A proposal to revise

ARTICLE IX, s. 4, Fla. Const.; authorizing
certain counties to be divided into more than
one school district.

It is proposed by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission that:

Section 1. Section 4 of Article IX of the Florida Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:

ARTICLE IX

EDUCATION

SECTION 4. School districts; school boards.--

(a) Each county shall constitute a school district;

provided,

(1) Two or more contiguous counties, upon vote of the electors of each county pursuant to law, may be combined into one school district.

(2) A county with 45,000 or more students in the district schools within the county may be divided into more than one school district. Each school district must have no fewer than 15,000 students, as provided by general or special law and subject to approval by a vote of the electors of the county. Notwithstanding other provisions of this constitution, a commission may be created by special law in each county with more than 45,000 students, which commission shall draw school district boundary lines, allocate assets, and make provisions for the contractual obligations, debts, and bonded indebtedness of the school district, all of which shall be subject to review and approval by the circuit court for compliance with state and federal law. Except for millage

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voted for bonded indebtedness, funding for operation and
capital outlay in school districts divided pursuant to this
section shall be calculated countywide and allocated as
provided by general law.

(b) In each school district there shall be a school
board composed of five or more members chosen by vote of the
electors for appropriately staggered terms of four years, as
provided by law.

(b) The school board shall operate, control and
supervise all free public schools within the school district
and determine the rate of school district taxes within the
limits prescribed herein. Two or more school districts may
operate and finance joint educational programs.

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