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December 4, 2017

The Florida Constitution Revision Commission
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

RE: Florida Chamber Opposes Proposal 51

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for your service to Florida as a Commissioner of the 2018 Constitution Revision Commission. Your role in refining and debating our state's central document has the potential to set Florida on a path of continued prosperity.

One of the many issues that you as Commissioners will debate is the proper scope of the state's constitution relative to existing regulatory regimes. Many seemingly simple proposals have the potential to undercut decades of procedure, rules, and statutes on which some of the most vital services rely upon. Proposal 51, relating to electric regulation, is one such proposal. While Proposal 51 might seem simple in concept, restructuring utility competition via constitutional amendment would create significant implementation challenges and, if other states' experiences are any guide, will likely not benefit electricity consumers.

Attached to this letter are two attachments:

- The first provides short synopses of linked articles describing other states' experiences with deregulations, particularly with respect to electric reliability and adequacy issues; market failures; and customer impacts.
- The second attachment provides a brief overview of the Final Report of the Florida Energy 2020 Study Commission and a copy of the Final Report; both of which are useful in understanding the complexity and pitfalls of changing the existing market structure.

The Florida Chamber has consistently opposed constitutional proposals that could be accomplished through the legislative process. The intricacy of our state's electric utility regulations require a thorough, open, and exhaustive process before significant, systemic changes are considered. Even then, any such proposal should be left to the legislative branch. Proposal 51 throws considerable constitutional uncertainty into a utility that each and every Floridian depends upon.

The Florida Chamber urges you to vote against this proposal, but looks forward to working with the Constitution Revision Commission to help write Florida's next chapter of collaboration and success.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Frank C. Walker III".

Frank C. Walker, III
Vice President of Government Affairs

CC: Bob Gramig, Chair, Florida Chamber of Commerce
Mark Wilson, President and CEO, Florida Chamber of Commerce
David Hart, Executive Vice President, Florida Chamber of Commerce

Securing Florida's Future