A proposal to revise
ARTICLE IV, s. 6, and ARTICLE VII, s. 9, Fla. Const.; creating five executive departments of water management and eliminating ad valorem taxing authority for water management purposes.

It is proposed by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission that:

Section 1. Section 6 of Article IV of the Florida Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:

ARTICLE IV
EXECUTIVE

SECTION 6. Executive departments.--All functions of the executive branch of state government shall be allotted among not more than twenty-five departments, exclusive of those specifically provided for or authorized in this constitution. Five of the departments authorized by this section are the Department of Northwest Florida Water Management, the Department of Suwannee River Water Management, the Department of St. Johns River Water Management, the Department of Southwest Florida Water Management, and the Department of South Florida Water Management. The administration of each department, unless otherwise provided in this constitution, shall be placed by law under the direct supervision of the governor, the lieutenant governor, the governor and cabinet, a cabinet member, or an officer or board appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the governor, except:

(a) When provided by law, confirmation by the senate or the approval of three members of the cabinet shall be
required for appointment to or removal from any designated statutory office.

(b) Boards authorized to grant and revoke licenses to engage in regulated occupations shall be assigned to appropriate departments and their members appointed for fixed terms, subject to removal only for cause.

Section 2. Section 9 of Article VII of the Florida Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:

ARTICLE VII
FINANCE AND TAXATION
SECTION 9. Local taxes.--

(a) Counties, school districts, and municipalities shall, and special districts may, be authorized by law to levy ad valorem taxes and may be authorized by general law to levy other taxes, for their respective purposes, except ad valorem taxes on intangible personal property and taxes prohibited by this constitution.

(b) Ad valorem taxes, exclusive of taxes levied for the payment of bonds and taxes levied for periods not longer than two years when authorized by vote of the electors who are the owners of freeholds therein not wholly exempt from taxation, shall not be levied in excess of the following millages upon the assessed value of real estate and tangible personal property: for all county purposes, ten mills; for all municipal purposes, ten mills; for all school purposes, ten mills; for water management purposes for the northwest portion of the state lying west of the line between ranges two and three east, 0.05 mill; for water management purposes for the remaining portions of the state, 1.0 mill; and for all other special districts a millage authorized by law approved by vote of the electors who are owners of freeholds therein not wholly

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
exempt from taxation. A county furnishing municipal services may, to the extent authorized by law, levy additional taxes within the limits fixed for municipal purposes.