Section 1 My Home State

State History

The name of my state is Florida

The meaning of this name is the flowery state

The state was adopted to the Union on March 3, 1845

The original capital was Tallahassee

The capital is now Tallahassee

Florida is one of the oldest states in the United States so it has a long territorial history, in these next four paragraphs I will give you a brief summary of Florida's territorial history. Florida was first discovered by Juan Ponce de Leon who claimed it as land for Spain in 1513 |1| , He also started St. Augustine the oldest European settlement in the continental US in 1565. |2| Florida remained controlled by Spain until close to the end of the American Revolution,After which Great Britain would take over Florida (in 1783) |2| and then give it back to Spain (in 1785) |2|, Florida was given back to the colonists soon after that (in 1795). |2| Although Florida was recognized as belonging to the colonist by the other countries like Great Britain and France, Florida was still controlled mostly by Indians and for a short time it stayed that way, until it was invaded by the colonists (Led by George Mathews) in 1812 although Mathew's forces where outnumbered and so they retreated. |2| Later on Congress and President James Monroe decided to make Florida (and other states in the US) official states of the United States so they signed the Indian Removal Act. This act required all native Americans to move west of the Mississippi River. |2| After Many long wars the law was forced upon the native Americans and Florida was later admitted to the Union on March 3, 1845. |3|

Voter Requirements How old must a person be to register to vote in my state's elections? 18 Years Old |6| How long must he have been a legal resident of the state? There is no time period as long as the person registers with a valid address, is a US citizen, and is over 18 years of age. |6| Where would he need to register to vote? At any approved voting area my local voting areas are Town Hall and Madison Middle School |7| What is the deadline to register to vote in Florida? 29 days before the election |6| What identification does the state require for registration? a valid voter id and registration (US registration, driver license, or drivers permit.) |6| Must a voter declare a party affiliation before election day? Only if they want to vote in the primary elections Elections When are the state's primary elections held? August 30 |7| When is the general election? November 4 |7| What city precinct do I live in? Florida Precinct 117 |8| Where is the polling place for my precinct? Madison Middle School |8| What are the polling hours? 7 A.M. until 7 P.M. |6| What voter identification is needed to vote? voter id card and registration (US registration, driver license, or drivers permit.) |6| State Constitution Overview When was my state's first constitution written? March 3, 1838 |9| How many state constitutions has my state had? 6 |9| When was the current state constitution adopted? November 5, 1968 |10| How long is the constitution? 78 Pages |10| The Florida Constitution establishes and describes the duties, powers, structure and function of the government of Florida and establishes the basic law of the state.It includes twelve articles.

The First Article is the Declaration of Rights it includes twenty seven sections, Section 1 Political power, This article defines that the state government can't protrude on peoples personal right 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. These rights include the rights of the people and helps establish the rights the government cant infringe upon. All natural persons, female and male alike, 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, religion, national origin, or physical disability. Section 3 Religious freedom, These are the rights that establish that everyone in Florida has the right of religious Freedom. 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.Section 4 Freedom of speech and press, This right assures the right of freedom of speech and press which allows all people to speak freely without being controlled by the Government. Every person may speak, write and publish sentiments on all subjects but shall be responsible for the abuse of that right. No law shall be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the press. In all criminal prosecutions and civil actions for defamation the truth may be given in evidence. If the matter charged as defamatory is true and was published with good motives, the party shall be acquitted or exonerated.Section 5 Right to assemble, This right gives the people of Florida the right to assemble at any public place. Section 6 Right to work this article determines the rights of people to get work and the rights for a fair pay (or minimum wage) The right of persons to work shall not be denied or abridged on account of membership or non-membership in any labor union or labor organization. The right of employees, by and through a labor organization, to bargain collectively shall not be denied or abridged. Public employees shall not have the right to strike. Every person who is of Legal Adult Age has the right to fair pay, (which is equivalent to minimum wage of that time). Every one has the right to internship with permission of the business owners but this internship is subject to Florida Internship Law Stature 10456 and can not be abused and is only allowed for two years from the age of 16 or the earliest time they began working after this period all interns must be paid a fair pay. (Days that count as internship days include 30 minutes a day during business days, days the business is closed, US holidays and five sick days of the interns choice see workman's comp stature 313213) Section 7 Military power, this makes sure the military cannot be used against civilians. The military power shall be subordinate to the civil.Section 8 Right to bear arms, This article allows for all the people of Florida the right to bear arms. Unless they are a felon or unstable. (a) The right of the people to keep and bear arms in defense of themselves and of the lawful authority of the state shall not be infringed, except that the manner of bearing arms may be regulated by law. (b) There shall be a mandatory period of three days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, between the purchase and delivery at retail of any handgun. For the purposes of this section, “purchase” means the transfer of money or other valuable consideration to the retailer, and “handgun” means a firearm capable of being carried and used by one hand, such as a pistol or revolver. Holders of a concealed weapon permit as prescribed in Florida law shall not be subject to the provisions of this paragraph.(c) The legislature shall enact legislation implementing subsection (b) of this section, effective no later than December 31, 1991, which shall provide that anyone violating the provisions of subsection (b) shall be guilty of a felony.(d) This restriction shall not apply to a trade in of another handgun.Section 9 Due process, This allows for each Florida citizen to have due process. No person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law, or be twice put in jeopardy for the same offense, or be compelled in any criminal matter to be a witness against oneself. Section 10 Prohibited laws, this prohibits some laws from being passed. No bill of attainder, ex post facto law or law impairing the obligation of contracts shall be passed. Section 11 Imprisonment for debt, this right states that people cant be imprisoned for debt unless its in a court of law. No person shall be imprisoned for debt, except in cases of fraud or a court of law Section 12 Searches and seizures, this makes sure that the government cannot search your home or business without a warrant or cause. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures, and against the unreasonable interception of private communications by any means, shall not be violated. No warrant shall be issued except upon probable cause, supported by affidavit, particularly describing the place or places to be searched, the person or persons, thing or things to be seized, the communication to be intercepted, and the nature of evidence to be obtained. This right shall be construed in conformity with the 4th Amendment to the United States Constitution, as interpreted by the United States Supreme Court. Articles or information obtained in violation of this right shall not be admissible in evidence if such articles or information would be inadmissible under decisions of the United States Supreme Court construing the 4th Amendment to the United States Constitution. Section 13 Habeas Corpus, This is the right for people to start a trail. The writ of habeas corpus shall be grantable of right, freely and without cost. It shall be returnable without delay, and shall never be suspended unless, in case of rebellion or invasion, suspension is essential to the public safety. Section 14 Pretrial release and detention. Section 14 Prosecution for crime; offenses committed by children, This article establishes the rights of children in a court of law. (a) No person shall be tried for capital crime without presentment or indictment by a grand jury, or for other felony without such presentment or indictment or an information under oath filed by the prosecuting officer of the court, except persons on active duty in the militia when tried by courts martial. (b) When authorized by law, a child as therein defined may be charged with a violation of law as an act of delinquency instead of crime and tried without a jury or other requirements applicable to criminal cases. Any child so charged shall, upon demand made as provided by law before a trial in a juvenile proceeding, be tried in an appropriate court as an adult. A child found delinquent shall be disciplined as provided by law. Section 16 Rights of accused and of victims, This article states the rights of people who are accused of crimes and people who victims of a crime. (a) In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall, upon demand, be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation, and shall be furnished a copy of the charges, and shall have the right to have compulsory process for witnesses, to confront at trial adverse witnesses, to be heard in person, by counsel or both, and to have a speedy and public trial by impartial jury in the county where the crime was committed. If the county is not known, the indictment or information may charge venue in two or more counties conjunctively and proof that the crime was committed in that area shall be sufficient; but before pleading the accused may elect in which of those counties the trial will take place. Venue for prosecution of crimes committed beyond the boundaries of the state shall be fixed by law.(b) Victims of crime or their lawful representatives, including the next of kin of homicide victims, are entitled to the right to be informed, to be present, and to be heard when relevant, at all crucial stages of criminal proceedings, to the extent that these rights do not interfere with the constitutional rights of the accused.Section 17 Excessive punishments, This article guarantees that people can't have excessive punishments, Excessive fines, cruel and unusual punishment, attainder, forfeiture of estate, indefinite imprisonment, and unreasonable detention of witnesses are forbidden. The death penalty is an authorized punishment for capital crimes designated by the legislature. The prohibition against cruel or unusual punishment, and the prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment, shall be construed in conformity with decisions of the United States Supreme Court which interpret the prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment provided in the Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution. Any method of execution shall be allowed, unless prohibited by the United States Constitution. Methods of execution may be designated by the legislature, and a change in any method of execution may be applied retroactively. A sentence of death shall not be reduced on the basis that a method of execution is invalid. In any case in which an execution method is declared invalid, the death sentence shall remain in force until the sentence can be lawfully executed by any valid method. This section shall apply retroactively.Section 18 Administrative penalties, This establish the rights of the Administrative Agency No administrative agency, except the Department of Military Affairs in an appropriately convened court-martial action as provided by law, shall impose a sentence of imprisonment, nor shall it impose any other penalty except as provided by law.Section 19 Costs, This establish cost rights. No person charged with crime shall be compelled to pay costs before a judgment of conviction has become final. Section 20 Treason, This article establishes the rules of treason. Treason against the state shall consist only in levying war against it, adhering to its enemies, or giving them aid and comfort, and no person shall be convicted of treason except on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act or on confession in open court.Section 21 Access to courts. These articles allow for every person to have the right of court. The courts shall be open to every person for redress of any injury, and justice shall be administered without sale, denial or delay. Section 22 Trial by jury, this establishes the right of trial by Jury. The right of trial by jury shall be secure to all and remain inviolate. The qualifications and the number of jurors, not fewer than six, shall be fixed by law.Section 23 Right of privacy, this law establishes peoples right to privacy. Every natural person has the right to be let alone and free from governmental intrusion into the person’s private life except as otherwise provided herein. This section shall not be construed to limit the public’s right of access to public records and meetings as provided by law.Section 24 Access to public records and meetings,This establishes the rules of Public Records. (a) Every person has the right to inspect or copy any public record made or received in connection with the official business of any public body, officer, or employee of the state, or persons acting on their behalf, except with respect to records exempted pursuant to this section or specifically made confidential by this Constitution. This section specifically includes the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government and each agency or department created thereunder; counties, municipalities, and districts; and each constitutional officer, board, and commission, or entity created pursuant to law or this Constitution.(b) All meetings of any collegial public body of the executive branch of state government or of any collegial public body of a county, municipality, school district, or special district, at which official acts are to be taken or at which public business of such body is to be transacted or discussed, shall be open and noticed to the public and meetings of the legislature shall be open and noticed as provided in Article III, Section 4(e), except with respect to meetings exempted pursuant to this section or specifically closed by this Constitution.(c) This section shall be self-executing. The legislature, however, may provide by general law passed by a two-thirds vote of each house for the exemption of records from the requirements of subsection (a) and the exemption of meetings from the requirements of subsection (b), provided that such law shall state with specificity the public necessity justifying the exemption and shall be no broader than necessary to accomplish the stated purpose of the law. The legislature shall enact laws governing the enforcement of this section, including the maintenance, control, destruction, disposal, and disposition of records made public by this section, except that each house of the legislature may adopt rules governing the enforcement of this section in relation to records of the legislative branch. Laws enacted pursuant to this subsection shall contain only exemptions from the requirements of subsections (a) or (b) and provisions governing the enforcement of this section and shall relate to one subject.(d) All laws that are in effect on July 1, 1993 that limit public access to records or meetings shall remain in force, and such laws apply to records of the legislative and judicial branches, until they are repealed. Rules of court that are in effect on the date of adoption of this section that limit access to records shall remain in effect until they are repealed.Section 25 Taxpayers’ Bill of Rights. This describes the rules of tax payers. By general law the legislature shall prescribe and adopt a Taxpayers’ Bill of Rights that, in clear and concise language, sets forth taxpayers’ rights and responsibilities and government’s responsibilities to deal fairly with taxpayers under the laws of this state. This section shall be effective July 1, 1993.Section 26 Claimant’s right to fair compensation. This establishes the rights of fair compensation, Article I, Section 26 is created to read “Claimant’s right to fair compensation.” In any medical liability claim involving a contingency fee, the claimant is entitled to receive no less than 70% of the first $250,000.00 in all damages received by the claimant, exclusive of reasonable and customary costs, whether received by judgment, settlement, or otherwise, and regardless of the number of defendants. The claimant is entitled to 90% of all damages in excess of $250,000.00, exclusive of reasonable and customary costs and regardless of the number of defendants. This provision is self-executing and does not require implementing legislation. Section 27 Marriage defined. This describes the rules of marriage. Inasmuch as marriage is the legal union of only one man and one woman as husband and wife, no other legal union that is treated as marriage or the substantial equivalent thereof shall be valid or recognized.

