.031, F.S.

⁷ The filing fee for a special district candidate is not required be drawn upon his or her campaign account (s. 99.061(7)(a)1., F.S.).

⁸ In contrast, the qualifying provisions governing candidates for judgeships and school boards allows a candidate 48 hours from the time notification of the returned check is received, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays (s. 105.031(5)(a)1., F.S.).

⁹ Section 99.061(7)(a), F.S.

In 2024, the Florida Fourth District Court of Appeal upheld a lower court's ruling that disqualified five candidates for county commission because they paid the filing fee with a debit card instead of a check.¹⁰

Expenditures by Candidates and Political Committees – Use of Debit Cards

The campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer of a candidate or political committee may make expenditures¹¹ from funds on deposit in the primary campaign depository only by means of a bank check drawn upon the campaign account of the candidate or political committee.¹² For purposes of the section governing expenses of and expenditures by candidates and political committees, debit cards are considered bank checks if:

- Debit cards are obtained from the same bank that has been designated as the candidate's or political committee's primary campaign depository.
- Debit cards are issued in the name of the treasurer, deputy treasurer, or authorized user and contain the name of the campaign account of the candidate or political committee.
- No more than three debit cards are requested and issued.
- The person using the debit card does not receive cash as part of, or independent of, any transaction for goods or services.
- All receipts for debit cards contain:
 - The last four digits of the debit card number.
 - The exact amount of the expenditure.
 - The name of the payee.
 - The signature of the campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer, or authorized user.
 - The exact purpose for which the expenditure is authorized.¹³

In the 2024 case discussed above, the qualifying of the county commission candidates was also challenged because the receipt for payment of the filing fee provided by the filing officer did not have a signature line and therefore was not signed by the campaign treasurer who made the expenditure.¹⁴

Challenge of Election Results

The certification of election or nomination of any person to office, or of the result on any question submitted by referendum, may be contested in the circuit court by any unsuccessful candidate for such office or nomination thereto or by any elector qualified to vote in the election related to such candidacy, or by any taxpayer. The grounds for contesting an election are:

- Misconduct, fraud, or corruption on the part of any election official or any member of the canvassing board sufficient to change or place in doubt the result of the election.

¹⁰ *Wyly v. Felder*, 398 So.2d 463 (Fla. 4th DCA 2024).

¹¹ Section 106.011(10)(a), F.S., defines "expenditure" to mean a purchase, payment, distribution, loan, advance, transfer of funds by a campaign manager or deputy campaign treasurer between a primary deposit and a separate interest-bearing account or certificate of deposit, or gift of money or anything of value made for the purpose of influencing the results of an election or making an electioneering communication.

¹² Section 106.11(a)(a), F.S.

¹³ Section 106.11(2)(a), F.S.

¹⁴ *Wyly*, *supra* note 11.

- Ineligibility of the successful candidate for the nomination or office in dispute.
- Receipt of a number of illegal votes or rejection of a number of legal votes sufficient to change or place in doubt the result of the election.
- Proof that any elector, election official, or canvassing board member was given or offered a bribe or reward for the purpose of procuring the successful candidate's nomination or election or determining the result on any question submitted by referendum.¹⁵

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Qualifying Process

CS/SB 982 authorizes a candidate for an office other than judicial office or school board member to pay his or her filing fee by a debit card linked to the candidate's campaign account. Candidates for judicial office or school board membership would still be limited to payment by check.

Challenges to Candidates

The bill grants a candidate for nomination or election to an office standing to challenge in circuit court whether another candidate for the same office has complied with the subsection setting forth the items that must be received in order for a candidate to be qualified. The bill prescribes the following process for such a challenge:

- A complaint setting forth the grounds of the challenge must be filed within 10 days after midnight of the end of the qualifying period.
- The filing officer and any supervisor of elections responsible for conducting the election are indispensable parties to any such challenge.
- A copy of the complaint must be served upon the defendant and any other person named in the complaint in the same manner as in other civil cases under state law.
- Within 10 days after service of the complaint, the defendant must file an answer admitting to or denying the allegations.
- A candidate who makes such a challenge is entitled to an immediate hearing.

If a final order of a court determines that a person did not comply with the subsection setting forth the items that must be received in order for a candidate to be qualified, that person is disqualified from appearing on the ballot.

The bill does not appear to allow an opposing candidate to challenge the veracity of the documents required for qualification.

Expenditures by Candidates and Political Committees – Use of Debit Cards

The bill revises the requirements for a candidate's or political committee's use of a debit card for expenses or expenditures. Specifically, the bill revises the requirement that all debit card receipts contain the signature of the campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer, or authorized user to provide that such signature is required only if the receipt bears a signature line.

¹⁵ Section 102.168, F.S.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.

IV. Constitutional Issues:**A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Some candidates may incur litigation costs pursuant to the new cause of action created by the bill.

C. Government Sector Impact:

Filing officers that do not currently have equipment to process debit cards will incur costs to purchase it.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 99.061 and 106.11.

IX. Additional Information:

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Ethics and Elections on March 17, 2025:

The committee substitute removes from the bill a change to the length of time a candidate whose filing-fee check is returned by the bank has to pay the filing fee via cashier's check.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.



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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/17/2025	.	
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	.	

The Committee on Ethics and Elections (Bernard) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 38 - 44
and insert:
candidate's campaign account. If a candidate's check is returned
by the bank for any reason, the filing officer must ~~shall~~
immediately notify the candidate and the candidate must ~~shall~~
have until the end of qualifying to pay the fee with a

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



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11 And the title is amended as follows:
12 Delete lines 5 - 7
13 and insert:
14 campaign account; providing for standing

By Senator Bernard

24-01115-25

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1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to candidate qualifying; amending s.
 3 99.061, F.S.; authorizing a candidate to pay the
 4 filing fee by a debit card linked to the candidate's
 5 campaign account; revising the timeframe during which
 6 a candidate may pay a filing fee if the initial
 7 payment is rejected by a bank; providing for standing
 8 for challenges to a candidate's qualification for
 9 nomination or election to office; providing procedures
 10 and requirements regarding such challenges; providing
 11 for immediate hearings in such challenges, subject to
 12 limitations; prohibiting a person from appearing on
 13 the ballot under certain circumstances; amending s.
 14 106.11, F.S.; revising conditions under which debit
 15 cards are considered bank checks for purposes of
 16 certain campaign expenditures; providing an effective
 17 date.
 18
 19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
 20
 21 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section
 22 99.061, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (d) is added
 23 to that subsection, to read:
 24 99.061 Method of qualifying for nomination or election to
 25 federal, state, county, or district office.—
 26 (7)(a) In order for a candidate to be qualified, the
 27 following items must be received by the filing officer by the
 28 end of the qualifying period:
 29 1. The filing fee ~~A properly executed check drawn upon the~~

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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30 ~~candidate's campaign account~~ payable to the person or entity as
 31 prescribed by the filing officer in an amount not less than the
 32 fee required by s. 99.092 by a properly executed check drawn
 33 upon the candidate's campaign account or by a debit card linked
 34 to the candidate's campaign account as provided in s. 106.11(2),
 35 unless the candidate obtained the required number of signatures
 36 on petitions pursuant to s. 99.095. The filing fee for a special
 37 district candidate is not required to be drawn upon the
 38 candidate's campaign account. If a candidate's payment is
 39 rejected ~~check is returned~~ by the bank for any reason, the
 40 filing officer must ~~shall~~ immediately notify the candidate and
 41 the candidate must, irrespective of whether the qualifying
 42 period has ended, have 48 hours from the time such notification
 43 is received, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays,
 44 ~~shall have until the end of qualifying to~~ pay the fee with a
 45 cashier's check purchased from funds of the campaign account.
 46 Failure to pay the fee as provided in this subparagraph shall
 47 disqualify the candidate.
 48 2. The candidate's oath required by s. 99.021, which must
 49 contain the name of the candidate as it is to appear on the
 50 ballot; the office sought, including the district or group
 51 number if applicable; and the signature of the candidate, which
 52 must be verified under oath or affirmation pursuant to s.
 53 92.525(1)(a).
 54 3. If the office sought is partisan, the written statement
 55 of political party affiliation required by s. 99.021(1)(b); or
 56 if the candidate is running without party affiliation for a
 57 partisan office, the written statement required by s.
 58 99.021(1)(c).

