**South Carolina General Assembly**

124th Session, 2021-2022

**H. 3446**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Joint Resolution

Sponsors: Reps. Lucas, McGarry, Robinson, Haddon, Long, Forrest, Caskey, G.M. Smith and West

Document Path: l:\council\bills\cc\15822zw21.docx

Introduced in the House on January 12, 2021

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

Summary: Judges, constitutitonal amendment proposed

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

12/16/2020 House Prefiled

12/16/2020 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary**

1/12/2021 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 195](file:///h:\hj\20210112.docx))

1/12/2021 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 195](file:///h:\hj\20210112.docx))

1/13/2021 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Caskey, G.M.Smith, West

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=3446&session=124&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/16/2020](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\3446_20201216.docx)

**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 2, ARTICLE V OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE, SO AS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ASSOCIATE JUSTICES FROM FOUR TO SIX, AND TO MAKE CONFORMING ADJUSTMENTS REGARDING THE NUMBER OF JUSTICES NECESSARY TO CONSTITUTE A QUORUM OR TO REVERSE A JUDGMENT OF A LOWER COURT.

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

SECTION 1. It is proposed that Section 2, Article V of the Constitution of this State be amended to read:

“The Supreme Court shall consist of a Chief Justice and ~~four~~ six Associate Justices, any ~~three~~ four of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Chief Justice shall preside, and in his absence the senior Associate Justice. In all cases decided by the Supreme Court, the concurrence of ~~three~~ four of the Justices shall be necessary for a reversal of the judgment below.”

SECTION 2. The proposed amendment 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 2, Article V of the Constitution of this State, relating to the South Carolina Supreme Court, be amended so as to provide that the Supreme Court shall consist of the Chief Justice and six Associate Justices and that a minimum of four Justices are necessary to constitute a quorum or to reverse a judgment from a lower court?

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’.”

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