Article 2 is split into nine sections in this paragraph I will discuss each briefly, Section 1,State boundaries This article establishes the rules and regulations for the boundaries of Florida. (a) The state boundaries are: Begin at the mouth of the Perdido River, which for the purposes of this description is defined as the point where latitude 30°16′53″ north and longitude 87°31′06″ west intersect; thence to the point where latitude 30°17′02″ north and longitude 87°31′06″ west intersect; thence to the point where latitude 30°18′00″ north and longitude 87°27′08″ west intersect; thence to the point where the center line of the Intracoastal Canal (as the same existed on June 12, 1953) and longitude 87°27′00″ west intersect; the same being in the middle of the Perdido River; thence up the middle of the Perdido River to the point where it intersects the south boundary of the State of Alabama, being also the point of intersection of the middle of the Perdido River with latitude 31°00′00″ north; thence east, along the south boundary line of the State of Alabama, the same being latitude 31°00′00″ north to the middle of the Chattahoochee River; thence down the middle of said river to its confluence with the Flint River; thence in a straight line to the head of the St. Marys River; thence down the middle of said river to the Atlantic Ocean; thence due east to the edge of the Gulf Stream or a distance of three geographic miles whichever is the greater distance; thence in a southerly direction along the edge of the Gulf Stream or along a line three geographic miles from the Atlantic coastline and three leagues distant from the Gulf of Mexico coastline, whichever is greater, to and through the Straits of Florida and westerly, including the Florida reefs, to a point due south of and three leagues from the southernmost point of the Marquesas Keys; thence westerly along a straight line to a point due south of and three leagues from Loggerhead Key, the westernmost of the Dry Tortugas Islands; thence westerly, northerly and easterly along the arc of a curve three leagues distant from Loggerhead Key to a point due north of Loggerhead Key; thence northeast along a straight line to a point three leagues from the coastline of Florida; thence northerly and westerly three leagues distant from the coastline to a point west of the mouth of the Perdido River three leagues from the coastline as measured on a line bearing south 0°01′00″ west from the point of beginning; thence northerly along said line to the point of beginning. The State of Florida shall also include any additional territory within the United States adjacent to the Peninsula of Florida lying south of the St. Marys River, east of the Perdido River, and south of the States of Alabama and Georgia.(b) The coastal boundaries may be extended by statute to the limits permitted by the laws of the United States or international law. Section 2, Seat of government, This establishes the seat of the government of Florida and its location. The seat of government shall be the City of Tallahassee, in Leon County, where the offices of the governor, lieutenant governor, cabinet members and the supreme court shall be maintained and the sessions of the legislature shall be held; provided that, in time of invasion or grave emergency, the governor by proclamation may for the period of the emergency transfer the seat of government to another place. Section 3 Branches of government, this establish the branches of Florida's state government and the rights they don't have over the citizens. The powers of the state government shall be divided into legislative, executive and judicial branches. No person belonging to one branch shall exercise any powers appertaining to either of the other branches unless expressly provided herein. Article 4 State seal and flag, this article establishes the states seal and flag. The design of the great seal and flag of the state shall be prescribed by law. Section 5 Public Officers This establishes the rules and regulations for public officers. (a) No person holding any office of emolument under any foreign government, or civil office of emolument under the United States or any other state, shall hold any office of honor or of emolument under the government of this state. No person shall hold at the same time more than one office under the government of the state and the counties and municipalities therein, except that a notary public or military officer may hold another office, and any officer may be a member of a constitution revision commission, taxation and budget reform commission, constitutional convention, or statutory body having only advisory powers. (b) Each state and county officer, before entering upon the duties of the office, shall give bond as required by law, and shall swear or affirm: “I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the state; and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of (title of office) on which I am now about to enter. So help me God.”, and thereafter shall devote personal attention to the duties of the office, and continue in office until a successor qualifies. (c) The powers, duties, compensation and method of payment of state and county officers shall be fixed by law. Section 6 Enemy attack This section states what the states actions will be in case of an enemy attack.In periods of emergency resulting from enemy attack the legislature shall have power to provide for prompt and temporary succession to the powers and duties of all public offices the incumbents of which may become unavailable to execute the functions of their offices, and to adopt such other measures as may be necessary and appropriate to insure the continuity of governmental operations during the emergency. In exercising these powers, the legislature may depart from other requirements of this constitution, but only to the extent necessary to meet the emergency. Section 7 Natural Resources This article states the rules on obtaining natural recesses in Florida. (a) It shall be the policy of the state to conserve and protect its natural resources and scenic beauty. Adequate provision shall be made by law for the abatement of air and water pollution and of excessive and unnecessary noise and for the conservation and protection of natural resources. (b) Those in the Everglades Agricultural Area who cause water pollution within the Everglades Protection Area or the Everglades Agricultural Area shall be primarily responsible for paying the costs of the abatement of that pollution. For the purposes of this subsection, the terms “Everglades Protection Area” and “Everglades Agricultural Area” shall have the meanings as defined in statutes in effect on January 1, 1996. Section 8 Ethics in government this article states the ethics required in government. A public office is a public trust. The people shall have the right to secure and sustain that trust against abuse. To assure this right: (a) All elected constitutional officers and candidates for such offices and, as may be determined by law, other public officers, candidates, and employees shall file full and public disclosure of their financial interests. (b) All elected public officers and candidates for such offices shall file full and public disclosure of their campaign finances. (c) Any public officer or employee who breaches the public trust for private gain and any person or entity inducing such breach shall be liable to the state for all financial benefits obtained by such actions. The manner of recovery and additional damages may be provided by law. (d) Any public officer or employee who is convicted of a felony involving a breach of public trust shall be subject to forfeiture of rights and privileges under a public retirement system or pension plan in such manner as may be provided by law. (e) No member of the legislature or statewide elected officer shall personally represent another person or entity for compensation before the government body or agency of which the individual was an officer or member for a period of two years following vacation of office. No member of the legislature shall personally represent another person or entity for compensation during term of office before any state agency other than judicial tribunals. Similar restrictions on other public officers and employees may be established by law. (f) There shall be an independent commission to conduct investigations and make public reports on all complaints concerning breach of public trust by public officers or employees not within the jurisdiction of the judicial qualifications commission. (g) A code of ethics for all state employees and nonjudicial officers prohibiting conflict between public duty and private interests shall be prescribed by law. (h) This section shall not be construed to limit disclosures and prohibitions which may be established by law to preserve the public trust and avoid conflicts between public duties and private interests. (i) Schedule—On the effective date of this amendment and until changed by law: (1) Full and public disclosure of financial interests shall mean filing with the custodian of state records by July 1 of each year a sworn statement showing net worth and identifying each asset and liability in excess of $1,000 and its value together with one of the following: a. A copy of the person’s most recent federal income tax return; or b. A sworn statement which identifies each separate source and amount of income which exceeds $1,000. The forms for such source disclosure and the rules under which they are to be filed shall be prescribed by the independent commission established in subsection (f), and such rules shall include disclosure of secondary sources of income. (2) Persons holding statewide elective offices shall also file disclosure of their financial interests pursuant to subsection (i)(1). (3) The independent commission provided for in subsection (f) shall mean the Florida Commission on Ethics. Section 9 English is the official language of Florida it speaks for it self, (a) English is the official language of the State of Florida.(b) The legislature shall have the power to enforce this section by appropriate legislation.