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59 4. The completed form for the appointment of campaign
60 treasurer and designation of campaign depository, as required by
61 s. 106.021.

62 5. The full and public disclosure or statement of financial
63 interests required by subsection (5). A public officer who has
64 filed the full and public disclosure or statement of financial
65 interests with the Commission on Ethics before qualifying for
66 office may file a copy of that disclosure or a verification or
67 receipt of electronic filing as provided in subsection (5) at
68 the time of qualifying.

69 (d) A candidate for nomination or election to an office has
70 standing to challenge in circuit court whether another candidate
71 for the same office has complied with the requirements of this
72 subsection.

73 1. A complaint setting forth the grounds of the challenge
74 must be filed with the clerk of the circuit court within 10 days
75 after midnight of the end of the qualifying period.

76 2. The filing officer and any supervisor of elections
77 responsible for conducting the election are indispensable
78 parties to any such challenge.

79 3. A copy of the complaint must be served upon the
80 defendant and any other person named in the complaint in the
81 same manner as in other civil cases under state law. Within 10
82 days after the complaint has been served, a defendant must file
83 an answer admitting to or denying the allegations on which the
84 plaintiff relies or stating that the defendant has no knowledge
85 or information concerning the allegations, which must be deemed
86 a denial of the allegations, and must state any other defenses,
87 in law or fact, on which the defendant relies.

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88 4. Any candidate presenting such a challenge is entitled to
89 an immediate hearing. However, the court may limit the time for
90 taking testimony in any such hearing, as appropriate based on
91 the circumstances of the matter and the proximity of the
92 succeeding election.

93 5. If an order of a court that has become final determines
94 that a person did not comply with this subsection, the person is
95 not qualified as a candidate for election, and his or her name
96 may not appear on the ballot.

97 Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
98 106.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

99 106.11 Expenses of and expenditures by candidates and
100 political committees.—Each candidate and each political
101 committee which designates a primary campaign depository
102 pursuant to s. 106.021(1) shall make expenditures from funds on
103 deposit in such primary campaign depository only in the
104 following manner, with the exception of expenditures made from
105 petty cash funds provided by s. 106.12:

106 (2) (a) For purposes of this section, debit cards are
107 considered bank checks, if:

108 1. Debit cards are obtained from the same bank that has
109 been designated as the candidate's or political committee's
110 primary campaign depository.

111 2. Debit cards are issued in the name of the treasurer,
112 deputy treasurer, or authorized user and contain the name of the
113 campaign account of the candidate or political committee.

114 3. No more than three debit cards are requested and issued.

115 4. The person using the debit card does not receive cash as
116 part of, or independent of, any transaction for goods or

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services.

5. All receipts for debit card transactions contain:

a. The last four digits of the debit card number.

b. The exact amount of the expenditure.

c. The name of the payee.

d. The signature of the campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer, or authorized user, if the receipt has a signature line for the campaign treasurer, deputy treasurer, or authorized user to sign.

e. The exact purpose for which the expenditure is authorized.

Any information required by this subparagraph but not included on the debit card transaction receipt may be handwritten on, or attached to, the receipt by the authorized user before submission to the treasurer.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.



The Florida Senate

Committee Agenda Request

To: Senator Don Gaetz, Chair
Committee on Ethics and Elections

Subject: Committee Agenda Request

Date: March 6, 2025

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill #982**, relating to Candidate Qualifying, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mack Bernard".

Senator Mack Bernard
Florida Senate, District 24

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

17 March 2025
Meeting Date

SB 982
Bill Number or Topic

Ethics & Elections
Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Mark Hegron

Phone (850) 567-4878

Address 2618 Centennial Place
Street

Email mhegron@lawfla.com

Tallahassee FL 32308
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information **OR** Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.
- I am a registered lobbyist, representing:
- I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Ethics and Elections

BILL: SB 1170

INTRODUCER: Senator Yarborough

SUBJECT: Conduct in Polling Places

DATE: March 13, 2025

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Cleary	Roberts	EE	Pre-meeting
2.			JU	
3.			RC	

I. Summary:

SB 1170 permits members of the public to photograph in the polling room, or early voting area, before the polls open and after the polls close.

The bill prohibits the mounting of any camera or recording device that remains inside a polling room, or early voting area, during the time in which a voter is voting.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.

II. Present Situation:

In Florida, each election board¹ is charged with the full authority to maintain order at the polls and enforce compliance with its lawful commands during an election and canvass of the votes.² On election day, the polls are open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. (local time); any voters waiting in line at 7p.m. will have the opportunity to cast a ballot.³

In order to maintain order at the polls the law provides certain restrictions. For example, current law restricts those who can enter polling rooms or early voting areas.⁴ Further, a zone must be

¹ Section 97.021(14), F.S. (“Election board” means the clerk and inspectors appointed to conduct an election).

² Section 102.031(1), F.S.

³ See Florida Division of Elections: Early Day Voting Webpage (last updated: September 13, 2024), <https://dos.fl.gov/elections/for-voters/voting/election-day-voting/>. (For early voting period, opening and closing hours may vary by site).

⁴ See s. 102.031(3)(a), F.S. (Individuals allowed in polling room during voting hours: Official poll watchers; Inspectors; Election clerks; The supervisor of elections or his or her deputy; Persons there to vote, Persons in the care of voter, or Persons caring for such voter; or A person, whether or not a registered voter, who is assisting with or participating in a simulated election for minors, as approved by the supervisor of elections).

established prohibiting the solicitation of voters while voting.⁵ Florida law generally prohibits photography⁶ in polling places but allows a voter to photograph his or her own ballot.⁷

With respect to photography, because of concerns about election security, courts have upheld restrictions inside the polling locations.⁸ The Florida Supreme Court, in a case involving a challenge made by a newspaper whose photographer was rejected from a polling place for attempting to secure a photo of a candidate at the polls, held that the state law barring non-voters within 50 feet of a polling place was unconstitutional as applied to outside of the voting room, but constitutional as applied within the room itself.⁹ A California Court of Appeals found that a policy prohibiting photography and videotaping within polling places was constitutional based on the state's interest in maintaining ballot secrecy and an orderly voting process.¹⁰

Regarding laws prohibiting voters from taking photographs of their own ballots, referred to as a “ballot selfie,” the First U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals heard a case involving a New Hampshire law that prohibited ballot selfies and held that the law was an unconstitutional violation of the voters' free speech, striking down the law.¹¹

⁵ See s. 102.031(4), F.S. (No person, political committee, or other group or organization may solicit voters inside the polling place or within 150 feet of a secure ballot intake station or the entrance to any polling place, a polling room where the polling place is also a polling room, an early voting site, or an officer of the supervisor where vote-by mail-ballots are requested and printed on demand. The clerk or supervisor must designate the no-solicitation zone and mark the boundaries before the opening of a secure ballot intake station location, a polling place, or an early voting site); *But see League of Women Voters of Florida Inc. v. Florida Secretary of State*, 66 F.4th 905, 947 (11th Cir. 2023) (In 2023, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit evaluated, among other provisions, the constitutionality of the final clause of Section 102.031(4)(b), which prohibited “engaging in any activity with the intent to influence or effect of influencing a voter.” The Court upheld the district court’s determination that the clause “engaging in any activity with the ... effect of influencing a voter,” as written, was unconstitutionally vague and overbroad because it failed to put an individual on notice of what acts it forbids.).

