



2018 Ballot Initiatives Summarized

Amendment 1 - Increased Homestead Property Tax Exemption

Proposing to increase the homestead exemption by exempting the assessed value on of homestead property greater than \$100,000 and up to \$125,000 for all levies other than school district levies. The amendment shall take effect January 1, 2019.

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/10-95.pdf>

Amendment 2 - Limitations on Property Tax Assessments

Proposing an amendment to permanently retain provisions currently in effect, which limit property tax assessment increases on specified non-homestead real property, except for school district taxes, to 10 percent each year. If approved, the amendment removes the scheduled repeal of such provisions in 2019 and shall take effect January 1, 2019.

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/10-96.pdf>

Amendment 3 - Voter Control of Gambling in Florida

Requires approval of any new casino gambling through a citizen-initiative constitutional amendment, effectively barring the Legislature from making those gambling decisions by passing laws.

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/64995-1.pdf>

Amendment 4 - Voter Rights Restoration Amendment

Change language in Article VI, § 4 to include:

“Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, any disqualification from voting arising from a felony conviction shall terminate and voting rights shall be restored upon completion of all terms of sentence including parole or probation. (b) No person convicted of murder or a felony sexual offense shall be qualified to vote until restoration of civil rights.”

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/64388-1.pdf>

Amendment 5 - Supermajority Vote Required to Impose, Authorize, or Raise State Taxes or Fees

Requires a two-thirds vote of the Legislature to approve any new or increased taxes or fees, rather than a simple majority. This proposal does not authorize a state tax or fee otherwise prohibited by the Constitution and does not apply to fees or taxes imposed or authorized to be imposed by a county, municipality, school board, or special district.

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/10-97.pdf>

Amendment 6 - Rights of Crime Victims; Judges

Vastly expands the scope of victims' rights under the state Constitution; increases the mandatory retirement age for judges from 70 to 75; forces courts and judges to interpret laws and rules for themselves rather than rely on interpretations by government agencies.

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/11-20.pdf>



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Amendment 7 - First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits; Public Colleges and Universities

Grants mandatory payment of death benefits and waiver of certain educational expenses to qualifying survivors of certain first responders and military members who die performing official duties. Requires supermajority votes by university trustees and state university system board of governors to raise or impose all legislatively authorized fees if law requires approval by those bodies. Establishes existing state college system as constitutional entity; provides governance structure.

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/11-21.pdf>

Amendment 8 - School Board Terms and Dues; Public Schools

Creates a term limit of eight consecutive years for school board members and requires the legislature to provide for the promotion of civic literacy in public schools. Currently, district school boards have a constitutional duty to operate, control, and supervise all public schools. The amendment maintains a school board's duties to public schools it establishes, ***but permits the state to operate, control, and supervise public schools not established by the school board.***

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/11-22.pdf>

Amendment 9 - Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling; Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplace

Prohibits drilling for the exploration or extraction of oil and natural gas beneath all state-owned waters between the mean high-water line and the state's outermost territorial boundaries. Adds use of vapor-generating electronic devices to current prohibition of tobacco smoking in enclosed indoor workplaces with exceptions; permits more restrictive local vapor ordinances.

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/11-23.pdf>

Amendment 10 - State and Local Government Structure and Operation

Requires the Legislature to hold its session in early January on even-numbered years; creates an Office of Domestic Security and Counterterrorism within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement; mandates the existence of a state Department of Veterans' Affairs; forces all counties to elect a sheriff, tax collector, property appraiser, supervisor of elections and Clerk of Circuit Court.

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/11-24.pdf>

Amendment 11 - Property Rights; Removal of Obsolete Provision; Criminal Statutes

Repeals the state's ability to prohibit non-citizens from buying, owning and selling property; deletes a provision that forces the state to prosecute criminal suspects under the law they were originally charged under, even if the Legislature changes that law; deletes obsolete language having to do with high-speed rail in Florida.

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/11-25.pdf>

Amendment 12 - Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers

Would bar public officials from lobbying both during their terms and for six years following and restrict current public officers from using their office for personal gain.

A "no" vote opposes prohibiting public officials from lobbying for compensation during the official's term in office and for six years after the official leaves office and prohibiting public officials from using the office to obtain a disproportionate benefit.

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/11-26.pdf>



2018 Ballot Initiatives Summarized

Amendment 13 - Ends Dog Racing

A proposed revision relating to ending dog racing; creating new sections in Article X and Article XII of the State Constitution to prohibit the racing of, and wagering on, greyhounds and other dogs after as of specified date. Dec 2020

<http://flcrc.gov/Proposals/Commissioner/2017/6012/ProposalText/er/HTML>

WOMEN'S MARCH FLORIDA

2018 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Increased Homestead Property Tax Exemption - No
- 2. Limitations on Property Tax Assessments - No
- 3. Voter Control of Gambling in Florida - Yes
- 4. Voting Restoration Amendment - Yes
- 5. Supermajority Vote Required to Impose, Authorize, or Raise State Taxes or Fees - No
- 6. Rights of Crime Victims; Judges - No
- 7. First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits; Public Colleges and Universities - No
- 8. School Board Term Limits and Duties; Public Schools - No
- 9. Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling; Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces - Yes
- 10. State and Local Government Structure and Operation - No
- 11. Property Rights; Removal of Obsolete Provision; Criminal Statutes - No
- 12. Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers - No
- 13. - Ends Dog Racing - Yes

Sources: League of Women Voters Florida; Florida Division of Elections