Article 3 is on the Legislature and discuses all of the twenty one different legislative sections and their purposes, Section 1, composition this articles lays the basics for the legislature of Florida. The legislative power of the state shall be vested in a legislature of the State of Florida, consisting of a senate composed of one senator elected from each senatorial district and a house of representatives composed of one member elected from each representative district. Section 2, members; officers this section tells the rules of the members and officers of Florida's Legislative branch Each house shall be the sole judge of the qualifications, elections, and returns of its members, and shall biennially choose its officers, including a permanent presiding officer selected from its membership, who shall be designated in the senate as President of the Senate, and in the house as Speaker of the House of Representatives. The senate shall designate a Secretary to serve at its pleasure, and the house of representatives shall designate a Clerk to serve at its pleasure. The legislature shall appoint an auditor to serve at its pleasure who shall audit public records and perform related duties as prescribed by law or concurrent resolution. Section 3, sessions of the legislature. This Section states all the information about the session of Florida's legislature . (a) ORGANIZATION SESSIONS. On the fourteenth day following each general election the legislature shall convene for the exclusive purpose of organization and selection of officers. (b) REGULAR SESSIONS. A regular session of the legislature shall convene on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of each odd-numbered year, and on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March, or such other date as may be fixed by law, of each even-numbered year. (c) SPECIAL SESSIONS. (1) The governor, by proclamation stating the purpose, may convene the legislature in special session during which only such legislative business may be transacted as is within the purview of the proclamation, or of a communication from the governor, or is introduced by consent of two-thirds of the membership of each house. (2) A special session of the legislature may be convened as provided by law. (d) LENGTH OF SESSIONS. A regular session of the legislature shall not exceed sixty consecutive days, and a special session shall not exceed twenty consecutive days, unless extended beyond such limit by a three-fifths vote of each house. During such an extension no new business may be taken up in either house without the consent of two-thirds of its membership. (e) ADJOURNMENT. Neither house shall adjourn for more than seventy-two consecutive hours except pursuant to concurrent resolution. (f) ADJOURNMENT BY GOVERNOR. If, during any regular or special session, the two houses cannot agree upon a time for adjournment, the governor may adjourn the session sine die or to any date within the period authorized for such session; provided that, at least twenty-four hours before adjourning the session, and while neither house is in recess, each house shall be given formal written notice of the governor’s intention to do so, and agreement reached within that period by both houses on a time for adjournment shall prevail. Section 4, quorum and procedure this article states the procedure of the state legislature. (a) A majority of the membership of each house shall constitute a quorum, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day and compel the presence of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as it may prescribe. Each house shall determine its rules of procedure. (b) Sessions of each house shall be public; except sessions of the senate when considering appointment to or removal from public office may be closed. (c) Each house shall keep and publish a journal of its proceedings; and upon the request of five members present, the vote of each member voting on any question shall be entered on the journal. In any legislative committee or subcommittee, the vote of each member voting on the final passage of any legislation pending before the committee, and upon the request of any two members of the committee or subcommittee, the vote of each member on any other question, shall be recorded. (d) Each house may punish a member for contempt or disorderly conduct and, by a two-thirds vote of its membership, may expel a member. (e) The rules of procedure of each house shall provide that all legislative committee and subcommittee meetings of each house, and joint conference committee meetings, shall be open and noticed to the public. The rules of procedure of each house shall further provide that all prearranged gatherings, between more than two members of the legislature, or between the governor, the president of the senate, or the speaker of the house of representatives, the purpose of which is to agree upon formal legislative action that will be taken at a subsequent time, or at which formal legislative action is taken, regarding pending legislation or amendments, shall be reasonably open to the public. All open meetings shall be subject to order and decorum. This section shall be implemented and defined by the rules of each house, and such rules shall control admission to the floor of each legislative chamber and may, where reasonably necessary for security purposes or to protect a witness appearing before a committee, provide for the closure of committee meetings. Each house shall be the sole judge for the interpretation, implementation, and enforcement of this section. Section 5, investigations; witnesses. This offers witness protection to the people making laws. Each house, when in session, may compel attendance of witnesses and production of documents and other evidence upon any matter under investigation before it or any of its committees, and may punish by fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or imprisonment not exceeding ninety days, or both, any person not a member who has been guilty of disorderly or contemptuous conduct in its presence or has refused to obey its lawful summons or to answer lawful questions. Such powers, except the power to punish, may be conferred by law upon committees when the legislature is not in session. Punishment of contempt of an interim legislative committee shall be by judicial proceedings as prescribed by law. Section 6, laws. This states the rules of laws issued by Florida's State legislature Every law shall embrace but one subject and matter properly connected therewith, and the subject shall be briefly expressed in the title. No law shall be revised or amended by reference to its title only. Laws to revise or amend shall set out in full the revised or amended act, section, subsection or paragraph of a subsection. The enacting clause of every law shall read: “Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:”. Section 7, passage of bills, this section states the passage of bills into law. Any bill may originate in either house and after passage in one may be amended in the other. It shall be read in each house on three separate days, unless this rule is waived by two-thirds vote; provided the publication of its title in the journal of a house shall satisfy the requirement for the first reading in that house. On each reading, it shall be read by title only, unless one-third of the members present desire it read in full. On final passage, the vote of each member voting shall be entered on the journal. Passage of a bill shall require a majority vote in each house. Each bill and joint resolution passed in both houses shall be signed by the presiding officers of the respective houses and by the secretary of the senate and the clerk of the house of representatives during the session or as soon as practicable after its adjournment sine die.Section 8, executive approval and veto, This section states the rules of executive approval and veto and the rules retaining to this veto, (a) Every bill passed by the legislature shall be presented to the governor for approval and shall become a law if the governor approves and signs it, or fails to veto it within seven consecutive days after presentation. If during that period or on the seventh day the legislature adjourns sine die or takes a recess of more than thirty days, the governor shall have fifteen consecutive days from the date of presentation to act on the bill. In all cases except general appropriation bills, the veto shall extend to the entire bill. The governor may veto any specific appropriation in a general appropriation bill, but may not veto any qualification or restriction without also vetoing the appropriation to which it relates. (b) When a bill or any specific appropriation of a general appropriation bill has been vetoed, the governor shall transmit signed objections thereto to the house in which the bill originated if in session. If that house is not in session, the governor shall file them with the custodian of state records, who shall lay them before that house at its next regular or special session, whichever occurs first, and they shall be entered on its journal. If the originating house votes to re-enact a vetoed measure, whether in a regular or special session, and the other house does not consider or fails to re-enact the vetoed measure, no further consideration by either house at any subsequent session may be taken. If a vetoed measure is presented at a special session and the originating house does not consider it, the measure will be available for consideration at any intervening special session and until the end of the next regular session. (c) If each house shall, by a two-thirds vote, re-enact the bill or reinstate the vetoed specific appropriation of a general appropriation bill, the vote of each member voting shall be entered on the respective journals, and the bill shall become law or the specific appropriation reinstated, the veto notwithstanding. Section 9, effective date of laws.This shows the effective date of different laws. Each law shall take effect on the sixtieth day after adjournment sine die of the session of the legislature in which enacted or as otherwise provided therein. If the law is passed over the veto of the governor it shall take effect on the sixtieth day after adjournment sine die of the session in which the veto is overridden, on a later date fixed in the law, or on a date fixed by resolution passed by both houses of the legislature. Section 10, special laws. This shows the rules and regulations of special laws. No special law shall be passed unless notice of intention to seek enactment thereof has been published in the manner provided by general law. Such notice shall not be necessary when the law, except the provision for referendum, is conditioned to become effective only upon approval by vote of the electors of the area affected. Section 11, prohibited special laws. This states the prohibited laws.