⁶ See National Conference of State Legislatures, *Secrecy of the Ballot and Ballot Selfies*, NCSL Webpage (updated November 8, 2024), available at <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/secrecy-of-the-ballot-and-ballot-selfies><https://www.rcfp.org/resources/election-legal-guide/>.

(44 states have constitutional provisions that guarantee secrecy in voting, and the remaining states have statutory provisions to do so. Many states prohibit or limit the use of cameras in polling places. These laws have been enacted both to protect the privacy of voters and to limit disruptions in the polling place.)

⁷ Section 102.031(5), F.S. (“No photography is permitted in the polling room or early voting area, except an elector may photograph his or her own ballot.”); See National Conference of State Legislatures, *Secrecy of the Ballot and Ballot Selfies*, NCSL Webpage (updated November 8, 2024), available at <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/secrecy-of-the-ballot-and-ballot-selfies><https://www.rcfp.org/resources/election-legal-guide/>. (21 states allow or likely permits ballot selfies in a polling place; 19 states prohibit ballot selfies in the polling place).

⁸ See *Election Legal Guide*, Reporters Committee Webpage (last visited March 6, 2025), available at <https://www.rcfp.org/resources/election-legal-guide/>.

⁹ *Id.*; see *Firestone v. News-Press Publ’g Co.*, 538 So. 2d 457, 458 (Fla. 1989).

¹⁰ *Id.*; see *Poniktera v. Seiler*, 104 Rptr. 3d 291, 304-05 (Cal. Ct. App. 2010); See also *N.J. Press Ass’n v. Guadagno*, No. 12-CV-06353, 2012 WL 5498019, at *7-8 (D.N.J. Nov. 13, 2012) (The federal district court upheld restrictions on photography *outside* a polling place, rejecting the challenge brought by a news media organizations against an anti-loitering and solicitation law that effectively barred them from taking photographs and conducting interviews within 100 feet of a polling station.)

¹¹ *Rideout v. Gardner*, 838 F.3d 65, 76 (1st Cir. 2016) (finding ballot selfie was political speech and applying strict scrutiny to the law, the court held the state did not have compelling interest in restricting the photos and the law was not narrowly tailored. The court noted they believed the law would not survive under the lesser intermediate scrutiny as well.); *But see Silberg v. Board of Elections of the State of New York*, 216 F.Supp3d 411, 420 (S.D.N.Y. 2016) (Court refused to follow *Reid* in rejecting plaintiffs request for a preliminary injunction against a New York law that banned “ballot selfies,” holding New

State laws vary on an individual's ability to photograph inside a polling place - some states allow photography inside a polling location with minimal restrictions,¹² some allow photography in polling locations with some restrictions,¹³ and others have strong restrictions or complete prohibitions on photography inside a polling location.¹⁴

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SB 1170 permits members of the public to photograph in a polling room or early voting area before the polls open and after the polls close when voting has ended.

The bill prohibits the mounting of any camera or recording device that remains inside a polling room or early voting area during the time any voter is voting.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

York's decision to prohibit voters from displaying their marked ballots was a reasonable means of ensuring the integrity of the election and the secrecy of the ballot.).

¹² AJ Willingham, Giulia Heyward, Christina Maxouris and Nakia McNabb, *Here's what each state says about taking photos while you vote*, CNN politics webpage (Updated: October 29, 2020, 10:03 PM EDT), available at <https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2020/10/politics/ballot-selfie-trnd/>. (**Washington** (vote-by-mail state); **Oregon** (vote-by-mail state); **California**; **Hawaii**; **Idaho**; **Utah**; **Montana**; **West Virginia**; **Colorado**; **New Mexico**; **North Dakota**; **Nebraska**; **Kansas**; **Oklahoma**; **Iowa**; **Arkansas**; **Indiana**; **Pennsylvania**; **Virginia**; **New Jersey**; **D.C.**; **Rhode Island**; **Connecticut**; **New Hampshire**); *See also* National Conference of State Legislatures, *Secrecy of the Ballot and Ballot Selfies*, NCSL Webpage (updated November 8, 2024), available at <https://www.ncsl.org/elections-and-campaigns/secrecy-of-the-ballot-and-ballot-selfieshttps://www.rcfp.org/resources/election-legal-guide/>.

¹³ *Id.* (**Alaska**; **Nevada**; **Minnesota**; **Missouri**; **Louisiana**; **Kentucky**; **Tennessee**; **Mississippi**; **Wisconsin**; **South Carolina**; **New York** (Not in New York city); **Vermont**; **Maine**; **Massachusetts**).

¹⁴ *Id.* (**Arizona**; **South Dakota**; **Texas**; **Illinois**; **Ohio**; **North Carolina**; **Georgia**; **Delaware**; **West Virginia**; **Alabama**; **Michigan**; **Maryland**; **Florida**).

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following section of the Florida Statutes: 102.031.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

By Senator Yarborough

4-01173B-25

20251170__

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to conduct in polling places; amending
3 s. 102.031, F.S.; authorizing members of the public to
4 take photographs before the polls open and after the
5 polls close; providing construction; providing an
6 effective date.
7
8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
9
10 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 102.031, Florida
11 Statutes, is amended to read:
12 102.031 Maintenance of good order at polls; authorities;
13 persons allowed in polling rooms and early voting areas;
14 unlawful solicitation of voters.—
15 (5) No photography is permitted in the polling room or
16 early voting area, except an elector may photograph his or her
17 own ballot. A member of the public may photograph before the
18 polls open and after the polls close when voting has ended. This
19 subsection does not authorize any camera or other recording
20 device to be affixed or mounted, or to remain, inside a polling
21 room or early voting area during the time any voter is voting.
22 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.



The Florida Senate

Committee Agenda Request

To: Senator Don Gaetz, Chair
Committee on Ethics and Elections

Subject: Committee Agenda Request

Date: March 11, 2025

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill #1170**, relating to Conduct in Polling Places, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clay Yarborough".

Senator Clay Yarborough
Florida Senate, District 4

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Ethics and Elections

BILL: SJR 536

INTRODUCER: Senator Ingoglia

SUBJECT: Term Limits Applicable to State Representatives and State Senators

DATE: March 18, 2025

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Biehl	Roberts	EE	Favorable
2.			JU	
3.			RC	

I. Summary:

SJR 536 proposes an amendment to the Florida Constitution to make existing term limits for state legislators cumulative instead of consecutive and provides a schedule for implementation of the changes.

If adopted by the Legislature, the proposed amendment will be submitted to Florida’s electors for approval or rejection at the next general election in November 2026.

If approved by at least 60 percent of the electors voting on the measure, the proposed amendment takes effect upon such approval.

II. Present Situation:

Term Limits in Florida’s Constitution

Florida’s Constitution establishes term limits for the following elected officials:

- Florida Governor;
- Florida representatives;
- Florida senators;
- Florida Lieutenant Governor;
- Florida Cabinet members;
- U.S. representatives from Florida; and
- U.S. senators from Florida.¹

¹ Article VI, s. 4(c), FLA. CONST. *See also* art. IV, s. 5(b), FLA. CONST.

Term limits imposed by states for federal elected officials were held to be unconstitutional, and thus unenforceable, by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1995.²

The Florida Constitution states that none of the specified officials, except for the office of Governor, which is governed by a slightly different provision, may appear on a ballot for reelection if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will have served or, but for resignation, would have served in that office for eight consecutive years.³ These term limits became effective in 1992 and were prospective, so that officials reelected to a consecutive term in 1992 could serve another consecutive eight years before reaching the term limit.⁴

Requirements for Proposed Constitutional Amendments

The Florida Constitution authorizes the Legislature to propose amendments to the Florida Constitution by joint resolution approved by a three-fifths vote of the membership of each house.⁵ Such amendment must be placed before the electorate at the next general election⁶ held more than 90 days after the proposal has been filed with the Secretary of State or at a special election held for that purpose.⁷ Constitutional amendments submitted to the electors must be printed in clear and unambiguous language on the ballot.⁸

Proposed amendments or constitutional revisions must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in each county where a newspaper is published.⁹ The amendment or revision must be published once in the 10th week and again in the 6th week immediately preceding the week the election is held.

