

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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1 Representative Steinberg offered the following:

2
3 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

4 Remove everything after the resolving clause and insert:

5 That the following amendment to Section 14 of Article V of
6 the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to
7 the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next
8 general election:

9 ARTICLE V

10 JUDICIARY

11 SECTION 14. Funding.-

12 (a) All justices and judges shall be compensated only by
13 state salaries fixed by general law. Funding for the state
14 courts system, state attorneys' offices, public defenders'
15 offices, and court-appointed counsel, except as otherwise

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16 provided in subsection (c), shall be provided from state
17 revenues appropriated by general law.

18 (b) All funding for the offices of the clerks of the
19 circuit and county courts performing court-related functions,
20 except as otherwise provided in this subsection and subsection
21 (c), shall be provided by adequate and appropriate filing fees
22 for judicial proceedings and service charges and costs for
23 performing court-related functions as required by general law.
24 Selected salaries, costs, and expenses of the state courts
25 system may be funded from appropriate filing fees for judicial
26 proceedings and service charges and costs for performing court-
27 related functions, as provided by general law. Where the
28 requirements of either the United States Constitution or the
29 Constitution of the State of Florida preclude the imposition of
30 filing fees for judicial proceedings and service charges and
31 costs for performing court-related functions sufficient to fund
32 the court-related functions of the offices of the clerks of the
33 circuit and county courts, the state shall provide, as
34 determined by the legislature, adequate and appropriate
35 supplemental funding from state revenues appropriated by general
36 law.

37 (c) No county or municipality, except as provided in this
38 subsection, shall be required to provide any funding for the
39 state courts system, state attorneys' offices, public defenders'
40 offices, court-appointed counsel or the offices of the clerks of
41 the circuit and county courts performing court-related
42 functions. Counties shall be required to fund the cost of
43 communications services, existing radio systems, existing multi-
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44 agency criminal justice information systems, and the cost of
45 construction or lease, maintenance, utilities, and security of
46 facilities for the trial courts, public defenders' offices,
47 state attorneys' offices, and the offices of the clerks of the
48 circuit and county courts performing court-related functions.
49 Counties shall also pay reasonable and necessary salaries,
50 costs, and expenses of the state courts system to meet local
51 requirements as determined by general law.

52 (d) The judiciary shall have no power to fix
53 appropriations.

54 (e) Commencing with the 2013-2014 fiscal year, the total
55 appropriation of all fund sources to the judicial branch shall
56 equal no less than 2.25 percent of the total general revenue
57 funds appropriated in the general appropriation bill referred to
58 in Section 19(b) of Article III. Any adjustments to the total
59 appropriations of all fund sources to the judicial branch made
60 in any special appropriations act shall equal no more than the
61 percent of total general revenue appropriations adjusted in such
62 special appropriations act.

63 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
64 placed on the ballot:

65 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

66 ARTICLE V, SECTION 14

67 STATE COURTS.—Proposing an amendment to the State
68 Constitution regarding the courts. State appropriations are made
69 annually by general law. Current law does not require any
70 specific level of funding for any agency or department. This
71 amendment requires that the courts be appropriated a minimum of
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72 2.25 percent of general revenue funding beginning with the 2013-
73 2014 fiscal year.

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

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Remove the entire title and insert:

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House Joint Resolution

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A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 14 of

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Article V of the State Constitution to require that a

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specified minimum percentage of general revenue funds be

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appropriated to the courts.