



# 2020 BALLOT AMENDMENT OVERVIEW

## **Proposed Amendments to the State Constitution for 2020 General Election**

Below is a summary of the proposed amendments to the Constitution of the State of Florida that will appear on the General Election Ballot in November. For further details on these proposed amendments, please visit the [Florida Division of Elections Initiatives Database](#)

### **Amendment One: Citizenship Requirement to Vote**

*What does this Amendment do?*

Amendment One seeks to provide that “only” United States Citizens who are at least eighteen years of age, a permanent resident of Florida, and registered to vote, as provided by law, shall be qualified to vote in a Florida election. It is important to note that the present language of the state constitution already requires all registered Florida voters to be US citizens.

*If you vote YES...*

...you support changing two words in the state Constitution, which will not change the meaning of this provision of the Constitution.

*If you vote NO...*

...you support maintaining the constitutional provision as it currently exists, which requires that all voters be United States Citizens who are at least eighteen years of age, a permanent resident of Florida, and registered to vote, as provided by law.

### **Amendment Two: Raising Florida’s Minimum Wage**

*What does this Amendment do?*

Amendment Two seeks to increase Florida’s minimum wage to \$15/hour by 2026.

*If you vote YES...*

...you support increasing the minimum wage to \$10/hr. in September 2021, and subsequently increasing the minimum wage \$1.00 every year until it hits \$15/hour in

September 2026. Thereafter, the minimum wage will increase every year in keeping with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The tip credit will remain frozen at \$3.02, but the required cash wage for tipped workers would increase, hitting \$11.98 in 2026.

*If you vote NO...*

... you support Florida's minimum wage, which is presently \$8.56, continuing to increase every year in keeping with the CPI. Florida employers would continue to have the ability to set wages according to the market conditions in their area.

***\*The Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association has taken a strong stance in opposition to Amendment Two because of its potentially devastating impact on the restaurant and lodging industries.***

### **Amendment Three: All Voters Vote in Primary Elections**

*What does this Amendment do?*

Amendment Three seeks to allow all registered voters to vote in primaries for state legislature, governor, and cabinet, regardless of the voter's or candidate's political party affiliation. A single primary would be held for each office. All candidates for an office, including party nominated candidates, would appear on the same primary ballot. The two highest vote-getters would advance to general election. If only two candidates qualify to run for an office, no primary is held, and the winner would be determined in the general election. A candidate's party affiliation may appear on ballot as provided by law. This would take effect as of January 1, 2024.

*If you vote YES...*

...you support changing Florida's primary system to allow all registered voters to vote in a single primary in which all candidates for an office are combined, regardless of party affiliation. In this system, the two highest vote-getters would advance to the general election.

*If you vote NO...*

...you support maintaining Florida's primary system as it currently operates, with separate primaries for Republican and Democrat candidates, in which only registered Republican and Democrat voters, respectively, may vote.

### **Amendment Four: Voter Approval of Constitutional Amendments**

*What does this Amendment do?*

Amendment Four seeks to require all proposed amendments or revisions to the state constitution be approved by the voters in two elections, instead of one, in order to take effect. The 60% approval threshold must be satisfied in both elections.

*If you vote YES...*

...you support requiring proposed constitutional ballot amendments to be approved by voters in two elections in order to take effect.

*If you vote NO...*

...you support retaining the current requirement that a proposed constitutional amendment be approved by voters in one election in order to take effect.

### **Amendment Five: Limitation on Homestead Assessments**

*What does this Amendment do?*

Amendment Five seeks to increase, from 2 years to 3 years, the period of time during which accrued Save-Our-Homes benefits may be transferred from a prior homestead to a new homestead (called “portability”). This amendment would take effect as of January 1, 2021. This amendment was proposed by the Florida Legislature.

*If you vote YES...*

...you support increasing Save Our Homes portability to three years.

*If you vote NO...*

...you support maintaining Save Our Homes portability at two years.

### **Amendment Six: Ad Valorem Tax Discount for Spouses of Certain Deceased Veterans Who Had Permanent, Combat-Related Disabilities**

*What does this Amendment do?*

Amendment Six seeks to provide that the homestead property tax discount for certain veterans with permanent combat-related disabilities carries over to such veteran's surviving spouse who holds legal or beneficial title to, and who permanently resides on, the homestead property, until he or she remarries or sells or otherwise disposes of the property. The discount may be transferred to a new homestead property of the surviving spouse under certain conditions. The amendment would take effect as of January 1, 2021. This amendment was proposed by the Florida Legislature.

*If you vote YES...*

...you support extending the homestead property tax discount for combat disabled veterans to a qualified veteran's spouse upon the death of said veteran.

*If you vote NO...*

...you support continuing to apply the homestead property tax discount for combat disabled veterans to the qualified disabled veteran. Such property tax discount would be extinguished upon the death of the disabled veteran.