

2018

**STATE CONSTITUTIONAL
AMENDMENTS**

&

**CONSTITUTION
REVISION COMMISSION
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**



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2018 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Question 1 – Increased Homestead Property Tax Exemption

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to increase the homestead exemption by exempting the assessed valuation 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

Question 2 – Limitations on Property Tax Assessments

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to permanently retain provisions currently in effect, which limit property tax assessment increases on specified nonhomestead 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.

Question 3 – Voter Control of Gambling in Florida

This amendment ensures that Florida voters shall have the exclusive right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling by requiring that in order for casino gambling to be authorized under Florida law, it must be approved by Florida voters pursuant to Article XI, Section 3 of the Florida Constitution. Affects articles X and XI. Defines casino gambling and clarifies that this amendment does not conflict with federal law regarding state/tribal compacts.

Question 4 – Voting Restoration Amendment

This amendment restores the voting rights of Floridians with felony convictions after they complete all terms of their sentence including parole or probation. The amendment would not apply to those convicted of murder or sexual offenses, who would continue to be permanently barred from voting unless the Governor and Cabinet vote to restore their voting rights on a case by case basis.

Question 5 – Supermajority Vote for State Taxes or Fees

This amendment to State Constitution proposes to prohibit a state tax or fee from being imposed or raised except through legislation approved by two-thirds of each house of legislature; requires a state tax or fee imposed or raised to be contained in separate bill that contains no other subject.

Constitution Revision Committee Proposed Amendments

P 6001: Rights of Crime Victims; Judges

Rights of Crime Victims; Judges; A proposal to amend Section 16 of Article I of the State Constitution to revise and establish additional rights of victims of crime; create Section 21 of Article V of the State Constitution to require a state court or an administrative law judge to interpret a state statute or rule de novo in litigation between an administrative agency and a private party and not merely defer to the administrative agency's interpretation; and amend Section 8 of Article V and to create a new section in Article XII of the State Constitution to increase the age after which a justice or judge may no longer serve in a judicial office.

P 6002: First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits; Public Colleges and Universities

First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits; Public Colleges and Universities; A proposal to amend Section 7 of Article IX of the State Constitution to establish minimum vote thresholds for university boards of trustees and the board of governors to impose or authorize a new fee or increase an existing fee, as authorized by law; create Section 8 of Article IX of the State Constitution to specify the purposes of the State College System and to provide for the governance structure of the system; and create a new section in Article X of the State Constitution to establish the right of survivors of specified first responders and military members to death benefits.

P 6003: School Board Term Limits and Duties; Public Schools

School Board Term Limits and Duties; Public Schools; A proposal to amend Section 4 of Article IX and create a new section in Article XII of the State Constitution to establish a limitation on the period for which a person may be elected as a member of a district school board; to specify which schools are operated, controlled, and supervised by a school board; and to create a new section in Article IX of the State Constitution to require the Legislature to provide for the promotion of civic literacy in public education.

P 6004: Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling; Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces

Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling; Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces; A proposal to amend Section 7 of Article II of the State Constitution to prohibit the drilling for exploration and extraction of oil and natural gas in specified coastal waters and amend Section 20 of Article X of the State Constitution to establish a general prohibition on the use of vapor-generating electronic devices in enclosed indoor workplaces.

P 6005: State and Local Government Structure and Operation

State and Local Government Structure and Operation; A proposal to amend Section 3 of Article III of the State Constitution to provide that the Legislature convene for regular session on the second Tuesday after the first Monday in January of each even-numbered year; amend Section 4 of Article IV of the State Constitution to establish the Office of Domestic Security and Counterterrorism within the Department of Law Enforcement; amend Section 11 of Article IV of the State Constitution to require, rather than authorize, the Legislature to provide for the Department of Veterans' Affairs and prescribe its duties by general law and to specify that the head of the department is the Governor and Cabinet; and amend Sections 1 and 6 of Article VIII of the State Constitution to remove authority for a county charter or a special law to provide for choosing specified county officers in a manner other than election and to prohibit a county charter from abolishing specified county officers, transferring duties of a county officer to another officer or office, changing the length of terms of county officers, or establishing any manner of selection of county officers other than by election.

P 6006: Property Rights; Removal of Obsolete Provision; Criminal Statutes

Property Rights; Removal of Obsolete Provision; Criminal Statutes; A proposal to amend Section 2 of Article I of the State Constitution to remove a provision authorizing laws that regulate or prohibit the ownership, inheritance, disposition, and possession of real property by aliens ineligible for citizenship; amend Section 9 of Article X of the State Constitution to provide that the repeal of a criminal statute shall not affect the prosecution of any crime committed before such repeal; and amend Section 19 of Article X of the State Constitution to delete an obsolete provision regarding the development of a high speed ground transportation system.

P 6007: Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers

Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers; A proposal to amend Section 8 of Article II and Section 13 of Article V and create a new section in Article XII of the State Constitution to establish certain restrictions for specified public officers and employees regarding the personal representation for compensation of another person or entity before certain government bodies.

P 6012: Dog Racing

Dog Racing; A proposal to create 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 a specified date.