

(HOUSE BILL NO. 5)

AN ACT to provide for the Holding of State Conventions for the Purpose of Ratifying or Rejecting Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:*

Section 1. CONVENTIONS — HOW CONSTITUTED. Whenever the Congress of the United States shall propose, to conventions in the several states, an amendment to the Constitution of the United States for ratification or rejection, and shall not have provided the manner in which such conventions shall be constituted, the conventions in this state shall be chosen and constituted in the manner herein prescribed and shall function in accordance with this Act.

Section 2. NUMBER AND QUALIFICATIONS OF DELEGATES. Such conventions shall consist of sixty-seven delegates from the State at large. Each delegate shall possess the qualifications of a member of the House of Representatives of the Legislature of this state; and each shall hold office from the date of his election and until the convention shall have discharged the duties for which it was selected.

Section 3. SPECIAL ELECTIONS—QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTERS. The delegates composing such convention shall be elected at a special election which shall be held in each county of this state on a date to be fixed by the Governor, not less than five (5) months and not more than ten (10) months after the date of the proposal by the Congress. The Governor shall issue his call for such election at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date thereof, which, as soon as issued, shall be published by the Secretary of State at least one time, in a newspaper of general circulation in each county. Such election shall be conducted, except as herein specified, in all respects in the manner and form prescribed by the laws of this state for holding general elections.

All electors who were duly qualified to vote in the last preceding general election shall be qualified to vote in such special election without further registration or further payment of poll taxes. The registration books in each county shall be opened ten (10) days after the Governor shall issue his call and shall remain open, in each county, until and including the tenth day before the election, during which time all persons who have not been registered, though entitled to be or who shall have become entitled to registration since the last general election, shall be permitted to register. During the time in which the registration books are required to be kept open by this section, any registered voter shall be permitted to qualify to vote in such election.