The Florida Constitution requires approval by 60 percent of electors voting on a measure for a constitutional amendment to take effect.¹⁰ The amendment, if approved, becomes effective on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January following the election, or on such other date as may be specified in the amendment

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SJR 536 proposes an amendment to the Florida Constitution to revise existing term limits of eight consecutive years for state senators and state representatives. Instead, the joint resolution provides for a cumulative term limit of sixteen total years in state legislative office.

² See *U.S. Term Limits, Inc. v. Thornton*, 514 U.S. 779 (1995). See also *Ray v. Mortham*, 742 So. 2d 1276 (Fla. 1999) (holding that term limits imposed on elected state officials were severable from provisions imposing term limits on elected federal officials).

³ Article VI, s. 4(c), FLA. CONST.

⁴ See Art. VI, s. 4, FLA. CONST. (1992); Billy Buzzett and Steven J. Uhlfelder, *Constitution Revision Commission: A Retrospective and Prospective Sketch*, *The Florida Bar Journal* (April 1997), <https://www.floridabar.org/the-florida-bar-journal/constitution-revision-commission-a-retrospective-and-prospective-sketch> (last visited January 12, 2024).

⁵ Article XI, s. 2, FLA. CONST.

⁶ Section 97.021(16), F.S., defines “general election” as an election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in the even-numbered years, for the purpose of filling national, state, county, and district offices and for voting on constitutional amendments not otherwise provided for by law.

⁷ Article XI, s. 5(a), FLA. CONST.

⁸ Section 101.161(1), F.S.

⁹ Article XI, s. 5(d), FLA. CONST.

¹⁰ Article XI, s. 5(e), FLA. CONST.

If adopted by the Legislature, the proposed amendment will be submitted to Florida's electors for approval or rejection at the next general election in November 2026. The joint resolution provides the following ballot statement:

TERM LIMITS FOR STATE SENATORS AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES. -The State Constitution provides that state representatives and state senators are limited to serving eight consecutive years in either office. This amendment specifies that state representatives and state senators are limited to 16 nonconsecutive years of service. This revised term limit would take effect after the November 3, 2026, general election, and provides that those seeking re-election during such election or election or re-election in subsequent elections may complete their terms, regardless of such limits.

If approved by at least 60 percent of the electors voting on the measure, the proposed amendment takes effect upon such approval. The joint resolution provides a schedule for implementation of the amendment that specifies:

- A sitting state legislator who has already served a total of at least sixteen years in state legislative office may, if reelected, still serve out the total of eight consecutive years in that office that he or she would be allowed under current law. Such person may not serve in excess of twenty-four total years regardless of whether such service was consecutive or nonconsecutive.
- A state legislator whose allowable eight consecutive years in one office are shortened as a result of reapportionment may run for one more term.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

Article XI, Section 5(d) of the Florida Constitution requires proposed amendments or constitutional revisions to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in each county where a newspaper is published. The amendment or revision must be published in the 10th week and again in the 6th week immediately preceding the week the election is held.

The Division of Elections (division) within the Department of State pays for publication costs to advertise all constitutional amendments in both English and Spanish,¹¹ typically paid from non-recurring General Revenue funds.¹² Accurate cost estimates for the next constitutional amendment advertising cannot be determined until the total number of amendments to be advertised is known and updated quotes are obtained from newspapers.

There is an unknown additional cost for the printing and distributing of the constitutional amendments, in poster or booklet form, in English and Spanish, for each of the 67 Supervisors of Elections to post or make available at each polling room or each voting site, as required by s. 101.171, F.S. Historically, the division has printed and distributed booklets that include the ballot title, ballot summary, text of the constitutional amendment, and, if applicable, the financial impact statement.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This resolution amends Article VI, section 4 of the Florida Constitution.

This resolution creates a new Article XII of the Florida Constitution.

¹¹ Pursuant to Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act (52 U.S.C.A. § 10503)

¹² See, e.g., Ch. 2022-156, Specific Appropriation 3137, Laws of Fla.

IX. Additional Information:

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.



434972

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: UNFAV	.	
03/17/2025	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Ethics and Elections (Grall) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete lines 46 - 96
and insert:
served, in that office for a total of twelve consecutive years.

(2) Beginning November 3, 2026, no person may appear on the ballot for election or re-election to the office of state representative or state senator if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will have served, or, but for resignation, would have served, in state legislative office for



434972

11 a total of twenty-four years, regardless of whether such service
12 was consecutive or nonconsecutive.

13 (3) After November 3, 2026, a person may appear on the
14 ballot for re-election to the office of state senator if service
15 of a complete term of office was shortened by apportionment.
16 Such person may still qualify for election or re-election for
17 this subsequent term, even if the term exceeds the limits
18 provided in paragraph (1) or paragraph (2).

19 ARTICLE XII

20 SCHEDULE

21 Implementation of revised term limits for legislators.-

22 (a) This section and the amendment to Section 4 of Article
23 VI imposing term limits of twenty-four years of service on state
24 representatives and state senators shall take effect upon
25 approval by the electors.

26 (b) If a person would otherwise be prohibited from
27 appearing on the ballot for election or re-election by paragraph
28 (d) (1) of Section 4 of Article VI, but the person's term of
29 office was shortened as a result of apportionment, such person
30 may subsequently appear on the ballot for election or re-
31 election to a state legislative office for another term. Service
32 of this additional term does not count toward the limit in
33 paragraph (d) (2) of Section 4 of Article VI. Such person may not
34 seek additional terms in such legislative office.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
36 placed on the ballot:

37 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

38 ARTICLE VI, SECTION 4

39 ARTICLE XII



434972

40 TERM LIMITS FOR STATE SENATORS AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES.—
41 This amendment revises term limits for state representatives and
42 state senators from 8 consecutive years to 12 total years in
43 either office. This amendment specifies that state legislators
44 are limited to 24

By Senator Ingoglia

11-00292B-25

2025536__

Senate Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 4 of Article VI and the creation of a new section in Article XII of the State Constitution to revise the term limits applicable to state representatives and state senators and to provide an effective date.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following amendment to Section 4 of Article VI and the creation of a new section in Article XII of the State Constitution are 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 VI

SUFFRAGE AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 4. Disqualifications.—

(a) No person convicted of a felony, or adjudicated in this or any other state to be mentally incompetent, shall be qualified to vote or hold office until restoration of civil rights or removal of disability. Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, any disqualification from voting arising from a felony conviction shall terminate and voting rights shall be restored upon completion of all terms of sentence including parole or probation.

(b) No person convicted of murder or a felony sexual offense shall be qualified to vote until restoration of civil rights.

Page 1 of 4

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

11-00292B-25

2025536__

(c) No person may appear on the ballot for re-election to any of the following offices:

(1) ~~Florida representative,~~

~~(2) Florida senator,~~

~~(3) Florida Lieutenant governor,~~

(2)(4) any office of the ~~Florida~~ cabinet,

(3)(5) U.S. Representative from Florida, or

(4)(6) U.S. Senator from Florida

if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will have served, ~~for~~, but for resignation, would have served, in that office for eight consecutive years.

(d) (1) No person may appear on the ballot for election or re-election to the office of state representative or state senator if, by the end of his or her current term of office, the person will have served, or, but for resignation, would have served, in that office for a total of eight consecutive years.

(2) Beginning November 3, 2026, no person may appear on the ballot for election or re-election to the office of state representative or state senator if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will have served, or, but for resignation, would have served, in state legislative office for a total of sixteen years, regardless of whether such service was consecutive or nonconsecutive.