(a) There shall be no special law or general law of local application pertaining to: (1) election, jurisdiction or duties of officers, except officers of municipalities, chartered counties, special districts or local governmental agencies; (2) assessment or collection of taxes for state or county purposes, including extension of time therefor, relief of tax officers from due performance of their duties, and relief of their sureties from liability; (3) rules of evidence in any court; (4) punishment for crime; (5) petit juries, including compensation of jurors, except establishment of jury commissions;(6) change of civil or criminal venue; (7) conditions precedent to bringing any civil or criminal proceedings, or limitations of time therefor; (8) refund of money legally paid or remission of fines, penalties or forfeitures; (9) creation, enforcement, extension or impairment of liens based on private contracts, or fixing of interest rates on private contracts; (10) disposal of public property, including any interest therein, for private purposes; (11) vacation of roads (12) private incorporation or grant of privilege to a private corporation; (13) effectuation of invalid deeds, wills or other instruments, or change in the law of descent; (14) change of name of any person; (15) divorce; (16) legitimation or adoption of persons; (17) relief of minors from legal disabilities; (18) transfer of any property interest of persons under legal disabilities or of estates of decedents; (19) hunting or fresh water fishing; (20) regulation of occupations which are regulated by a state agency; or (21) any subject when prohibited by general law passed by a three-fifths vote of the membership of each house. Such law may be amended or repealed by like vote. (b) In the enactment of general laws on other subjects, political subdivisions or other governmental entities may be classified only on a basis reasonably related to the subject of the law. Section 12, appropriation bills this states the rules relating to the appropriation of bills. Laws making appropriations for salaries of public officers and other current expenses of the state shall contain provisions on no other subject. Section 13, term of office this states the different terms of the office of individuals, No office shall be created the term of which shall exceed four years except as provided herein. Section 14, civil service system this describes the civil service and its rules. By law there shall be created a civil service system for state employees, except those expressly exempted, and there may be created civil service systems and boards for county, district or municipal employees and for such offices thereof as are not elected or appointed by the governor, and there may be authorized such boards as are necessary to prescribe the qualifications, method of selection and tenure of such employees and officers. Section 15, terms and qualifications of legislators This section tells the terms and qualifications required to be a Florida state legislature. (a) SENATORS. Senators shall be elected for terms of four years, those from odd-numbered districts in the years the numbers of which are multiples of four and those from even-numbered districts in even-numbered years the numbers of which are not multiples of four; except, at the election next following a reapportionment, some senators shall be elected for terms of two years when necessary to maintain staggered terms. (b) REPRESENTATIVES. Members of the house of representatives shall be elected for terms of two years in each even-numbered year. (c) QUALIFICATIONS. Each legislator shall be at least twenty-one years of age, an elector and resident of the district from which elected and shall have resided in the state for a period of two years prior to election. (d) ASSUMING OFFICE; VACANCIES. Members of the legislature shall take office upon election. Vacancies in legislative office shall be filled only by election as provided by law. Section 16, legislative apportionment. This act show the process of appointment, (a) SENATORIAL AND REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICTS. The legislature at its regular session in the second year following each decennial census, by joint resolution, shall apportion the state in accordance with the constitution of the state and of the United States into not less than thirty nor more than forty consecutively numbered senatorial districts of either contiguous, overlapping or identical territory, and into not less than eighty nor more than one hundred twenty consecutively numbered representative districts of either contiguous, overlapping or identical territory. Should that session adjourn without adopting such joint resolution, the governor by proclamation shall reconvene the legislature within thirty days in special apportionment session which shall not exceed thirty consecutive days, during which no other business shall be transacted, and it shall be the mandatory duty of the legislature to adopt a joint resolution of apportionment. (b) FAILURE OF LEGISLATURE TO APPORTION; JUDICIAL REAPPORTIONMENT. In the event a special apportionment session of the legislature finally adjourns without adopting a joint resolution of apportionment, the attorney general shall, within five days, petition the supreme court of the state to make such apportionment. No later than the sixtieth day after the filing of such petition, the supreme court shall file with the custodian of state records an order making such apportionment. (c) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENT. Within fifteen days after the passage of the joint resolution of apportionment, the attorney general shall petition the supreme court of the state for a declaratory judgment determining the validity of the apportionment. The supreme court, in accordance with its rules, shall permit adversary interests to present their views and, within thirty days from the filing of the petition, shall enter its judgment. (d) EFFECT OF JUDGMENT IN APPORTIONMENT; EXTRAORDINARY APPORTIONMENT SESSION. A judgment of the supreme court of the state determining the apportionment to be valid shall be binding upon all the citizens of the state. Should the supreme court determine that the apportionment made by the legislature is invalid, the governor by proclamation shall reconvene the legislature within five days thereafter in extraordinary apportionment session which shall not exceed fifteen days, during which the legislature shall adopt a joint resolution of apportionment conforming to the judgment of the supreme court. (e) EXTRAORDINARY APPORTIONMENT SESSION; REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENT. Within fifteen days after the adjournment of an extraordinary apportionment session, the attorney general shall file a petition in the supreme court of the state setting forth the apportionment resolution adopted by the legislature, or if none has been adopted reporting that fact to the court. Consideration of the validity of a joint resolution of apportionment shall be had as provided for in cases of such joint resolution adopted at a regular or special apportionment session. (f) JUDICIAL REAPPORTIONMENT. Should an extraordinary apportionment session fail to adopt a resolution of apportionment or should the supreme court determine that the apportionment made is invalid, the court shall, not later than sixty days after receiving the petition of the attorney general, file with the custodian of state records an order making such apportionment. Section 17, impeachment. This article show the process of impeachment, (a) The governor, lieutenant governor, members of the cabinet, justices of the supreme court, judges of district courts of appeal, judges of circuit courts, and judges of county courts shall be liable to impeachment for misdemeanor in office. The house of representatives by two-thirds vote shall have the power to impeach an officer. The speaker of the house of representatives shall have power at any time to appoint a committee to investigate charges against any officer subject to impeachment. (b) An officer impeached by the house of representatives shall be disqualified from performing any official duties until acquitted by the senate, and, unless impeached, the governor may by appointment fill the office until completion of the trial. (c) All impeachments by the house of representatives shall be tried by the senate. The chief justice of the supreme court, or another justice designated by the chief justice, shall preside at the trial, except in a trial of the chief justice, in which case the governor shall preside. The senate shall determine the time for the trial of any impeachment and may sit for the trial whether the house of representatives be in session or not. The time fixed for trial shall not be more than six months after the impeachment. During an impeachment trial senators shall be upon their oath or affirmation. No officer shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members of the senate present. Judgment of conviction in cases of impeachment shall remove the offender from office and, in the discretion of the senate, may include disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust or profit. Conviction or acquittal shall not affect the civil or criminal responsibility of the officer. Section 18, conflict of interest this article states that the people cant show any interest toward a specific group. A code of ethics for all state employees and nonjudicial officers prohibiting conflict between public duty and private interests shall be prescribed by law. Section 19, state budgeting, planning and appropriations processes. This articles discuses how the fiances are to be handled,(a) ANNUAL BUDGETING. (1) General law shall prescribe the adoption of annual state budgetary and planning processes and require that detail reflecting the annualized costs of the state budget and reflecting the nonrecurring costs of the budget requests shall accompany state department and agency legislative budget requests, the governor’s recommended budget, and appropriation bills (2) Unless approved by a three-fifths vote of the membership of each house, appropriations made for recurring purposes from nonrecurring general revenue funds for any fiscal year shall not exceed three percent of the total general revenue funds estimated to be available at the time such appropriation is made. (3) As prescribed by general law, each state department and agency shall be required to submit a legislative budget request that is based upon and that reflects the long-range financial outlook adopted by the joint legislative budget commission or that specifically explains any variance from the long-range financial outlook contained in the request. (4) For purposes of this section, the terms department and agency shall include the judicial branch. (b) APPROPRIATION BILLS FORMAT. Separate sections within the general appropriation bill shall be used for each major program area of the state budget; major program areas shall include: education enhancement “lottery” trust fund items; education (all other funds); human services; criminal justice and corrections; natural resources, environment, growth management, and transportation; general government; and judicial branch. Each major program area shall include an itemization of expenditures for: state operations; state capital outlay; aid to local governments and nonprofit organizations operations; aid to local governments and nonprofit organizations capital outlay; federal funds and the associated state matching funds; spending authorizations for operations; and spending authorizations for capital outlay. Additionally, appropriation bills passed by