

Constitution Revision Commission (CRC)



David J. Cruz
Assistant General Counsel
Florida League of Cities

Constitution of Florida

The Constitution of the State of Florida is the document that establishes and describes the duties, powers, structure and function of the government of the state.

Florida has 5 ways to amend the constitution:

1. The Florida Legislature
2. The Constitution Revision Commission (CRC)
3. The “people” through the initiative process
4. Constitutional convention
5. The Taxation and Budget Commission

What is the CRC?

The CRC is a group of 37 people who will review and recommend changes to Florida's constitution.

- Article XI, Section 2
- Meets every 20 years
- Puts amendments directly on ballot (requires 60% voter approval to pass)
- CRC amendments are not bound by single subject requirements
- 37 members will be appointed no later than February, 2017
- This will be the third CRC in state's history

Who serves on the CRC?

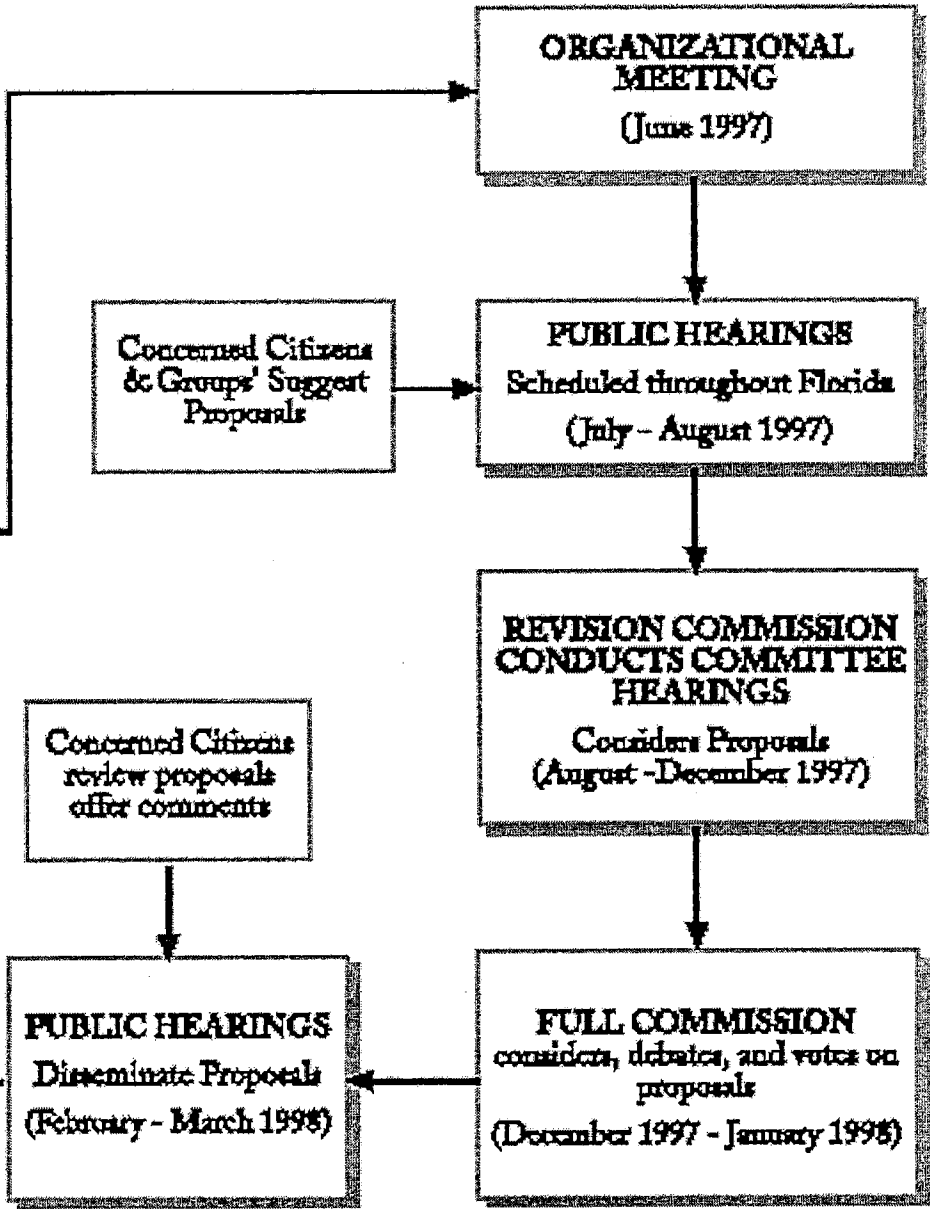
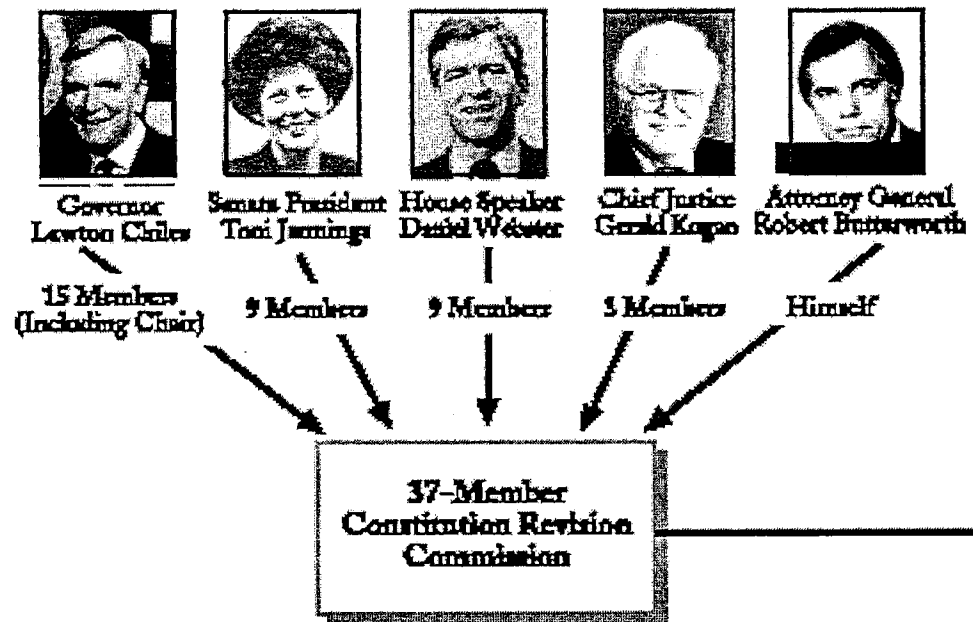
- 15 Appointed by the Governor
- 9 Appointed by the Speaker of the House
- 9 Appointed by the President of the Senate
- 3 Appointed by the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court
- The Attorney General of Florida