(3) After November 3, 2026, a person may appear on the ballot for re-election to the office of state senator if service of a complete term of office was shortened by apportionment. Such person may still qualify for election or re-election for this subsequent term, even if the term exceeds the limits

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2025536__

59 provided in paragraphs (1) or (2).

60 ARTICLE XII

61 SCHEDULE

62 Implementation of revised term limits for legislators.-

63 (a) This section and the amendment to Section 4 of Article
 64 VI imposing term limits of sixteen years of service on state
 65 representatives and state senators shall take effect upon
 66 approval by the electors.

67 (b) If a person would otherwise be prohibited from
 68 appearing on the ballot for election or re-election by paragraph
 69 (d) (2) of Section 4 of Article VI as a result of service in a
 70 legislative office before November 3, 2026, the person may
 71 nonetheless appear on the ballot for election or re-election to
 72 a state legislative office on or after November 3, 2026, and, if
 73 subsequently elected, the person may serve eight consecutive
 74 years in that office even if service of such term exceeds the
 75 nonconsecutive limits imposed by Section 4, Article VI. Such
 76 person may not serve in excess of twenty-four years regardless
 77 of whether such service was consecutive or nonconsecutive.

78 (c) If a person would otherwise be prohibited from
 79 appearing on the ballot for election or re-election by paragraph
 80 (d) (1) of Section 4 of Article VI, but the person's term of
 81 office was shortened as a result of apportionment, such person
 82 may subsequently appear on the ballot for election or re-
 83 election to a state legislative office for another term. Service
 84 of this additional term does not count toward the limits in
 85 paragraph (d) (2) of Section 4 of Article VI. Such person may not
 86 seek additional terms in such legislative office.

87 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be

Page 3 of 4

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

11-00292B-25

2025536__

88 placed on the ballot:

89 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

90 ARTICLE VI, SECTION 4

91 ARTICLE XII

92 TERM LIMITS FOR STATE SENATORS AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES.-

93 The State Constitution provides that state representatives and
 94 state senators are limited to serving 8 consecutive years in
 95 either office. This amendment specifies that state
 96 representatives and state senators are limited to 16
 97 nonconsecutive years of total service. This revised limit would
 98 take effect after the November 3, 2026, general election, and
 99 provides that those seeking re-election during such election or
 100 election or re-election in subsequent elections may complete
 101 their terms, regardless of such limits.

Page 4 of 4

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Banking and Insurance, *Chair*
Environment and Natural Resources, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations Committee on Criminal and
Civil Justice
Appropriations Committee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development
Fiscal Policy
Regulated Industries
Rules

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight

SENATOR BLAISE INGOLIA

11th District

February 21, 2025

The Honorable Don Gaetz, Chair
Committee on Ethics and Elections
405 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: SJR 536 Term Limits Applicable to State Representatives and State Senators

Chair Gaetz,

Senate Joint Resolution 536 has been referred to the Committee on Ethics and Elections as its first committee of reference. I respectfully ask it be placed on the committee agenda at your earliest convenience.

If I may answer questions or be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Blaise Ingolia".

Blaise Ingolia
State Senator, District 11

CC'd: Dawn Roberts, Sara Naf Biehl, Terrance Riggins

REPLY TO:

- 2943 Landover Boulevard, Spring Hill, Florida 34608 (352) 666-5707
- 306 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5011

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

BEN ALBRITTON
President of the Senate

JASON BRODEUR
President Pro Tempore

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Ethics and Elections

BILL: SJR 802

INTRODUCER: Senator Ingoglia

SUBJECT: Term Limits for Members of Boards of County Commissioners and District School Boards

DATE: March 18, 2025

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Biehl</u>	<u>Roberts</u>	<u>EE</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2.	_____	_____	<u>CA</u>	_____
3.	_____	_____	<u>RC</u>	_____

I. Summary:

SJR 802 proposes an amendment to the Florida Constitution:

- Creating a new term limit of eight consecutive years for county commissioners.
- Adding the term limit of eight consecutive years for school board members that currently exists in statute.

If adopted by the Legislature, the proposed amendment will be submitted to Florida’s electors for approval or rejection at the next general election in November 2026.

If approved by at least 60 percent of the electors voting on the measure, the proposed amendment takes effect upon such approval.

II. Present Situation:

Term Limits in Florida’s Constitution

Florida’s Constitution establishes term limits for the following elected officials:

- Florida Governor;
- Florida representatives;
- Florida senators;
- Florida Lieutenant Governor;
- Florida Cabinet members;
- U.S. representatives from Florida; and
- U.S. senators from Florida.¹

¹ Article VI, s. 4(c), FLA. CONST. *See also* art. IV, s. 5(b), FLA. CONST.

Term limits imposed by states for federal elected officials were held to be unconstitutional, and thus unenforceable, by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1995.²

The Florida Constitution states that none of the specified officials, except for the office of Governor, which is governed by a slightly different provision, may appear on a ballot for reelection if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will have served or, but for resignation, would have served in that office for eight consecutive years.³ These term limits became effective in 1992 and were prospective, so that officials reelected to a consecutive term in 1992 could serve another consecutive eight years before reaching the term limit.⁴

The Florida Constitution does not address the number of terms a school board member or county commissioner may serve.

District School Board Member Terms of Office

The Florida Constitution provides that “[i]n each school district there shall be a school board composed of five or more members chosen by vote of the electors in a nonpartisan election for appropriately staggered terms of four years, as provided by law.”⁵ This provision has been interpreted to allow school board member qualifications to be established by statute.⁶

In 2022, the Legislature established a term limit of 12 years for district school board members.⁷ The Legislature subsequently reduced the term limit to eight years. This term limit applies to those individuals elected on or after November 8, 2022.⁸ The term limit is prospective, so that school board members reelected to a consecutive term in 2022 could serve additional consecutive years before being term limited.⁹

County Commissioner Terms of Office

The Florida Constitution provides that each board of county commissioners shall consist of five or seven members serving staggered terms of four years. After each decennial census, the board

² See *U.S. Term Limits, Inc. v. Thornton*, 514 U.S. 779 (1995). See also *Ray v. Mortham*, 742 So. 2d 1276 (Fla. 1999) (holding that term limits imposed on elected state officials were severable from provisions imposing term limits on elected federal officials).

³ Article VI, s. 4(c), FLA. CONST.

⁴ See Art. VI, s. 4, FLA. CONST. (1992); Billy Buzzett and Steven J. Uhlfelder, *Constitution Revision Commission: A Retrospective and Prospective Sketch*, *The Florida Bar Journal* (April 1997), <https://www.floridabar.org/the-florida-bar-journal/constitution-revision-commission-a-retrospective-and-prospective-sketch> (last visited January 12, 2024).

⁵ Article IX, s. 4(a), FLA. CONST.

⁶ In *Askew v. Thomas*, 293 So.2d 40, 42 (Fla. 1974), the court interpreted section 4(a) of article IX and refused to invoke the constitutional principle that “statutes imposing additional qualifications for office are unconstitutional where the basic document of the constitution itself has already undertaken to set forth those requirements” because that section does not address school board member qualifications. Similarly, in *Telli v. Broward County*, 94 So. 3d 504 (Fla. 2012), the court receded from prior opinions which held that article VI, section 4(b), Florida Constitution, listing the state elected offices with mandatory term limits, prohibited the imposition of term limits on other officials. The court held that “[i]nterpreting Florida’s Constitution to find implied restrictions on powers otherwise authorized is unsound in principle” and that “express restrictions must be found not implied.” *Id.* at 513.

⁷ Chapter 2022-21, s. 1, L.O.F., codified at s. 1001.35, F.S.

⁸ Chapter 2023-37, s. 1, L.O.F.

