By the Committees on Education; and Judiciary

581-2179-06

1   Senate Joint Resolution
2   A joint resolution proposing the creation of
3   Section 8 of Article IX of the State
4   Constitution relating to education.
5
6   Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
7
8   That the following creation of Section 8 of Article IX
9   of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted
10   to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the
11   next general election or at an earlier special election
12   specifically authorized by law for that purpose:
13   ARTICLE IX
14   EDUCATION
15   SECTION 8. Equal opportunity to obtain a high quality
16   education.--Every child deserves an equal opportunity to
17   obtain a high quality education, regardless of his or her
18   family's income, religion, or race.
19   (a) Funding for a high quality public K-12 education
20   through classroom instruction is fundamental. To make
21   adequate provision for a high quality public K-12 education,
22   at least sixty-five percent of school funding received by
23   school districts shall be spent on classroom instruction,
24   rather than administration. Classroom instruction and
25   administration shall be defined by law.
26   (b) Students who are in prekindergarten programs or
27   4-year-olds, students who are in college, and K-12 students
28   who are economically disadvantaged or have reading or learning
29   disabilities or who are trapped in failing public schools may
30   participate, as provided by law, in education programs that
31   include non-public schools. The legislature may enact and

 1 | publicly fund prekindergarten through college education
 2 | programs, without regard to the religious nature of any
 3 | participant or non-public provider, notwithstanding any other
 4 | provision of this Article or Section 3 of Article I of this
 5 | constitution.
 6 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
 7 | placed on the ballot:
 8 | CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
 9 | ARTICLE IX, SECTION 8
10 | EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN A HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION.--
11 | Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to provide
12 | that every child deserves an equal opportunity to obtain a
13 | high quality education, regardless of his or her family's
14 | income, religion, or race; to provide that funding for high
15 | quality public K-12 education through classroom instruction is
16 | fundamental; to provide that to make adequate provision for a
17 | high quality public K-12 education, at least sixty-five
18 | percent of school funding received by school districts shall
19 | be spent on classroom instruction rather than administration;
20 | to provide that classroom instruction and administration shall
21 | be defined by law; to provide that students who are in
22 | prekindergarten programs, 4-year-olds, or in college and
23 | students who are in K-12 and are economically disadvantaged,
24 | have a reading or learning disability, or are trapped in a
25 | failing public school may participate, as provided by law, in
26 | education programs that include non-public schools; and to
27 | provide that the Legislature may enact and publicly fund
28 | prekindergarten through college education programs, without
29 | regard to the religious nature of any participant or
30 | non-public provider, notwithstanding any other provision of
31 |

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

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 1  this Article or of Section 3 of Article I of the State

 2  Constitution.

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 4          STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
                      COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
 5                        CS/SJR 2170

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 7  This committee substitute revises the eligibility of a student
    for a publicly-funded private school education as provided by
 8  law to include:

 9      -      A student who is in a prekindergarten program or who
               is a four year old;
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        -      A student who is in college; and
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        -      A K-12 student who is economically disadvantaged or
12             who attends a failing school.

13  Regarding students with disabilities, this committee
    substitute limits eligibility to those K-12 students with
14  reading or learning disabilities.

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