

Committee on Health Regulation

CS/HJR 1179 — Abortion/Public Funding/Construction of Rights

by Health and Human Services Committee; Rep. Baxley and others (CS/CS/SJR 1538 by Rules Committee; Judiciary Committee; and Senators Flores, Haridopolos, and Oelrich)

This is a joint resolution proposing the creation of s. 28, Art. I of the Florida Constitution to prohibit public funds from being expended for any abortion or for health-benefits coverage that includes coverage of abortion. However, public funds may be expended when required by federal law; a woman suffers from a physical disorder, physical injury, or physical illness which would, as certified by a physician, place the woman in danger of death; or a pregnancy results from rape or incest.

The joint resolution also prohibits the Florida Constitution from being interpreted to create broader rights to an abortion than those contained in the U.S. Constitution.

The joint resolution includes a summary statement that is to be placed on the ballot for the next general election.

If adopted by the voters at the 2012 General Election, this resolution will take effect January 3, 2013.

Vote: Senate 27-12; House 79-34