A proposal to revise
ARTICLE VII, s. 3, Fla. Const.; revising the
requirements for exempting municipally owned
property; allowing the Legislature to exempt
from taxation property owned by a municipality
or special district and used for airport,
seaport, or public purposes, as defined by law,
and uses that are incidental thereto.

It is proposed by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission
that:

Section 1. Section 3 of Article VII of the Florida
Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:

ARTICLE VII
FINANCE AND TAXATION
SECTION 3. Taxes; exemptions.--
(a) All property owned by a municipality and used
exclusively by it for governmental or municipal or public
purposes shall be exempt from taxation. All property owned by
a municipality not otherwise exempt from taxation or by a
special district and used for airport, seaport, or public
purposes, as defined by general law, and uses that are
incidental thereto, may be exempted from taxation as provided
by general law. A municipality, owning property outside the
municipality, may be required by general law to make payment
to the taxing unit in which the property is located. Such
portions of property as are used predominantly for
educational, literary, scientific, religious or charitable
purposes may be exempted by general law from taxation.

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

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(b) There shall be exempt from taxation, cumulatively, to every head of a family residing in this state, household goods and personal effects to the value fixed by general law, not less than one thousand dollars, and to every widow or widower or person who is blind or totally and permanently disabled, property to the value fixed by general law not less than five hundred dollars.

(c) Any county or municipality may, for the purpose of its respective tax levy and subject to the provisions of this subsection and general law, grant community and economic development ad valorem tax exemptions to new businesses and expansions of existing businesses, as defined by general law. Such an exemption may be granted only by ordinance of the county or municipality, and only after the electors of the county or municipality voting on such question in a referendum authorize the county or municipality to adopt such ordinances. An exemption so granted shall apply to improvements to real property made by or for the use of a new business and improvements to real property related to the expansion of an existing business and shall also apply to tangible personal property of such new business and tangible personal property related to the expansion of an existing business. The amount or limits of the amount of such exemption shall be specified by general law. The period of time for which such exemption may be granted to a new business or expansion of an existing business shall be determined by general law. The authority to grant such exemption shall expire ten years from the date of approval by the electors of the county or municipality, and may be renewable by referendum as provided by general law.

(d) By general law and subject to conditions specified therein, there may be granted an ad valorem tax exemption to a
renewable energy source device and to real property on which such device is installed and operated, to the value fixed by general law not to exceed the original cost of the device, and for the period of time fixed by general law not to exceed ten years.

(e) Any county or municipality may, for the purpose of its respective tax levy and subject to the provisions of this subsection and general law, grant historic preservation ad valorem tax exemptions to owners of historic properties engaging in the rehabilitation or renovation of these properties in accordance with approved historic preservation guidelines. This exemption may be granted only by ordinance of the county or municipality. The amount or limits of the amount of this exemption and the requirements for eligible properties must be specified by general law. The period of time for which this exemption may be granted to a property owner shall be determined by general law.