⁹ *Id.*

of county commissioners divides the county into districts of contiguous territory as nearly equal in population as practicable. One commissioner in each district must be elected as provided by law.¹⁰

The statutes implementing the constitutional provisions specify:

- County commissioners may be elected at-large in some counties and from single-member districts in other counties.¹¹
- For single-member districts, each commissioner from an odd-numbered district is elected at the general election in each year the number of which is a multiplier of four. Each commissioner from an even-numbered district is elected at the general election in each even-numbered year the number of which is not a multiple of four.¹²

Neither the Florida Constitution nor the Florida Statutes currently provide term limits for county commissioners. Currently, 20 Florida counties have adopted charters,¹³ some of which specify term limits for their county commissioners.¹⁴

County Authority Relating to Term Limits

A county with a charter has all powers of self-government not inconsistent with general law or special law approved by the county voters,¹⁵ and may therefore adopt term limits for its county commissioners in the absence of any general law to the contrary.¹⁶

Non-charter counties, however, do not have inherent authority to adopt term limits for county commissioners and may do so only if authorized or required by general law.¹⁷

Requirements for Proposed Constitutional Amendments

The Florida Constitution authorizes the Legislature to propose amendments to the Florida Constitution by joint resolution approved by a three-fifths vote of the membership of each house.¹⁸ Such amendment must be placed before the electorate at the next general election¹⁹ held more than 90 days after the proposal has been filed with the Secretary of State or at a special

¹⁰ Article VIII, s. 1(e), FLA. CONST.

¹¹ Section 124.011, F.S.

¹² Section 100.041(2)(a), F.S.

¹³ See Florida Association of Counties, *Charter County Information*, available at <https://www.fl-counties.com/about-floridas-counties/charter-county-information/> (last visited January 12, 2024).

¹⁴ The charter for the consolidated City of Jacksonville/Duval County, for example, limits the consecutive service of its county commissioners to three terms (charter available at https://www.fl-counties.com/themes/bootstrap_subtheme/sitefinity/documents/duval.pdf (last visited January 12, 2024)).

¹⁵ Article VIII, s. 1(g), FLA. CONST.

¹⁶ Article III, s. 11 (a)(1) of the Fla. Const. prohibits special laws pertaining to election, jurisdiction or duties of officers, except officers of municipalities, chartered counties, special districts or local governmental agencies. Laws creating term limits are considered laws pertaining to election of officers.

¹⁷ See Attorney General Opinion 2019-03, *Non-charter county may not term-limit commissioners*, April 1, 2019.

¹⁸ Article XI, s. 2, FLA. CONST.

¹⁹ Section 97.021(16), F.S., defines “general election” as an election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in the even-numbered years, for the purpose of filling national, state, county, and district offices and for voting on constitutional amendments not otherwise provided for by law.

election held for that purpose.²⁰ Constitutional amendments submitted to the electors must be printed in clear and unambiguous language on the ballot.²¹

Proposed amendments or constitutional revisions must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in each county where a newspaper is published.²² The amendment or revision must be published once in the 10th week and again in the 6th week immediately preceding the week the election is held.

The Florida Constitution requires approval by 60 percent of electors voting on a measure for a constitutional amendment to take effect.²³ The amendment, if approved, becomes effective on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January following the election, or on such other date as may be specified in the amendment.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SJR 802 proposes an amendment to the Florida Constitution to create a new term limit of eight consecutive years for county commissioners. Service in a term of office which commences on or before the general election at which the proposal will be on the ballot will not count toward the new term limit. The joint resolution specifies that existing statutory provisions governing decennial redistricting will still apply.

The joint resolution also proposes adding to the Florida Constitution the term limit of eight consecutive years for school board members that currently exist in statute. It maintains the statutory specification that service in a term of office which commenced before November 8, 2022, does not count toward the term limit.

If adopted by the Legislature, the proposed amendment will be submitted to Florida's electors for approval or rejection at the next general election in November 2026.

If approved by at least 60 percent of the electors voting on the measure, the proposed amendment takes effect upon such approval.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

²⁰ Article XI, s. 5(a), FLA. CONST.

²¹ Section 101.161(1), F.S.

²² Article XI, s. 5(d), FLA. CONST.

²³ Article XI, s. 5(e), FLA. CONST.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

Article XI, Section 5(d) of the Florida Constitution requires proposed amendments or constitutional revisions to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in each county where a newspaper is published. The amendment or revision must be published in the 10th week and again in the 6th week immediately preceding the week the election is held.

The Division of Elections (division) within the Department of State pays for publication costs to advertise all constitutional amendments in both English and Spanish,²⁴ typically paid from non-recurring General Revenue funds.²⁵ Accurate cost estimates for the next constitutional amendment advertising cannot be determined until the total number of amendments to be advertised is known and updated quotes are obtained from newspapers.

There is an unknown additional cost for the printing and distributing of the constitutional amendments, in poster or booklet form, in English and Spanish, for each of the 67 Supervisors of Elections to post or make available at each polling room or each voting site, as required by s. 101.171, F.S. Historically, the division has printed and distributed booklets that include the ballot title, ballot summary, text of the constitutional amendment, and, if applicable, the financial impact statement.

²⁴ Pursuant to Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act (52 U.S.C.A. § 10503)

²⁵ See, e.g., Ch. 2022-156, Specific Appropriation 3137, Laws of Fla.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following articles of the Florida Constitution: Article VIII and Article IX.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.



468636

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: UNFAV	.	
03/17/2025	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Ethics and Elections (Grall) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete lines 57 - 126
and insert:
a member of the board for twelve years. Service in a term of office which commences on or before November 3, 2026, does not count toward the limitation imposed by this subsection.

(f) NON-CHARTER GOVERNMENT. Counties not operating under county charters shall have such power of self-government as is provided by general or special law. The board of county



468636

11 commissioners of a county not operating under a charter may
12 enact, in a manner prescribed by general law, county ordinances
13 not inconsistent with general or special law, but an ordinance
14 in conflict with a municipal ordinance shall not be effective
15 within the municipality to the extent of such conflict.

16 (g) CHARTER GOVERNMENT. Counties operating under county
17 charters shall have all powers of local self-government not
18 inconsistent with general law, or with special law approved by
19 vote of the electors. The governing body of a county operating
20 under a charter may enact county ordinances not inconsistent
21 with general law. The charter shall provide which shall prevail
22 in the event of conflict between county and municipal
23 ordinances.

24 (h) TAXES; LIMITATION. Property situate within
25 municipalities shall not be subject to taxation for services
26 rendered by the county exclusively for the benefit of the
27 property or residents in unincorporated areas.

28 (i) COUNTY ORDINANCES. Each county ordinance shall be
29 filed with the custodian of state records and shall become
30 effective at such time thereafter as is provided by general law.

31 (j) VIOLATION OF ORDINANCES. Persons violating county
32 ordinances shall be prosecuted and punished as provided by law.

33 (k) COUNTY SEAT. In every county there shall be a county
34 seat at which shall be located the principal offices and
35 permanent records of all county officers. The county seat may
36 not be moved except as provided by general law. Branch offices
37 for the conduct of county business may be established elsewhere
38 in the county by resolution of the governing body of the county
39 in the manner prescribed by law. No instrument shall be deemed



468636

40 recorded until filed at the county seat, or a branch office
41 designated by the governing body of the county for the recording
42 of instruments, according to law.

43 ARTICLE IX

44 EDUCATION

45 SECTION 4. School districts; school boards.-

46 (a) Each county shall constitute a school district;
47 provided, two or more contiguous counties, upon vote of the
48 electors of each county pursuant to law, may be combined into
49 one school district. In each school district there shall be a
50 school board composed of five or more members chosen by vote of
51 the electors in a nonpartisan election for appropriately
52 staggered terms of four years, as provided by law. A person may
53 not appear on the ballot for re-election to the office of school
54 board member, if by the end of the current term of office, that
55 person will have served, or, but for resignation, would have
56 served, as a member of the school board for twelve years.
57 Service of a term of office which commenced before November 8,
58 2022, does not count toward the limitation imposed by this
59 subsection.

