A proposal to revise
ARTICLE V, s. 14, Fla. Const., and create
ARTICLE V, s. 21, Fla. Const.; providing for
salaries, costs, and expenses of the judiciary,
state attorneys, public defenders, and clerks
of the circuit court, and their respective
staffs, to be funded from state revenues
appropriated by general law; providing for
counties to fund the cost of construction,
maintenance, utilities, and security of
facilities for the judiciary, public defenders,
state attorneys, and clerks of the circuit
court, and their respective staffs; requiring
the Legislature to appropriate funds according
to a phase-in schedule established by general
law; authorizing the Legislature to require
that counties remit fines, costs, and
forfeitures for the purpose of funding the
operation of the judiciary, state attorneys,
and public defenders.

It is proposed by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission
that:

Section 1. Section 14 of Article V of the Florida
Constitution is revised by amending that section, and section
21 is added to Article V of the Florida Constitution, to read:

ARTICLE V
JUDICIARY
SECTION 14. Judicial salaries.--

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
(a) All justices and judges shall be compensated only by state salaries fixed by general law. All other salaries, costs, and expenses of the judiciary, state attorneys, public defenders, including court-appointed counsel, and clerks of the circuit court performing judicial functions, and their respective staffs, shall, except as otherwise provided in this section, be funded from state revenues appropriated by general law. No county or municipality shall be obligated to pay for any salaries, costs, or expenses of the judiciary, state attorneys, public defenders, or clerks of the circuit court performing judicial functions, or their respective staffs, except as otherwise provided in this section.

(b) Counties shall be responsible for funding the cost of construction, maintenance, utilities, and security of facilities for the trial courts, public defenders, state attorneys, and clerks of the circuit court, and their respective staffs.

(c) The judiciary shall have no power to fix appropriations.

SECTION 21. Schedule to Article V Amendments.--
(a) Commencing with fiscal year 2000-2001, the legislature shall appropriate funds to pay for the expenses set forth in the amendment to Section 14 of Article V pursuant to a phase-in schedule established by general law.

(b) Nothing contained in the amendment to Section 14 shall preclude the legislature by law from requiring that counties remit to the state, in accordance with the phase-in schedule for this amendment, fines, costs, and forfeitures retained by counties for the sole purpose of funding the operation of the trial courts, state attorneys, and public defenders.

CODING: Words struck are deletions; words underlined are additions.
(c) Unless otherwise provided herein, the amendment to Section 14 shall take effect July 1, 2004.