



The Florida House of Representatives

Office of the Speaker

Dean Cannon
Speaker

For Immediate Release:

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

Contact:

Katie Betta, (850) 339-7087

Statement by Speaker Cannon Regarding the Preclearance of Amendments 5 & 6

Tallahassee, Fla. – Florida House Speaker Dean Cannon (R-Winter Park) today released the following statement regarding the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) approving the ‘Preclearance Application’ for the newly adopted Sections 20 and 21 of Article III of the Florida Constitution (Amendments 5 and 6).

“The preclearance of Amendments 5 and 6 was a necessary step before the legislature could implement them as part of the upcoming redistricting process. More importantly, the preclearance of Amendments 5 and 6 is validation that Florida’s new constitutional standards for redistricting promote and protect the ability of racial and language minority communities to equally participate in the electoral process and elect candidates of their choice.”

The Preclearance Application, which asked that DOJ affirmatively preclear Amendments 5 and 6, was submitted jointly by the Florida House of Representatives and the Florida Senate on March 29, 2011.

###