the legislature shall include an itemization of specific appropriations that exceed one million dollars ($1,000,000.00) in 1992 dollars. For purposes of this subsection, “specific appropriation,” “itemization,” and “major program area” shall be defined by law. This itemization threshold shall be adjusted by general law every four years to reflect the rate of inflation or deflation as indicated in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, All Items, or successor reports as reported by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics or its successor. Substantive bills containing appropriations shall also be subject to the itemization requirement mandated under this provision and shall be subject to the governor’s specific appropriation veto power described in Article III, Section 8 (c) APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS. (1) No later than September 15 of each year, the joint legislative budget commission shall issue a long-range financial outlook setting out recommended fiscal strategies for the state and its departments and agencies in order to assist the legislature in making budget decisions. The long-range financial outlook must include major workload and revenue estimates. In order to implement this paragraph, the joint legislative budget commission shall use current official consensus estimates and may request the development of additional official estimates. (2) The joint legislative budget commission shall seek input from the public and from the executive and judicial branches when developing and recommending the long-range financial outlook. (3) The legislature shall prescribe by general law conditions under which limited adjustments to the budget, as recommended by the governor or the chief justice of the supreme court, may be approved without the concurrence of the full legislature. (d) SEVENTY-TWO HOUR PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD. All general appropriation bills shall be furnished to each member of the legislature, each member of the cabinet, the governor, and the chief justice of the supreme court at least seventy-two hours before final passage by either house of the legislature of the bill in the form that will be presented to the governor. (e) FINAL BUDGET REPORT. A final budget report shall be prepared as prescribed by general law. The final budget report shall be produced no later than the 120th day after the beginning of the fiscal year, and copies of the report shall be furnished to each member of the legislature, the head of each department and agency of the state, the auditor general, and the chief justice of the supreme court. (f) TRUST FUNDS. (1) No trust fund of the State of Florida or other public body may be created or re-created by law without a three-fifths vote of the membership of each house of the legislature in a separate bill for that purpose only. (2) State trust funds shall terminate not more than four years after the effective date of the act authorizing the initial creation of the trust fund. By law the legislature may set a shorter time period for which any trust fund is authorized. (3) Trust funds required by federal programs or mandates; trust funds established for bond covenants, indentures, or resolutions, whose revenues are legally pledged by the state or public body to meet debt service or other financial requirements of any debt obligations of the state or any public body; the state transportation trust fund; the trust fund containing the net annual proceeds from the Florida Education Lotteries; the Florida retirement trust fund; trust funds for institutions under the management of the Board of Governors, where such trust funds are for auxiliary enterprises and contracts, grants, and donations, as those terms are defined by general law; trust funds that serve as clearing funds or accounts for the chief financial officer or state agencies; trust funds that account for assets held by the state in a trustee capacity as an agent or fiduciary for individuals, private organizations, or other governmental units; and other trust funds authorized by this Constitution, are not subject to the requirements set forth in paragraph (2) of this subsection. (4) All cash balances and income of any trust funds abolished under this subsection shall be deposited into the general revenue fund. (g) BUDGET STABILIZATION FUND. Subject to the provisions of this subsection, an amount equal to at least 5% of the last completed fiscal year’s net revenue collections for the general revenue fund shall be retained in the budget stabilization fund. The budget stabilization fund’s principal balance shall not exceed an amount equal to 10% of the last completed fiscal year’s net revenue collections for the general revenue fund. The legislature shall provide criteria for withdrawing funds from the budget stabilization fund in a separate bill for that purpose only and only for the purpose of covering revenue shortfalls of the general revenue fund or for the purpose of providing funding for an emergency, as defined by general law. General law shall provide for the restoration of this fund. The budget stabilization fund shall be comprised of funds not otherwise obligated or committed for any purpose. (h) LONG-RANGE STATE PLANNING DOCUMENT AND DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY PLANNING DOCUMENT PROCESSES. General law shall provide for a long-range state planning document. The governor shall recommend to the legislature biennially any revisions to the long-range state planning document, as defined by law. General law shall require a biennial review and revision of the long-range state planning document and shall require all departments and agencies of state government to develop planning documents that identify statewide strategic goals and objectives, consistent with the long-range state planning document. The long-range state planning document and department and agency planning documents shall remain subject to review and revision by the legislature. The long-range state planning document must include projections of future needs and resources of the state which are consistent with the long-range financial outlook. The department and agency planning documents shall include a prioritized listing of planned expenditures for review and possible reduction in the event of revenue shortfalls, as defined by general law. (i) GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY TASK FORCE. No later than January of 2007, and each fourth year thereafter, the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the governor shall appoint a government efficiency task force, the membership of which shall be established by general law. The task force shall be composed of members of the legislature and representatives from the private and public sectors who shall develop recommendations for improving governmental operations and reducing costs. Staff to assist the task force in performing its duties shall be assigned by general law, and the task force may obtain assistance from the private sector. The task force shall complete its work within one year and shall submit its recommendations to the joint legislative budget commission, the governor, and the chief justice of the supreme court. (j) JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMISSION. There is created within the legislature the joint legislative budget commission composed of equal numbers of senate members appointed by the president of the senate and house members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. Each member shall serve at the pleasure of the officer who appointed the member. A vacancy on the commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. From November of each odd-numbered year through October of each even-numbered year, the chairperson of the joint legislative budget commission shall be appointed by the president of the senate and the vice chairperson of the commission shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. From November of each even-numbered year through October of each odd-numbered year, the chairperson of the joint legislative budget commission shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and the vice chairperson of the commission shall be appointed by the president of the senate. The joint legislative budget commission shall be governed by the joint rules of the senate and the house of representatives, which shall remain in effect until repealed or amended by concurrent resolution. The commission shall convene at least quarterly and shall convene at the call of the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives. A majority of the commission members of each house plus one additional member from either house constitutes a quorum. Action by the commission requires a majority vote of the commission members present of each house. The commission may conduct its meetings through teleconferences or similar means. In addition to the powers and duties specified in this subsection, the joint legislative budget commission shall exercise all other powers and perform any other duties not in conflict with paragraph (c)(3) and as prescribed by general law or joint rule. Section 20, standards for establishing congressional district boundaries. This article establishes district boundaries (a) No apportionment plan or individual district shall be drawn with the intent to favor or disfavor a political party or an incumbent; and districts shall not be drawn with the intent or result of denying or abridging the equal opportunity of racial or language minorities to participate in the political process or to diminish their ability to elect representatives of their choice; and districts shall consist of contiguous territory. (b) Unless compliance with the standards in this subsection conflicts with the standards in subsection 1(a) or with federal law, districts shall be as nearly equal in population as is practicable; districts shall be compact; and districts shall, where feasible, utilize existing political and geographical boundaries. (c) The order in which the standards within subsections 1(a) and (b) of this section are set forth shall not be read to establish any priority of one standard over the other within that subsection. Section 21, standards for establishing legislative district boundaries. This article establishes legislative district boundaries (a) No apportionment plan or district shall be drawn with the intent to favor or disfavor a political party or an incumbent; and districts shall not be drawn with the intent or result of denying or abridging the equal opportunity of racial or language minorities to participate in the political process or to diminish their ability to elect representatives of their choice; and districts shall consist of contiguous territory. (b) Unless compliance with the standards in this subsection conflicts with the standards in subsection 1(a) or with federal law, districts shall be as nearly equal in population as is practicable; districts shall be compact; and districts shall, where feasible, utilize existing political and geographical boundaries. (c) The order in which the standards within subsections 1(a) and (b) of this section are set forth shall not be read to establish any priority of one standard over the other within that subsection.