60 (b) The school board shall operate, control and supervise
61 all free public schools within the school district and determine
62 the rate of school district taxes within the limits prescribed
63 herein. Two or more school districts may operate and finance
64 joint educational programs.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
66 placed on the ballot:

67 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

68 ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 1



468636

69
70
71
72
73
74
75

ARTICLE IX, SECTION 4

TERM LIMITS FOR MEMBERS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONS AND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS.—This amendment to the State Constitution provides that a person is limited to serving twelve years as a member of a county commission and applies to terms of office that commence after November 3, 2026. This amendment also provides that a person is limited to serving twelve years as a member of a

By Senator Ingoglia

11-01272B-25

2025802__

Senate Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing amendments to Section 1 of Article VIII and Section 4 of Article IX of the State Constitution to provide term limits for members of boards of county commissioners and district school boards.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following amendments to Section 1 of Article VIII and Section 4 of Article IX of the State Constitution are 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 VIII

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SECTION 1. Counties.—

(a) POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS. The state shall be divided by law into political subdivisions called counties. Counties may be created, abolished or changed by law, with provision for payment or apportionment of the public debt.

(b) COUNTY FUNDS. The care, custody and method of disbursing county funds shall be provided by general law.

(c) GOVERNMENT. Pursuant to general or special law, a county government may be established by charter which shall be adopted, amended or repealed only upon vote of the electors of the county in a special election called for that purpose.

(d) COUNTY OFFICERS. There shall be elected by the

Page 1 of 5

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

11-01272B-25

2025802__

electors of each county, for terms of four years, a sheriff, a tax collector, a property appraiser, a supervisor of elections, and a clerk of the circuit court. Unless otherwise provided by special law approved by vote of the electors or pursuant to Article V, section 16, the clerk of the circuit court shall be ex officio clerk of the board of county commissioners, auditor, recorder and custodian of all county funds. Notwithstanding subsection 6(e) of this article, a county charter may not abolish the office of a sheriff, a tax collector, a property appraiser, a supervisor of elections, or a clerk of the circuit court; transfer the duties of those officers to another officer or office; change the length of the four-year term of office; or establish any manner of selection other than by election by the electors of the county.

(e) COMMISSIONERS. Except when otherwise provided by county charter, the governing body of each county shall be a board of county commissioners composed of five or seven members serving staggered terms of four years. After each decennial census the board of county commissioners shall divide the county into districts of contiguous territory as nearly equal in population as practicable. One commissioner residing in each district shall be elected as provided by law. Except as provided in general law relating to single-member districts after decennial redistricting, a person may not appear on the ballot for re-election as a member of a board of county commissioners if, by the end of his or her current term of office, such person will have served, or, but for resignation, would have served, as a member of the board for eight years. Service in a term of office which commences on or before November 3, 2026, does not

Page 2 of 5

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11-01272B-25

2025802__

59 count toward the limitation imposed by this subsection.

60 (f) NON-CHARTER GOVERNMENT. Counties not operating under
61 county charters shall have such power of self-government as is
62 provided by general or special law. The board of county
63 commissioners of a county not operating under a charter may
64 enact, in a manner prescribed by general law, county ordinances
65 not inconsistent with general or special law, but an ordinance
66 in conflict with a municipal ordinance shall not be effective
67 within the municipality to the extent of such conflict.

68 (g) CHARTER GOVERNMENT. Counties operating under county
69 charters shall have all powers of local self-government not
70 inconsistent with general law, or with special law approved by
71 vote of the electors. The governing body of a county operating
72 under a charter may enact county ordinances not inconsistent
73 with general law. The charter shall provide which shall prevail
74 in the event of conflict between county and municipal
75 ordinances.

76 (h) TAXES; LIMITATION. Property situate within
77 municipalities shall not be subject to taxation for services
78 rendered by the county exclusively for the benefit of the
79 property or residents in unincorporated areas.

80 (i) COUNTY ORDINANCES. Each county ordinance shall be
81 filed with the custodian of state records and shall become
82 effective at such time thereafter as is provided by general law.

83 (j) VIOLATION OF ORDINANCES. Persons violating county
84 ordinances shall be prosecuted and punished as provided by law.

85 (k) COUNTY SEAT. In every county there shall be a county
86 seat at which shall be located the principal offices and
87 permanent records of all county officers. The county seat may

Page 3 of 5

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

11-01272B-25

2025802__

88 not be moved except as provided by general law. Branch offices
89 for the conduct of county business may be established elsewhere
90 in the county by resolution of the governing body of the county
91 in the manner prescribed by law. No instrument shall be deemed
92 recorded until filed at the county seat, or a branch office
93 designated by the governing body of the county for the recording
94 of instruments, according to law.

ARTICLE IX

EDUCATION

SECTION 4. School districts; school boards.-

97 (a) Each county shall constitute a school district;
98 provided, two or more contiguous counties, upon vote of the
99 electors of each county pursuant to law, may be combined into
100 one school district. In each school district there shall be a
101 school board composed of five or more members chosen by vote of
102 the electors in a nonpartisan election for appropriately
103 staggered terms of four years, as provided by law. A person may
104 not appear on the ballot for re-election to the office of school
105 board member, if by the end of the current term of office, that
106 person will have served, or, but for resignation, would have
107 served, as a member of the school board for eight years. Service
108 of a term of office which commenced before November 8, 2022,
109 does not count toward the limitation imposed by this subsection.

111 (b) The school board shall operate, control and supervise
112 all free public schools within the school district and determine
113 the rate of school district taxes within the limits prescribed
114 herein. Two or more school districts may operate and finance
115 joint educational programs.

116 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be

Page 4 of 5

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

11-01272B-25

2025802__

117 placed on the ballot:

118 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

119 ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 1

120 ARTICLE IX, SECTION 4

121 TERM LIMITS FOR MEMBERS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONS AND DISTRICT
122 SCHOOL BOARDS.—This amendment to the State Constitution provides
123 that a person is limited to serving eight years as a member of a
124 county commission and applies to terms of office that commence
125 after November 3, 2026. This amendment also provides that a
126 person is limited to serving eight years as a member of a
127 district school board and applies to terms that began after
128 November 8, 2022, as provided by general law.



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Banking and Insurance, *Chair*
Environment and Natural Resources, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations Committee on Criminal and
Civil Justice
Appropriations Committee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development
Fiscal Policy
Regulated Industries
Rules

JOINT COMMITTEE:

Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight

SENATOR BLAISE INGOLIA

11th District

February 28, 2025

The Honorable Don Gaetz, Chair
Committee on Ethics and Elections
405 Senate Office Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: SB 802 Term Limits for Members of Boards of County Commissioners and District School Boards

Chair Gaetz,

Senate Bill 802 has been referred to the Committee on Ethics and Elections as its first committee of reference. I respectfully ask that it be placed on the committee agenda at your earliest convenience.

If I may answer questions or be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Blaise Ingolia".

