

By Commissioner Diaz

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1                   A proposal to amend  
2           Section 15 of Article III of the State Constitution to  
3           require a candidate for the Legislature to reside in  
4           the district from which the candidate seeks election  
5           upon qualifying except at the election next following  
6           a reapportionment.

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8 Be It Proposed by the Constitution Revision Commission of  
9 Florida:

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11           Section 15 of Article III of the State Constitution is  
12 amended to read:

13                               ARTICLE III

14                               LEGISLATURE

15           SECTION 15. Terms and qualifications of legislators.—

16           (a) SENATORS. Senators shall be elected for terms of four  
17 years, those from odd-numbered districts in the years the  
18 numbers of which are multiples of four and those from even-  
19 numbered districts in even-numbered years the numbers of which  
20 are not multiples of four; except, at the election next  
21 following a reapportionment, some senators shall be elected for  
22 terms of two years when necessary to maintain staggered terms.

23           (b) REPRESENTATIVES. Members of the house of  
24 representatives shall be elected for terms of two years in each  
25 even-numbered year.

26           (c) QUALIFICATIONS. Each candidate for the legislature  
27 shall, at the time he or she qualifies, be a resident of the  
28 district from which the candidate seeks election, except at the  
29 election next following a reapportionment. Each legislator shall  
30 be at least twenty-one years of age, an elector and resident of  
31 the district from which elected and shall have resided in the  
32 state for a period of two years prior to election.

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33 (d) ASSUMING OFFICE; VACANCIES. Members of the legislature  
34 shall take office upon election. Vacancies in legislative office  
35 shall be filled only by election as provided by law.