Article 4 shows the executive branch of Florida.

Section 1, governor. this section shows the rules, power, and responsibilities of the Governor, (a) The supreme executive power shall be vested in a governor, who shall be commander-in-chief of all military forces of the state not in active service of the United States. The governor shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, commission all officers of the state and counties, and transact all necessary business with the officers of government. The governor may require information in writing from all executive or administrative state, county or municipal officers upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices. The governor shall be the chief administrative officer of the state responsible for the planning and budgeting for the state. (b) The governor may initiate judicial proceedings in the name of the state against any executive or administrative state, county or municipal officer to enforce compliance with any duty or restrain any unauthorized act. (c) The governor may request in writing the opinion of the justices of the supreme court as to the interpretation of any portion of this constitution upon any question affecting the governor’s executive powers and duties. The justices shall, subject to their rules of procedure, permit interested persons to be heard on the questions presented and shall render their written opinion not earlier than ten days from the filing and docketing of the request, unless in their judgment the delay would cause public injury. (d) The governor shall have power to call out the militia to preserve the public peace, execute the laws of the state, suppress insurrection, or repel invasion. (e) The governor shall by message at least once in each regular session inform the legislature concerning the condition of the state, propose such reorganization of the executive department as will promote efficiency and economy, and recommend measures in the public interest. (f) When not otherwise provided for in this constitution, the governor shall fill by appointment any vacancy in state or county office for the remainder of the term of an appointive office, and for the remainder of the term of an elective office if less than twenty-eight months, otherwise until the first Tuesday after the first Monday following the next general election. Section 2, lieutenant governor, this section shows the rules, power, and responsibilities of the lieutenant governor There shall be a lieutenant governor, who shall perform such duties pertaining to the office of governor as shall be assigned by the governor, except when otherwise provided by law, and such other duties as may be prescribed by law. Section 3, succession to office of governor; acting governor. this section explains the succession process of the governor (a) Upon vacancy in the office of governor, the lieutenant governor shall become governor. Further succession to the office of governor shall be prescribed by law. A successor shall serve for the remainder of the term. (b) Upon impeachment of the governor and until completion of trial thereof, or during the governor’s physical or mental incapacity, the lieutenant governor shall act as governor. Further succession as acting governor shall be prescribed by law. Incapacity to serve as governor may be determined by the supreme court upon due notice after docketing of a written suggestion thereof by three cabinet members, and in such case restoration of capacity shall be similarly determined after docketing of written suggestion thereof by the governor, the legislature or three cabinet members. Incapacity to serve as governor may also be established by certificate filed with the custodian of state records by the governor declaring incapacity for physical reasons to serve as governor, and in such case restoration of capacity shall be similarly established. Section 4, cabinet. this section shows the rules, power, and responsibilities of the cabinet (a) There shall be a cabinet composed of an attorney general, a chief financial officer, and a commissioner of agriculture. In addition to the powers and duties specified herein, they shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as may be prescribed by law. In the event of a tie vote of the governor and cabinet, the side on which the governor voted shall be deemed to prevail. (b) The attorney general shall be the chief state legal officer. There is created in the office of the attorney general the position of statewide prosecutor. The statewide prosecutor shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the state attorneys to prosecute violations of criminal laws occurring or having occurred, in two or more judicial circuits as part of a related transaction, or when any such offense is affecting or has affected two or more judicial circuits as provided by general law. The statewide prosecutor shall be appointed by the attorney general from not less than three persons nominated by the judicial nominating commission for the supreme court, or as otherwise provided by general law. (c) The chief financial officer shall serve as the chief fiscal officer of the state, and shall settle and approve accounts against the state, and shall keep all state funds and securities. (d) The commissioner of agriculture shall have supervision of matters pertaining to agriculture except as otherwise provided by law. (e) The governor as chair, the chief financial officer, and the attorney general shall constitute the state board of administration, which shall succeed to all the power, control, and authority of the state board of administration established pursuant to Article IX, Section 16 of the Constitution of 1885, and which shall continue as a body at least for the life of Article XII, Section 9(c). (f) The governor as chair, the chief financial officer, the attorney general, and the commissioner of agriculture shall constitute the trustees of the internal improvement trust fund and the land acquisition trust fund as provided by law. (g) The governor as chair, the chief financial officer, the attorney general, and the commissioner of agriculture shall constitute the agency head of the Department of Law Enforcement. Section 5, election of governor, lieutenant governor and cabinet members; qualifications; terms. this section shows the qualifications for state executive offices (a) At a state-wide general election in each calendar year the number of which is even but not a multiple of four, the electors shall choose a governor and a lieutenant governor and members of the cabinet each for a term of four years beginning on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January of the succeeding year. In primary elections, candidates for the office of governor may choose to run without a lieutenant governor candidate. In the general election, all candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor shall form joint candidacies in a manner prescribed by law so that each voter shall cast a single vote for a candidate for governor and a candidate for lieutenant governor running together. (b) When elected, the governor, lieutenant governor and each cabinet member must be an elector not less than thirty years of age who has resided in the state for the preceding seven years. The attorney general must have been a member of the bar of Florida for the preceding five years. No person who has, or but for resignation would have, served as governor or acting governor for more than six years in two consecutive terms shall be elected governor for the succeeding term. Section 6, executive departments. this section briefly describes the executive departments of Florida All functions of the executive branch of state government shall be allotted among not more than twenty-five departments, exclusive of those specifically provided for or authorized in this constitution. The administration of each department, unless otherwise provided in this constitution, shall be placed by law under the direct supervision of the governor, the lieutenant governor, the governor and cabinet, a cabinet member, or an officer or board appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the governor, except: (a) When provided by law, confirmation by the senate or the approval of three members of the cabinet shall be required for appointment to or removal from any designated statutory office. (b) Boards authorized to grant and revoke licenses to engage in regulated occupations shall be assigned to appropriate departments and their members appointed for fixed terms, subject to removal only for cause. Section 7, suspensions; filling office during suspensions. this section discusses how executive offices will be filled due to absences. (a) By executive order stating the grounds and filed with the custodian of state records, the governor may suspend from office any state officer not subject to impeachment, any officer of the militia not in the active service of the United States, or any county officer, for malfeasance, misfeasance, neglect of duty, drunkenness, incompetence, permanent inability to perform official duties, or commission of a felony, and may fill the office by appointment for the period of suspension. The suspended officer may at any time before removal be reinstated by the governor. (b) The senate may, in proceedings prescribed by law, remove from office or reinstate the suspended official and for such purpose the senate may be convened in special session by its president or by a majority of its membership. (c) By order of the governor any elected municipal officer indicted for crime may be suspended from office until acquitted and the office filled by appointment for the period of suspension, not to extend beyond the term, unless these powers are vested elsewhere by law or the municipal charter. Section 8, clemency. This article speaks for itself it discusses the rules of clemency, (a) Except in cases of treason and in cases where impeachment results in conviction, the governor may, by executive order filed with the custodian of state records, suspend collection of fines and forfeitures, grant reprieves not exceeding sixty days and, with the approval of two members of the cabinet, grant full or conditional pardons, restore civil rights, commute punishment, and remit fines and forfeitures for offenses. (b) In cases of treason the governor may grant reprieves until adjournment of the regular session of the legislature convening next after the conviction, at which session the legislature may grant a pardon or further reprieve; otherwise the sentence shall be executed. (c) There may be created by law a parole and probation commission with power to supervise persons on probation and to grant paroles or conditional releases to persons under sentences for crime. The qualifications, method of selection and terms, not to exceed six years, of members of the commission shall be prescribed by law. Section 9, fish and wildlife conservation commission. This talks about the wildlife conservation commission and their job. There shall be a fish and wildlife conservation commission, composed of seven members appointed by the governor, subject to confirmation by the senate for staggered terms of five years. The commission shall exercise the regulatory and executive powers of the state with respect to wild animal life and fresh water aquatic life, and shall also exercise regulatory and executive powers of the state with respect to marine life, except that all license fees for taking wild animal life, fresh water aquatic life, and marine life and penalties for violating regulations of the commission shall be prescribed by general law. The commission shall establish procedures to ensure adequate due process in the exercise of its regulatory and executive functions. The legislature may enact laws in aid of the commission, not inconsistent with this section, except that there shall be no special law or general law of local application pertaining to hunting or fishing. The commission’s exercise of executive powers in the area of planning, budgeting, personnel management, and purchasing shall be as provided by law. Revenue derived from license fees for the taking of wild animal life and fresh water aquatic life shall be appropriated to the commission by the legislature for the purposes of management, protection, and conservation of wild animal life and fresh water aquatic life. Revenue derived from license fees relating to marine life shall be appropriated by the legislature for the purposes of management, protection, and conservation of marine life as provided by law. The commission shall not be a unit of any other state agency and shall have its own staff, which includes management, research, and enforcement. Unless provided by general law, the commission shall have no authority to regulate matters relating to air and water pollution. Section 10, attorney general, this article discusses the attorney general and their responsibilities, rules, etc. The attorney general shall, as directed by general law, request the opinion of the justices of the supreme court as to the validity of any initiative petition circulated pursuant to Section 3 of Article XI. The justices shall, subject to their rules of procedure, permit interested persons to be heard on the questions presented and shall render their written opinion no later than April 1 of the year in which the initiative is to be submitted to the voters pursuant Section 11, department of veterans affairs. This talks about the department of veterans affairs and their job. The legislature, by general law, may provide for the establishment of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Section 12, department of elderly affairs. This talks about the department of elderly affairs and their job. The legislature may create a Department of Elderly Affairs and prescribe its duties. The provisions governing the administration of the department must comply with Section 6 of Article IV of the State Constitution. Section 13, revenue shortfalls. This talks about what will happen in case of a revenue shortfall, In the event of revenue shortfalls, as defined by general law, the governor and cabinet may establish all necessary reductions in the state budget in order to comply with the provisions of Article VII, Section 1(d). The governor and cabinet shall implement all necessary reductions for the executive budget, the chief justice of the supreme court shall implement all necessary reductions for the judicial budget, and the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate shall implement all necessary reductions for the legislative budget. Budget reductions pursuant to this section shall be consistent with the provisions of Article III, Section 19(h).

