

By the Committee on Style and Drafting

350-00440-17

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REVISION 9

A proposal to amend Section 5 of Article VI of the State Constitution to authorize all qualified electors, regardless of party affiliation, to vote in a partisan primary election for an office if all the candidates for the office have the same party affiliation and the winner will be opposed only by one or more write-in candidates in the general election.

Be It Proposed by the Constitution Revision Commission of Florida:

Section 5 of Article VI of the State Constitution is amended to read:

ARTICLE VI

SUFFRAGE AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 5. Primary, general, and special elections.—

(a) A general election shall be held in each county on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year to choose a successor to each elective state and county officer whose term will expire before the next general election and, except as provided herein, to fill each vacancy in elective office for the unexpired portion of the term. A general election may be suspended or delayed due to a state of emergency or impending emergency pursuant to general law. Special elections and referenda shall be held as provided by law.

(b) If all candidates for an office have the same party affiliation and the winner will have either no opposition in the general election, or opposition only from one or more write-in candidates, then all qualified electors, regardless of party

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33 affiliation, may vote in the primary elections for that office.

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35 BE IT FURTHER PROPOSED that the following statement be placed on
36 the ballot:

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38 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

39 ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5

40 PRIMARY ELECTIONS.—Currently, all qualified voters,
41 regardless of party affiliation, may vote in primary elections
42 when all candidates have the same party affiliation and there is
43 no opposition, including write-in candidates, in the general
44 election. This amendment provides that the presence of write-in
45 candidates on the ballot will not prevent all qualified voters
46 from voting in primary elections.