

Florida's Constitutional Revision Commission











100 Years of Securing Florida's Future

What is the Constitutional Revision Commission?

WHO:

37 appointed members

WHAT:

- Review Florida's constitution and examine the relevance and applicability of Florida's Constitution to current and future needs.
- > The CRC itself is an unusual creature of constitutional construction and is not within one of the traditional three branches of government.

WHEN:

- ➤ In the 1968 constitution, there is a provision for a Constitutional Revision Commission every 20 years, starting in 1978
- > The next Commission will begin in 2017.



Pictured above: Authors of the Current Florida Constitution, 1968

To learn more, visit www.FloridaChamber.com/CRC





The 2018 Constitutional Revision Commission

PREAMRLE

We, the people of the State of Florida, being grateful to Almighty God for our constitutional liberty, in order to secure its benefits, perfect our government, insure domestic tranquility, maintain public order, and guarantee equal civil and political rights to all, do ordain and establish this constitution.

ARTICLE I

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

Section 1. <u>POLITICAL POWER.</u> -- All political power is inherent in the people. The enunciation herein of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or impair others retained by the people.

Section 2. BASIC RIGHTS.-- All natural persons are equal before the law and have inalienable rights, among which are the right to enjoy and defend life and liberty, to pursue happiness, to be rewarded for industry, and to acquire, possess and protect property; except that the ownership, inheritance, disposition and possession of real property by aliens ineligible for citizenship may be regulated or prohibited by law. No person shall be deprived of any right because of race or religion.

Section 3. <u>RELIGIOUS FREEDOM</u>. -- There shall be no law respecting the establishment of religion or prohibiting or penalizing the free exercise thereof. Religious freedom shall not justify practices inconsistent with public morals, peace or safety. No revenue of the state or any political subdivision or agency thereof shall ever be taken from the public treasury directly or indirectly in aid of any church, sect, or religious denomination or in aid of any sectarian institution.

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In February 2017, Florida will name its third Constitutional Revision Commission.

Who Leads It?

- The Commission is led by a Chair, which is appointed by the Governor.
- Traditionally, the Governor's Office has provided full time staff, including an Executive Director.



Who Appoints Floridians to the Constitutional Revision Commission?



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Why the Constitutional Revision Commission Matters

8 of 9: That's how many proposals the commission passed in 1998.

Today, 3 of those would have failed due to the Florida Chamber's efforts to ensure a 60% vote threshold.

If a proposal from the Commission gets on the ballot and 60% of Floridians vote for it, the change is permanent and goes directly into Florida's constitution— there is no judicial review, no legislative remedy and no executive veto.

While this is a great opportunity for our state, the Commission holds incredible power over Florida's Constitution. Their decisions could impact Florida's families and businesses for the next 20 years.

FLE RIDA CHAMBER of Commerce

We Need You



Florida needs a Constitutional Revision Commission that will help secure Florida's future.

If you would like to get involved, contact Hannah Kaplan at hkaplan@flchamber.com or by phone at 850-521-1246.





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