What will the CRC do?

- Adopt rules of procedure
- Examine the constitution of the state
- Hold public hearings
- Make recommendations for revisions to go on the 2018 general election ballot

Florida's Constitution Revision Commission Process

APPOINTING AUTHORITIES



Previous CRCs

1977-1978 CRC

- Eight proposals
- None adopted on ballot

1997-1998 CRC

- Nine proposals
- Eight were successful

When will the CRC process begin?

- **30 days before the start of the 2017 Legislative Session, members of the CRC must be appointed (February 5, 2017)**
- **Organizational meeting (June 2017)**
- **Likely public hearings (Summer 2017)**
- **Final CRC proposals submitted to Sec. of State (May 2018)**
- **Voters vote on proposals (November 2018)**

FLC CRC Game Plan

- **Immediate future: Develop a strategy to influence appointments to the CRC**
 - FLC CRC Resolution
 - FLC Board of Directors supports President Haynie's CRC Application
- **After appointments are made, develop a strategy to influence the CRC process itself**
- **Develop a long-term strategy to vet issues benefiting municipal governments for the CRC's consideration**

CRC Homework

- If you have a working relationship with the officials making CRC appointments and are willing to help, please let League staff know and we will contact you as staff develops a comprehensive strategy to influence appointments
- Once the CRC is appointed, League staff will develop a key contact program of city officials that have relationships with CRC members
- Encourage city officials to attend and participate at public CRC meetings

Florida League of Cities

CRC Contacts

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Governor Rick Scott
The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

October 10, 2016

Subject: Recommendation of Mayor Susan Haynie to the Constitution Revision Commission

Dear Governor Scott,

Florida League of Cities president, Boca Raton Mayor Susan Haynie, possesses a wide range of qualifications and we strongly recommend her as one of your appointees to the Constitution Revision Commission.

The importance and significance of your appointments to the Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) cannot be overstated. You are indubitably seeking 15 individuals from a wealth of backgrounds to have the potential to positively affect the lives of all Floridians.

The Board of Directors of the Florida League of Cities, Inc., lend equal gravity to the significance of appointing municipal officials to the CRC. The Florida League of Cities finds it crucial to have municipal representation on the CRC to ensure that the perspectives and concerns of the more than 2,000 municipal elected officials, representing over 400 League-member cities, are adequately voiced.

Mayor Haynie is a seasoned municipal leader, with a decades-long service record and firsthand experience in job-creation. During her time on the Boca Raton City Council, she kept taxes low, streamlined regulation, improved public safety and fostered an environment for small businesses to thrive. As a mother of five, she is ever aware that policies must be designed for future generations.

As a state-licensed General Contractor and with a wealth of experience in the private sector, Mayor Haynie is familiar with running a business and understands that amendments need not all be made from the perspective of elected officials. She strongly favors streamlining tax relief, permitting and the unemployment system in favor of Florida's business owners.

President **Susan Haynie**, Mayor, Boca Raton

First Vice President **Gil Ziffer**, Commissioner, Tallahassee • Second Vice President **Leo E. Longworth**, Commissioner, Bartow

Executive Director **Michael Sittig** • General Counsel **Harry Morrison, Jr.**

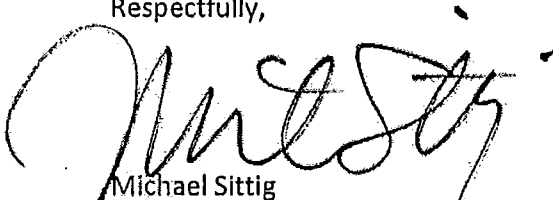
Governor Rick Scott
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Mayor Haynie's record of public and community service also includes her involvement with, among many other organizations and committees, the Coastal Ocean Task Force, Community Emergency Response Team, Florida Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council, National League of Cities Task Force and the Florida Transportation Plan/Strategic Intermodal System Steering Committee.

Mayor Haynie understands that government begins at the local level, rather than from the top down. She believes that local self-government is the keystone to American democracy and constitutional municipal home rule authority is important to building a great state.

Along with her record as an elected official, experience in the private sector and breadth of affiliations, Mayor Haynie is an excellent candidate for appointment to the Constitution Revision Commission.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Sittig". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

Michael Sittig
Executive Director

Cc: Board of Directors Florida League of Cities