

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

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

BILL: SJR 1176

SPONSOR: Senator Horne

SUBJECT: Constitutional amendments; economic impact statements

DATE: March 15, 2001 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Bradshaw	Bradshaw	EE	Favorable
2.	_____	_____	FT	_____
3.	_____	_____	RC	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

Senate Joint Resolution 1176 proposes an amendment to the Constitution to require the Legislature to enact a law requiring an economic impact statement for each constitutional amendment to be provided to the public prior to the vote on the amendment.

If passed by a vote of 3/5 of the members of each house of the Legislature, SJR 1176 will be presented to the voters at the 2002 General Election.

This joint resolution proposes an amendment to Art. XI, section 5, of the Florida Constitution.

II. Present Situation:

A proposed amendment to the Constitution is presented to the voters pursuant to one of the following:

- Joint resolution passed by 3/5 vote of each house of the Legislature;
- Initiative petition;
- Proposal by the Constitution Revision Commission;
- Proposal by the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission; or
- Proposal by a constitutional convention.

There is currently no requirement for an economic impact statement to be provided to the public prior to a vote on a proposed constitutional amendment. Therefore, constitutional amendments are often approved by the voters, without the knowledge of what it will cost to implement the amendment.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Senate Joint Resolution 1176 proposes an amendment to the Constitution requiring the Legislature to enact a law providing for an economic impact statement for each constitutional amendment. The economic impact statement would be made public prior to the election at which the amendment is voted on.

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

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

Each constitutional amendment is required to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in each county, once in the sixth week and once in the tenth week preceding the general election. Costs for advertising vary depending on the length of the amendment; however, it is estimated that the cost per amendment is estimated to be \$30,000.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.
