**South Carolina General Assembly**

118th Session, 2009-2010

**S. 561**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senators Matthews, Malloy, Jackson, Land, Hutto, Leventis, Scott, Williams, Elliott and Anderson

Document Path: l:\s-resmin\drafting\jm\002scho.tcm.jm.docx

Companion/Similar bill(s): 99

Introduced in the Senate on March 11, 2009

Currently residing in the Senate Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Public schools

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

3/11/2009 Senate Introduced and read first time [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2009\03-11-09.docx)‑3

3/11/2009 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** [SJ](file:///h:\SJ%20Archive\2009\03-11-09.docx)‑3

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[3/11/2009](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\561_20090311.docx)

**A** **BILL**

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 3, ARTICLE XI OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO THE SYSTEM OF FREE PUBLIC SCHOOLS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL PROVIDE FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT OF A SYSTEM OF FREE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND SHALL ESTABLISH, ORGANIZE, AND SUPPORT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING THAT WILL PROVIDE A HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION, ALLOWING EACH STUDENT TO REACH HIS HIGHEST POTENTIAL.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. It is proposed that Section 3, Article XI of the Constitution of this State be amended to read:

“Section 3. The General Assembly shall provide for the maintenance and support of a system of free public schools open to all children in the State and shall establish, organize, and support ~~such other~~ public institutions of learning~~, as may be desirable~~ that will provide a high quality education, allowing each student to reach his highest potential.”

SECTION 2. The proposed amendment in SECTION 1 must be submitted to the qualified electors at the next general election for representatives. Ballots must be provided at the various voting precincts with the following words printed or written on the ballot:

“Must Section 3, Article XI of the Constitution of this State be amended so as to provide that the General Assembly shall provide for the maintenance and support of a system of free public schools and shall establish, organize, and support public institutions of learning that will provide a high quality education, allowing each student to reach his highest potential?

Yes 

No 

Those voting in favor of the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word ‘Yes’, and those voting against the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word ‘No’.”

SECTION 3. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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