Blaise Ingolia
State Senator, District 11

CC'd: Dawn Roberts, Sarah Naf Biehl, Terrance Riggins

REPLY TO:

- 2943 Landover Boulevard, Spring Hill, Florida 34608 (352) 666-5707
- 306 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5011

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

BEN ALBRITTON
President of the Senate

JASON BRODEUR
President Pro Tempore

3/17/25

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 802

Meeting Date

Ethics + Elections

Deliver both copies of this form to
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Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

JEFF SCALA

Phone

(727) 637-4081

Address

100 S Monroe St

Email

jscala@fl-counties.com

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32301

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

Florida Association of Counties

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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802

Bill Number or Topic

3/17/21

Meeting Date

B+E

Committee

Wakulla County

Name

Ralph Thomas Commissioner ✓

Phone

850-251-0415

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Address

637 Hunters Trace

Email

rthomas@mywakulla.com

Street

Crawfordville, FL 32307

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information **OR** Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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The Florida Senate

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3-17-25

Meeting Date

802

Bill Number or Topic

Senate E+E

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Chris Doolin

Phone 850-508-5492

Address 1018 THOMASVILLE Rd 102B

Email cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com

Street

TALL, FL, 32303

City

State

Zip

Speaking: [] For [X] Against [] Information OR Waive Speaking: [] In Support [] Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

[] I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

[X] I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

[] I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

SMALL COUNTY COALITION and SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSORTIUM

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. 2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf (flsenate.gov)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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3/17/25

Meeting Date

802

Bill Number or Topic

elections

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Carol Cleaver

Phone 251-599-9543

Address 2300 Magnolia Ave

Street

Email

Pensacola FL 32503

City

State

Zip

Speaking: [] For [x] Against [] Information OR Waive Speaking: [] In Support [] Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

[x] I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

[] I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

[] I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. 2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf (flsenate.gov)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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3/17

Meeting Date

Ethics

Committee

SB 802

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Dr. Rick Templin

Phone 850 - 224 - 6926

Address 135 S. Monroe

Email _____

Street

Tallahassee

City

FL

State

32301

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information **OR** Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Florida AFL-CIO

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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03-17-25

Meeting Date

802

Bill Number or Topic

Ethics and Elections

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Christina Regalado

Phone 813-505-1095

Address 920 E. 22nd Ave

Email chrisregalado@gmail.com

Street

Tampa

City

FL

State

33605

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information **OR** Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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3/17/25

Meeting Date

SB 802

Bill Number or Topic

ETHICS ELECTIONS

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Norwood Orrick

Phone 813 255 3281

Address 1702 E 8th Ave
Street

Email NORWOODORRICK@GMAIL.COM

TAMPA
City

FL
State

33605
Zip

Speaking: For Against Information **OR** Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
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3/17/25

Meeting Date

SJR 802

Bill Number or Topic

Ethics & Elections

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Amy Keith

Phone 727 604 5814

Address 333 3rd Ave N
Street

Email akeith@commoncause.org

St Petersburg FL
City State

33701
Zip

Speaking: For Against Information OR Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Common Cause

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

3117125

Meeting Date

Ethics & Elections

Term Limits

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Patrick Lewicki

Phone

813-446-5438

Address

12217 Armenia Gable, Cir.

Email

patrick.james.lewicki@gmail.com

Street

Tampa,

FL,

33612

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information **OR** Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

SBC802

11/17/2025

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Ethics and Election

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Shevonne Clark

Phone 305 333 4154

Address 2010 Balfour Circle

Email sebrown4@yahoo.com

Street

Tampa

City

FL

State

33619

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information OR Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

3/17/2025

Meeting Date

SB 802

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Sally Sluder Phone 386 438-7250

Address 278 SW Oakwood Ct Email mrsSluder@gmail.com
Street

Lake City FL 32024
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information **OR** Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.
- I am a registered lobbyist, representing:
- I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022 Joint Rules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

3/17/25

The Florida Senate APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 802

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Ethics & Elections

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Sybil Faust

Phone

904-403-6725

Address

3019 Lagnay Dr.

Email

sybilfaust66@gmail.com

Street

Jacksonville, FL 32208

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information **OR** Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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3/17/2025

Meeting Date

Ethics & Election

Committee

SB 802

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name LIZA JUANICH

Phone 863-377-0675

Address 3601 Kernan Blvd S.

Email l.olbesjuanich@gmail.com

Street

Jacksonville

FL

3224

City

State

Zip

Speaking: [] For [] Against [X] Information OR Waive Speaking: [X] In Support [] Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

[X] I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

[] I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

[] I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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3/17/25

Meeting Date

SB 802

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Ross Muldo

Phone

(904) 588-4950

Address

96516 Commodore Point Drive

Email

Street

Yule

City

FL

State

32097

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information OR Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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03/17/25

Meeting Date

SB 802

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Wm Scott Turner

Phone 727 808 0850

Address 128 Shore Dr Pl
Street

Email Joeskateboard@gmail.com

Oldsmar
City

FL
State

34677
Zip

Speaking: For Against Information **OR** Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

3.17.2025

Meeting Date

SB 802

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Tabitha Hunter

Phone 941-730-4552

Address 3102 Bougainvillee St.

Email thunter@lbew915.org

Street

Sarasote FL 34239

City

State

Zip

Speaking: [] For [] Against [] Information OR Waive Speaking: [] In Support [X] Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

[X] I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

[] I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

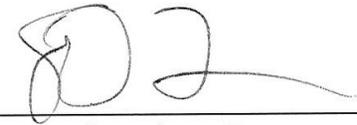
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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD



Meeting Date _____

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic _____

Committee

Name

Barbara DeVane

Phone _____

Amendment Barcode (if applicable) _____

Address _____

Email _____

Street

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

FL NOW

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 37
Caption: Senate Committee on Ethics and Elections

Case No.:

Type:
Judge:

Started: 3/17/2025 1:31:09 PM

Ends: 3/17/2025 2:42:22 PM

Length: 01:11:14

1:31:11 PM Chair Gaetz calls meeting to order
1:31:16 PM Roll Call
1:31:35 PM Quorum
1:31:37 PM Chair Gaetz makes opening remarks
1:32:01 PM SB 1170 Conduct in Polling Places by Senator Yarborough is Temporarily Postponed
1:32:10 PM Tab 1: SB 982 Candidate Qualifying by Senator Bernard
1:32:30 PM Amendment 364858 by Senator Bernard
1:32:31 PM Senator Bernard explains amendment
1:32:43 PM Questions
1:32:46 PM Senator Bradley
1:32:51 PM Senator Bernard
1:33:44 PM Chair Gaetz reports amendment
1:33:47 PM Senator Bernard explains bill
1:35:09 PM Public testimony
1:35:30 PM Mark Heron
1:36:30 PM Roll Call
1:36:56 PM Tab 2: SB 1170 Conduct in Polling Places by Senator Yarborough is Temporarily Postponed
1:37:03 PM Tab 3: SJR 536 Term Limits Applicable to State Representatives and State Senators by Senator Ingoglia
1:37:22 PM Meeting in recess
2:16:44 PM Meeting resumed
2:17:07 PM Senator Ingoglia explains bill
2:18:07 PM Amendment 434972 by Senator Grall
2:18:13 PM Senator Bradley explains amendment
2:19:18 PM Chair Gaetz reports amendment
2:19:42 PM Senator Ingoglia
2:20:04 PM Debate
2:20:06 PM Senator Bradley
2:21:12 PM Senator Garcia
2:21:34 PM Senator Ingoglia closes on bill
2:22:14 PM Roll call
2:22:39 PM Tab 4: SJR 802 Term Limits for Members of Boards of County Commissioners and District School Boards by Senator Ingoglia
2:22:48 PM Senator Ingoglia explains bill
2:23:36 PM Amendment 468636 by Senator Grall
2:23:49 PM Senator Bradley explains amendment
2:24:22 PM Chair Gaetz reports amendment
2:24:33 PM Public testimony
2:24:46 PM Jeff Scala, Florida Association of Counties
2:26:14 PM Ralph Thomas
2:29:14 PM Chris Doolin, Small County Coalition and Small School District Council Consortium
2:30:39 PM Carol Cleaver
2:31:50 PM Chair Gaetz reads waiving
2:33:28 PM Debate
2:33:30 PM Senator Bernard
2:34:42 PM Senator Grall
2:37:12 PM Senator Garcia
2:38:25 PM Senator Ingoglia closes on bill
2:41:03 PM Roll Call
2:41:45 PM Senator Grall motion to vote after Roll Call
2:41:56 PM Senator Collins motion to vote after Roll Call
2:42:12 PM Senator Grall moves to adjourn
2:42:13 PM Meeting Adjourned