Does my state constitution require that the question of calling a constitutional convention be submitted to the voters at regular intervals? No but I can be put there if enough people sign a petition |6| If the state legislature calls for a constitutional convention, must the voters approve of calling the convention? Yes |6| Which method or methods of proposing amendments are used in my state—convention proposal, legislative proposal, or proposal by initiative? All these are allowed in the state of Florida, |6| If my state has the initiative, how many registered voter signatures are needed on the petition before the proposal can be placed on the public ballot? 15% of the voters (or 2820000 voters) |6| How many amendments does my state constitution have? Twelve |6|

Section 2 STATE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The Governor's Office Who was my state's first governor? Gov. William Dunnington Bloxham |12| How many governors have there been in the history of my state? 45 |12| Who is the current governor? Rick Scott |12| How long has this governor been in office? 5 years, 1 month, 7 days from 2/11/2016 What annual salary does my governor receive? $0.01 He Chose this wage |12| Does the state provide him with a governor's mansion? No because he owns his own |12| What is my governor's office address? 400 S Monroe St, Tallahassee, FL 32399 |12| What is the telephone number for the governor's office? (850) 717-9337 |12|

Gubernatorial Qualifications, Elections, and Terms What is the minimum age for my state's governor? 30 years old |12| How long must he have resided in my state prior to becoming governor? 11 years |12| When is my state's gubernatorial election held? November 4, 2014 |12| How long is the governor 's term? 4 Years |12| What are the limitations on his running for reelection? They can only run for two consecutive Florida governors are restricted to two consecutive terms in office, after which they must wait one term before being eligible to run again. |12| Who succeeds to the governor's office if the governor is no longer able to perform his duties? lieutenant governor |12| Does my state allow the governor to be impeached? Yes but only for illegal actions |12| Does my state allow voters to recall the governor? Yes but only if the governor is convicted of illegal actions. |12|

Powers and Duties of the Governor

What are some of the appointment positions my state governor fills? circuit judges, judges of compensation claims, notaries public, chairmen of certain committees, and commissioners of deeds. |12| Does the governor have the authority to appoint members of the judiciary? Yes |12| Is the governor's office responsible for proposing the state budget' If so, is this budget annual or biennial? Yes, Annual |12| Does the governor have the item veto" The pocket veto? yes |12| Does the governor have the ability to grant a pardon" A reprieve? A commutation? A parole? Yes in Florida the Governor can grant all three. |12| Lieutenant Governor Does my state have a lieutenant governor? Yes |13| Who currently fills this office? Carlos Lopez- Cantera |13| What is the address for the lieutenant governor's office?PL-05 The Capitol Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001 |13| What is the telephone number? (850) 488-7146 |13| How is the lieutenant governor chosen? He is elected by the people |13| What are the age and residency requirements for the lieutenant governor? Per Article IV, Section 5 of the state constitution, the governor must be at least 30 years old and have been a resident and registered voter of Florida for at least seven years on the day of his election. |13| What is his annual salary? $124,851 |13| How long is his term? four years |13| Does he have any term limitations? yes they are restricted to two consecutive terms in office, after which they must wait one term before being eligible to run again. |13| In a paragraph, describe the role your lieutenant governor plays in your state government.

In the governors absence the lieutenant governor takes up his rehabilitates. He is also responsible for advising the governor, helping with his schedule and helping fill in if he has any family problems. (There shall be a lieutenant governor, who shall perform such duties pertaining to the office of governor as shall be assigned by the governor, except when otherwise provided by law, and such other duties as may be prescribed by law. (a) Upon vacancy in the office of governor, the lieutenant governor shall become governor. Further succession to the office of governor shall be prescribed by law. A successor shall serve for the remainder of the term. (b) Upon impeachment of the governor and until completion of trial thereof, or during the governor’s physical or mental incapacity, the lieutenant governor shall act as governor. Further succession as acting governor shall be prescribed by law. Incapacity to serve as governor may be determined by the supreme court upon due notice after docketing of a written suggestion thereof by three cabinet members, and in such case restoration of capacity shall be similarly determined after docketing of written suggestion thereof by the governor, the legislature or three cabinet members. Incapacity to serve as governor may also be established by certificate filed with the custodian of state records by the governor declaring incapacity for physical reasons to serve as governor, and in such case restoration of capacity shall be similarly established.)

Secretary of State Does my state have a secretary of state? If not called the secretary of state, what is this officer called? Yes |14| Who is the current secretary of state? Ken Detzner |14| What is his office address? R. A. Gray Building 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250 |14| What is his telephone number? (850) 245-6527 |14| How is the secretary of state chosen? He is appointed by the governor |14| What are the qualifications for the secretary of state? There are no qualifications |14| What salary does he receive?$141,000 |14| How long does he serve? There are no term limits |14| Does he have any term limitations? There are no term limits |14|

In a paragraph, describe your secretary of state's responsibilities. The Duty of the Secretary of State is to be the "Keeper of the offices of the Governor" this role has expanded greatly since the office was first created. According to the Flordia state website, "Today, the Secretary of State is Florida’s Chief of Elections, Chief Cultural Officer, the State Protocol Officer, and the head of the Department of State." The secretary's role as a cultural officer is somewhat unique among the states; the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, which the secretary oversees, sponsors a number of grants, awards, exhibitions and other artistic or cultural projects to showcase Florida culture. The secretary of state's office also manages the state's library and information services system, another somewhat unusual role

State Attorney General Who is the current state attorney general? Pam Bondi |15| What is his office address? The Capitol PL-01 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050 |15| What is his telephone number? 850-414-3300 |15| How is the attorney general chosen? They are elected by the people |15| What are the qualifications for the state attorney general? Flordia State Website Says" Per Article IV, Section 5 of the state constitution, the attorney general must be a qualified elector at least 30 years old and have resided in Florida for at least seven years prior to election. Additionally, he must have been a member of the state bar for five years." |15| How much is the attorney general paid? $128,972 |15| How many years does my attorney general serve? Four Years |15| Are there any term limitations? No there are no term limits only than serving only four year |15|

In a paragraph, describe the duties of your state attorney general.

The attorney general is responsible for "protecting Florida consumers from various types of fraud," and prosecuting violations of its antitrust laws. Additionally, he represents the state in civil litigation and in criminal appeals. The attorney general's office also investigates large-scale criminal activities like identity theft, drug trafficking and gang activity through its office of statewide prosecution.

Beyond his prosecutorial duties, the attorney general is responsible for issuing formal legal advice to state agencies, advising the legislature on the constitutionality of potential statutes and answering other questions, "relating to the application of state law." The attorney general is also a member of the governor's cabinet and sits on the board of directors of several other state agencies, including the departments of highway safety and motor vehicles, insurance, law enforcement, revenue and veterans affairs.

State Treasurer What is the official title of the person who acts as treasurer? Chief Financial Officer |16| Who currently fills this office in my state? Jeffrey Atwater 16| What is the treasurer's office address? Florida Department of Financial Services 200 East Gaines St. Tallahassee, FL 32399-4228 16| What is his telephone number? 1-877-693-5236 16| Who chooses the state treasurer? He is elected by the people16| What are the requirements for the state treasurer? Like all members of the Florida cabinet, the chief financial officer must be at least 30 years old and have resided in the state for seven years prior to his election. 16| What is he paid annually? $128,972 16| How long is my state treasurer's term? four years 16| Does he have anv term limitations? no 16| In a paragraph, define the job of your state treasurer.

The chief financial officer oversees the Florida Department of Financial Services. The department provides accounting and auditing services to state agencies, acts as the state's bank by disbursing and receiving funds into the treasury and performs other financial duties. In addition, the department performs non-financial regulatory duties, including insurance licensing and fraud investigation, funeral parlor and cemetery licensing and public assistance fraud investigation. Notably, the chief financial officer also acts as state fire marshal, which certifies firefighters, sets training standards and investigations potential arson.

