A proposal to revise
ARTICLE IV, s. 8, Fla. Const.; requiring that a
state prisoner serve at least 85 percent of his
or her term of imprisonment, unless granted
pardon or clemency; prohibiting the reduction
of a prisoner's sentence by more than 15
percent; requiring that a state prisoner
sentenced to life imprisonment be incarcerated
for the remainder of his or her natural life,
unless granted pardon or clemency.

It is proposed by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission
that:

Section 1. Section 8 of Article IV of the Florida
Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:
ARTICLE IV
EXECUTIVE
SECTION 8. Clemency.--
(a) Except in cases of treason and in cases where
impeachment results in conviction, the governor may, by
executive order filed with the secretary of state, suspend
collection of fines and forfeitures, grant reprieves not
exceeding sixty days and, with the approval of three members
of the cabinet, grant full or conditional pardons, restore
civil rights, commute punishment, and remit fines and
forfeitures for offenses.
(b) In cases of treason the governor may grant
reprieves until adjournment of the regular session of the
legislature convening next after the conviction, at which

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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session the legislature may grant a pardon or further
reprieve; otherwise the sentence shall be executed.

(c) There may be created by law a parole and probation
commission with power to supervise persons on probation and to
grant paroles or conditional releases to persons under
sentences for crime. The qualifications, method of selection
and terms, not to exceed six years, of members of the
commission shall be prescribed by law.

(d) The people have a fundamental right to know that
public safety will always be one of their Government's highest
priorities. Because protection of the public is one of
Government's paramount duties, and because every citizen has
the right to expect consistency and integrity in the criminal
justice system, there must be truth in sentencing.
Accordingly, no defendant sentenced to state prison shall be
released for any reason prior to serving at least 85 percent
of the sentence imposed, unless granted pardon or clemency.
State prisoners sentenced to life imprisonment shall be
incarcerated for the rest of their natural lives, unless
granted pardon or clemency.