A proposal to revise
ARTICLE VI, s. 4, and ARTICLE V, s. 10, Fla.
Const.; providing that judicial officers may
not hold office for more than eight consecutive
years; reducing the terms of office for certain
judicial officers.

It is proposed by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission
that:

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

    ARTICLE VI
    SUFFRAGE AND ELECTIONS
    SECTION 4. Disqualifications.--
    (a) No person convicted of a felony, or adjudicated in
this or any other state to be mentally incompetent, shall be
qualified to vote or hold office until restoration of civil
rights or removal of disability.
    (b) No person may appear on the ballot for re-election
or retention to any of the following offices:
(1) Florida representative,
(2) Florida senator,
(3) Florida Lieutenant governor,
(4) any office of the Florida cabinet,
(5) U.S. Representative from Florida, or
(6) U.S. Senator from Florida, or
(7) Any office of the judiciary

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will have served (or, but for resignation, would have served) in that office for eight consecutive years.

Section 2. Section 10 of Article V of the Florida Constitution is revised by amending that section to read:

ARTICLE V

JUDICIARY

SECTION 10. Retention; election and terms.--

(a) Any justice of the supreme court or any judge of a district court of appeal may qualify for retention by a vote of the electors in the general election next preceding the expiration of his term in the manner prescribed by law. If a justice or judge is ineligible or fails to qualify for retention, a vacancy shall exist in that office upon the expiration of the term being served by the justice or judge.

When a justice of the supreme court or a judge of a district court of appeal so qualifies, the ballot shall read substantially as follows: "Shall Justice (or Judge) ...(name of justice or judge)... of the ...(name of the court)... be retained in office?" If a majority of the qualified electors voting within the territorial jurisdiction of the court vote to retain, the justice or judge shall be retained for a term of four six years commencing on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January following the general election. If a majority of the qualified electors voting within the territorial jurisdiction of the court vote to not retain, a vacancy shall exist in that office upon the expiration of the term being served by the justice or judge.

(b) Circuit judges and judges of county courts shall be elected by vote of the qualified electors within the territorial jurisdiction of their respective courts. The
terms of circuit judges shall be for four six years. The terms of judges of county courts shall be for four years.

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