

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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1 Representative Steinberg offered the following:
2

3 **Substitute Amendment for Amendment (379527) (with title**
4 **amendment)**

5 Remove everything after the resolving clause and insert:

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

10 ARTICLE V

11 JUDICIARY

12 SECTION 14. Funding.—

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

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

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

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

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

55 (e) Commencing with the 2013-2014 fiscal year, the total
56 appropriation of general revenue and State Courts Revenue Trust
57 Fund funds to the state courts system shall equal no less than
58 2.25 percent of the total general revenue funds appropriated in
59 the 2013-2014 general appropriations act. Federal funds, grants,
60 and funds received for the benefit of other agencies may not be
61 included in the calculation of the 2.25 percent. The funds
62 allocated to the state courts system may not be reduced in any
63 special appropriations action by an amount greater than the
64 percentage reduction taken to general revenue funds in the act
65 as compared to the general appropriations act then in effect.
66 The funding allocated to the state courts system may not be
67 automatically reduced due to declines in general revenue. For
68 purposes of this subsection, the state courts system includes
69 the courts included in Section 1 of this article, including
70 their direct administrative and support entities, and the
71 Judicial Qualifications Commission.

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72 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
73 placed on the ballot:

74 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

75 ARTICLE V, SECTION 14

76 STATE COURTS.—Proposing an amendment to the State
77 Constitution regarding the courts. State appropriations are made
78 annually by general law. Current law does not require any
79 specific level of funding for any agency or department. This
80 amendment requires that the courts be appropriated a minimum of
81 2.25 percent of general revenue funding beginning with the 2013-
82 2014 fiscal year.

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84
85 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

86 Remove the entire title and insert:

87 House Joint Resolution

88 A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 14 of
89 Article V of the State Constitution to require that a
90 specified minimum percentage of general revenue funds be
91 appropriated to the courts.