A proposal to revise

ARTICLE VII, s. 18, Fla. Const.; providing that
a county or municipality is not bound by any
agency action or administrative rule that
requires the expenditure of funds, reduces
revenue raising authority, or reduces the
percentage of shared state taxes.

It is proposed by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission
that:

Section 1. Section 18 of Article VII of the Florida
Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:

ARTICLE VII

FINANCE AND TAXATION

SECTION 18. Laws requiring counties or municipalities
to spend funds or limiting their ability to raise revenue or
receive state tax revenue.--

(a) No county or municipality shall be bound by any
general law requiring such county or municipality to spend
funds or to take an action requiring the expenditure of funds
unless the legislature has determined that such law fulfills
an important state interest and unless: funds have been
appropriated that have been estimated at the time of enactment
to be sufficient to fund such expenditure; the legislature
authorizes or has authorized a county or municipality to enact
a funding source not available for such county or municipality
on February 1, 1989, that can be used to generate the amount
of funds estimated to be sufficient to fund such expenditure
by a simple majority vote of the governing body of such county
or municipality; the law requiring such expenditure is

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approved by two-thirds of the membership in each house of the legislature; the expenditure is required to comply with a law that applies to all persons similarly situated, including the state and local governments; or the law is either required to comply with a federal requirement or required for eligibility for a federal entitlement, which federal requirement specifically contemplates actions by counties or municipalities for compliance.

(b) Except upon approval of each house of the legislature by two-thirds of the membership, the legislature may not enact, amend, or repeal any general law if the anticipated effect of doing so would be to reduce the authority that municipalities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate, as such authority exists on February 1, 1989.

(c) Except upon approval of each house of the legislature by two-thirds of the membership, the legislature may not enact, amend, or repeal any general law if the anticipated effect of doing so would be to reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with counties and municipalities as an aggregate on February 1, 1989. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to enhancements enacted after February 1, 1989, to state tax sources, or during a fiscal emergency declared in a written joint proclamation issued by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives, or where the legislature provides additional state-shared revenues which are anticipated to be sufficient to replace the anticipated aggregate loss of state-shared revenues resulting from the reduction of the percentage of the state tax shared with counties and municipalities, which source of replacement

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revenues shall be subject to the same requirements for repeal
or modification as provided herein for a state-shared tax
source existing on February 1, 1989.

(d) A county or municipality is not bound by any agency
action or administrative rule that:

(1) Requires a county or municipality to spend funds or
to take an action requiring the expenditure of funds;

(2) Reduces the authority of a county or municipality
to raise revenues; or

(3) Reduces the percentage of a state tax shared with a
county or municipality.

(e) Laws adopted to require funding of pension
benefits existing on the effective date of this section,
criminal laws, election laws, the general appropriations act,
special appropriations acts, laws reauthorizing but not
expanding then-existing statutory authority, laws having
insignificant fiscal impact, and laws creating, modifying, or
repealing noncriminal infractions, are exempt from the
requirements of this section.

(f) The legislature may enact laws to assist in the
implementation and enforcement of this section.