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House Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 4 of Article IX of the State Constitution relating to school districts.

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

That the following amendment to Section 4 of Article IX of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

ARTICLE IX

EDUCATION

SECTION 4. School districts; school boards.--

(a) Each county shall constitute a school district; provided, two or more contiguous counties, upon vote of the electors of each county pursuant to law, may be combined into one school district; and provided further that a county with 45,000 or more students in the district schools within the county may be divided into two or more school districts, each school district to have no fewer than 20,000 students, as provided by law. In order to divide a county school district under this subsection, and notwithstanding other provisions of this constitution, a commission made up of residents of the county shall be created by special law to draw school district boundary lines, allocate assets, and provide for the contractual obligations, debts, and bonded indebtedness of the school

29 district, all of which shall be subject to review and approval
 30 by the circuit court for compliance with state and federal law
 31 and subject to approval by a vote of the electors of the county.
 32 Funding for operation and capital outlay in school districts
 33 divided pursuant to this subsection shall be determined on a
 34 countywide basis and distributed to the school districts per
 35 student as provided by law, except that funds raised by voted
 36 millage for bonded indebtedness or local option sales taxes may
 37 be distributed per interlocal agreement between the school
 38 districts. Local school taxes in school districts divided
 39 pursuant to this subsection, including voted millage for bonded
 40 indebtedness, shall be levied on a countywide basis as provided
 41 by law.

42 (b) In each school district there shall be a school board
 43 composed of five or more members chosen by vote of the electors
 44 in a nonpartisan election for appropriately staggered terms of
 45 four years, as provided by law.

46 ~~(b)~~ The school board shall operate, control, and supervise
 47 all free public schools within the school district and determine
 48 the rate of school district taxes within the limits prescribed
 49 herein. Two or more school districts may operate and finance
 50 joint educational programs.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
 52 placed on the ballot:

53 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

54 ARTICLE IX, SECTION 4

55 AUTHORIZING THE DIVISION OF A COUNTY INTO TWO OR MORE
 56 SCHOOL DISTRICTS.--Proposing an amendment to the State

HJR 213

2006

57 | Constitution to provide that counties with 45,000 or more
58 | students may be divided into two or more school districts as
59 | provided by law; to provide for the creation of a commission, by
60 | special law, to draw school district boundary lines, allocate
61 | assets, and provide for the contractual obligations, debts, and
62 | bonded indebtedness of the school district, all of which shall
63 | be subject to judicial review and approval and voter approval;
64 | to provide that, except for voted millage for bonded
65 | indebtedness or local option sales taxes, school district
66 | funding shall be determined on a countywide basis and
67 | distributed as provided by law; and to provide that local school
68 | taxes, including voted millage for bonded indebtedness, shall be
69 | levied on a countywide basis as provided by law.