

By Commissioner Donalds

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1                   A proposal to amend  
2           Section 4 of Article IX of the State Constitution to  
3           specify that the Legislature is authorized to enact  
4           general laws providing alternative processes to  
5           authorize the establishment of charter schools in the  
6           state.

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

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11           Section 4 of Article IX of the State Constitution is  
12 amended to read:

13                                   ARTICLE IX

14                                   EDUCATION

15           SECTION 4. School districts; school boards.—

16           (a) Each county shall constitute a school district;  
17 provided, two or more contiguous counties, upon vote of the  
18 electors of each county pursuant to law, may be combined into  
19 one school district. In each school district there shall be a  
20 school board composed of five or more members chosen by vote of  
21 the electors in a nonpartisan election for appropriately  
22 staggered terms of four years, as provided by law.

23           (b) The school board shall operate, control, and supervise  
24 all free public schools within the school district and determine  
25 the rate of school district taxes within the limits prescribed  
26 herein. Two or more school districts may operate and finance  
27 joint educational programs. Nothing herein may be construed to  
28 limit the legislature from creating alternative processes to  
29 authorize the establishment of charter schools within the state  
30 by general law.