

Constitutional Amendments Proposed by NC Legislature



Voters will choose either "FOR" or "AGAINST" changes:

WHAT THE BALLOT SAYS

Starting from bottom, last page of ballot

WHAT THE LAW WOULD CHANGE

ETHICS AND ELECTIONS

"Constitutional amendment to establish an eight-member Bipartisan Board of Ethics and Elections Enforcement in the Constitution to administer ethics and elections law."

- Transfers power from Governor to NC Legislature to make appointments to the Bipartisan State Board of Ethics and Elections Enforcement.
- Reduces current 9 member Elections Board to 8 members, each party gets to appoint 4 members. An even number of members appointed by the majority and minority party may result in tie votes, affecting issues like limiting early voting.

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

"Constitutional amendment to change the process for filling judicial vacancies that occur between judicial elections from a process in which the Governor has sole appointment power to a process in which the people of the State nominate individuals to fill vacancies by way of a commission comprised of appointees made by the judicial, executive, and legislative branches charged with making recommendations to the legislature as to which nominees are deemed qualified; then the legislature will recommend at least two nominees to the Governor via legislative action not subject to gubernatorial veto; and the Governor will appoint judges from among these nominees."

- Removes Governor's power to appoint judges when there is an opening between elections.
- The NC Legislature, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and Governor, and the General Assembly would be given power to appoint a commission to nominate a list of judges.
- Gives NC Legislature the power to choose two names to send to the Governor for approval of one appointment.
- Legislature could add two Supreme Court seats in a special session, potentially shifting the balance of the court.

VOTER PHOTO ID

"Constitutional amendment to require voters to provide photo identification before voting in person."

- 381,000 eligible NC voters (5.6%) do not have photo ID. Primarily seniors, youth, low income, people of color, people with disabilities.
- 1200+ citizens could not vote in the March 2016 Primary due to the ID law that was in place at that time (ruled unconstitutional in July 2016).
- There is no plan to ensure that all voters who need an ID get one.
- Types of photo ID that would be allowed or exceptions to the law won't be decided until AFTER this is voted on.

INCOME TAX CAP

"Constitutional amendment to reduce the income tax rate in North Carolina to a maximum allowable rate of seven percent (7%)"

- Lowers cap on income tax from 10 to 7% for all NC taxpayers.
- In the case of another recession or emergency, lawmakers would only have the option of increasing sales taxes and fees which impact people regardless of income.

VICTIMS BILL OF RIGHTS

"Constitutional amendment to strengthen protections for victims of crime, to establish certain, absolute basic rights for victims, and to ensure the enforcement of these rights."

- Expands constitutional rights of crime victims.
- Estimated cost \$30.5 million per year for additional prosecutors.
- Right to receive notice of court proceedings, to be heard and present at any court proceedings, to restitution in a timely manner, to receive information about the conviction and sentence.

RIGHT TO HUNT AND FISH

"Constitutional amendment protecting the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife."

- Creates a constitutional right to hunt and fish.
- This is already a right of North Carolinians, with no known threats.

For more information and resources, visit: youcanvote.org/vote2018