State Auditor

Flordia Doesn't have a state auditor instead there tasks are done by the state congress

State Comptroller Florida doesn't have a State Comptroller the Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the duties he would have

State Superintendent of Education

What is my state's title for the person functioning in this capacity? Commissioner of Education |17| Who currently fills this office in my state? Pam Stewart ﻿|17| What is his office address? Turlington Building, Suite 1514 ﻿|17| 325 W. Gaines Street Tallahassee, FL 32399 ﻿|17| What is his telephone number? (850) 245-0505 ﻿|17| How is he chosen? he is appointed by the Florida Board of Education ﻿|17| What are the qualifications for a candidate for this position? There are no qualifications ﻿|17| What salary does this official receive? $275,000 ﻿|17| How long is my state superintendent's term? Until they step down ﻿|17| Are there any restrictions on the number of terms he may serve? No ﻿|17| In a paragraph, describe the duties of your state superintendent of education,

State law establishes the commissioner as Florida's "chief educational officer" and gives him administrative authority of the Florida Department of Education, the agency responsible for managing the state's K-20 educational programs. The commissioner's bailiwick includes elementary and secondary schools, as well as combination and adult schools.

The commissioner is required to organize the Department of Education and oversee its staff, act as custodian of the state's K-20 educational data warehouse, and assist the State Board of Education "in enforcing compliance with the mission and goals of the K-20 system."

Other State Offices

Section 3 State Legislature My entire state legislator body Is called the Florida State Legislature

Upper House What is the title given to the members of the senate? Florida State Senators |15| How long is a senators term? 8 Years SAF How long is a state senators term? four years What are the limitations on running for reelection? The Florida legislature is one of 15 state legislatures with term limits. Voters enacted the Florida Term Limits Act in 1992. That initiative said that Florida senators are subject to term limits of no more than two four-year terms. The first year that the term limits enacted in 1992 impacted the ability of incumbents to run for office was in 2000.0 What is a senator's annual salary? $29,697 What is the name of the senator who currently represents the area in which I live? Andy Gardiner What is his state capitol office address? 915 Oakfield Dr # E, Brandon, FL 33511 8 What is his office telephone number? (813) 651-2189

Lower House What is the official name given to the lower house of my state legislature? Florida House of Representatives What is the title given to the members of this house? Florida State Representatives How many members are there? 120 Members How long is a member's term? Two Years What are the restrictions on being reelected? There are the basics 18 years of age, US citizen, and have to live in that state for four years. How much is a member paid annually? $29,697 Who is the lower house legislator who currently represents my area? Bill Posey What is his state capitol office address? 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Building C Melbourne, FL 32940 What is his telephone number? (202) 225-3671

Terms and Sessions

Does my state legislature meet annually or biennially? Annually When is the first day of the regular legislative session?The Florida Legislature operates on a regular legislative session starting on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March for a period not to exceed 60 calendar days. Special sessions are called as needed by the Governor. How long does a regular session last? 60 Days Can the legislature call for a special session? Yes Apportionment When was my state last reapportioned? 10/23/2015 How many senate districts are in the state? 40 What senate district do I live in? 13th How many lower house districts are in the state? 435 What house district am I in? 50th Qualifications and Elections What is the minimum age for a state senator? What other qualifications must a senator have? When is the next election for my district's senator? How old must a member of the tower house be? What other qualifications must a lower house member have? When is my district's lower house seat up for election? Write a three-paragraph essay on how legislative candidates are chosen. If your state has any party primaries or conventions, explain how they work.

In Florida most legislative candidates are chosen through a primary election. A primary election is an election that narrows the field of candidates before an election for office. Primary elections are one means by which a political party or a political alliance nominates candidates for an upcoming general election or by-election.

The second way legislative candidates are chosen is by a caucus A caucus is a meeting of supporters or members of a specific political party or movement. Caucus are groups of people that help support a party or group of canidates. Some of these include the enviromentalist movement, gay rights movement, etc at this time these groups decide which party they want to support.

The last is the Political Convention is the battle of the two parties Democratic and Republican , it is a meeting of a political party, typically to select party candidates. Its when you select who you want to represent your party in the Primary Election.

Officers, Organizations, and Powers Who is the president of the senate? Andy Gardiner Is the senate president also the state lieutenant governor? Yes Who serves as president pro tempore? Garrett Richter Does the senate president appoint senate committees? Yes Who is the Speaker of the House? Steve Crisafulli Is there a speaker pro tempore in my state? Yes If there is, who is it? Matt Hudson Does the house Speaker appoint the house committees? Yes Are gubernatorial appointments subject to approval by the legislature? Yes If so, how does this process work? They are voted upon by the representatives When was the last time the legislature used its constituent power? Major issues during the 2015 legislative session included Gov. Rick Scott's proposed $77 billion annual budget, water quality and the use of testing to evaluate students across the state.

List five major legislative committees, and give a brief description of the functions of each one.

The Florida Legislative Investigation Committee (also known as the Johns Committee) was established by the Florida Legislature in 1956, during the era of the Second Red Scare and the Lavender Scare. Like the more famous anti-Communist investigative committees of the McCarthy period in the United States Congress, the Florida committee undertook a wide-ranging investigation of potentially subversive activities by academics, civil rights groups, and suspected communist organizations, and also attempted to eliminate homosexuals from state government and public education.

Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee (also known as The Florida Department of Children and Families) is a state agency of Florida. Its headquarters are in Room 202 in Building 1 of the 1317 Winewood Boulevard complex in Tallahassee. The department provides social services to children, adults, refugees, domestic violence victims, human trafficking victims, the homeless community, child care providers, disabled people, elderly. |18|

The Florida Department of Health is responsible for protecting the public health (including Epidemiology, Investigating foodborne illness and zoonotic and waterborne diseases, Emergency preparedness and bioterrorism, Controlling communicable disease, Health promotion and education, School health. The department manages the school health services program in cooperation with the Florida Department of Education. Funding comes from a variety of sources, including DOH and local school districts, Women's health, Public health dentistry and oral health, Nutrition, Vaccinations/preventable disease, Eliminating health disparities, Provision of vital records, Environmental health, Medical Quality Assurance, Epilepsy, Chronic disease, Spinal cord injury prevention programs and safety of the residents and visitors of the state of Florida. It is a cabinet-level agency of the state government, headed by a state surgeon general who reports to the governor. The department has its headquarters in Tallahassee.

The Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) is the state education agency of Florida. It governs public education and manages funding and testing for local educational agencies (school boards). It is headquartered in the Turlington Building in Tallahassee.

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice (FDJJ) is a state agency of Florida that operates juvenile detention centers. Its headquarters are in the Knight Building in Tallahassee.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV), formerly the Florida Department of Public Safety, is a statutorily established cabinet agency which providing Highway Safety and Security through excellence in service, education and enforcement.

The Florida Impeachment of Officers Amendment, also known as Amendment 3, was a legislatively referred constitutional amendment in Florida which was approved on the ballot on November 6, 1962. This allowed Florida to impeach local officials the same way as we impeach national officials and I quote Florida's constitution Section 29. Impeachment of Officers. The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment. The speaker of the House may appoint a committee to investigate alleged grounds for impeachment against any officer subject to impeachment either during or between legislative sessions; but a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of all members present shall be required to impeach any officer; and all impeachments shall be tried by the Senate. When sitting for that purpose the senators shall be upon oath or affirmation, and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of the Senate present. The Senate may adjourn to a fixed time for the trial of any impeachment, and may sit for the purpose of such trial whether the House of Representatives be in session or not, but the time fixed for such trial shall not be more than six (6) months from the time articles of impeachment shall be preferred by the House of Representatives. The Chief Justice shall preside at all trials by impeachment except in the trial of the Chief Justice, when the Governor shall preside. The Governor, Administrative officers of the Executive Department, Justices of the Supreme Court, and Judges of the Circuit Court shall be liable to impeachment for any misdemeanor in office, but judgment in such cases shall extend only to removal from office and disqualification to hold any office of honor, trust or profit under the State; but the party convicted or acquitted shall nevertheless be liable to indictment, trial and punishment according to law. "

The Legislative Process Must each bill be read in full on the legislative floor before a vote is taken? Yes What vote counting system does my state legislature use? Electronic voting systems, optical scan voting systems, DRE voting machines, Paper-based electronic voting system, and document ballot voting system Which system is most commonly used? Paper-based electronic voting system How long does the governor normally have to sign a bill? The governor must sign or veto legislation within 15 days of transmittal. What happens if he does not sign it during this period? It becomes law without his/her signature. How long does the governor have to sign a bill if the Legislature has adjourned? 15 days If he does not sign it during this time, does the bill automatically become law? yes What majority ts needed in the legislature to override the governor's veto? Two Thirds. After a bill a bill is signed how many days pass before it becomes law? 60 Days Does my state have a "sunshine law or it's equivalent? Yes If so, what does this law do? it's a law requires all proceedings of government agencies to be open or available to the public.

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