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Official General Election Ballot  
November 3, 2020  
DeSoto County, Florida

17 First Baptist Church

- To vote, fill in the oval (●) completely next to your choice. Use only the marking device provided or a black or blue pen or marker.
- If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot. Do not cross out or your vote may not count.
- To vote for a write-in candidate, fill in the oval (●) and print the name clearly on the blank line provided for the write-in candidate.

<b>President and Vice President</b> (Vote for 1)	<input type="radio"/> Donald J. Trump Michael R. Pence	REP	<b>Justice of the Supreme Court</b> Shall Justice Carlos G. Muñiz of the Supreme Court be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<b>No. 1 Constitutional Amendment</b> <b>Article VI, Section 2</b>  <b>Citizenship Requirement to Vote in Florida Elections</b>  This amendment provides 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.  Because the proposed amendment is not expected to result in any changes to the voter registration process in Florida, it will have no impact on state or local government costs or revenue. Further, it will have no effect on the state's economy.  <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
	<input type="radio"/> Joseph R. Biden Kamala D. Harris	DEM	<b>District Court of Appeal</b> Shall Judge Drew Atkinson of the 2rd District Court of Appeal be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		
	<input type="radio"/> Jo Jorgensen Jeremy "Spike" Cohen	LPF	Shall Judge Morris Silberman of the 2rd District Court of Appeal be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		
	<input type="radio"/> Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente Darcy G. Richardson	REF	Shall Judge Daniel H. Sleet of the 2rd District Court of Appeal be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		
	<input type="radio"/> Gloria La Riva Sunil Freeman	PSL	Shall Judge Andrea Teves Smith of the 2rd District Court of Appeal be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		
	<input type="radio"/> Howie Hawkins Angela Nicole Walker	GRE	<b>Sheriff</b> (Vote for 1)		
	<input type="radio"/> Don Blankenship William Mohr	CPF	<input type="radio"/> William J. Delaney		
	<input type="radio"/> Write-In		<input type="radio"/> James F. "Jim" Potter		
<b>Representative in Congress</b> <b>District 17</b> (Vote for 1)	<input type="radio"/> Greg Steube	REP	<b>Tax Collector</b> (Vote for 1)	<b>No. 2 Constitutional Amendment</b> <b>Article X, Section 24</b>  <b>Raising Florida's Minimum Wage</b>  Raises minimum wage to \$10.00 per hour effective September 30th, 2021. Each September 30th thereafter, minimum wage shall increase by \$1.00 per hour until the minimum wage reaches \$15.00 per hour on September 30th, 2026. From that point forward, future minimum wage increases shall revert to being adjusted annually for inflation starting September 30th, 2027.  State and local government costs will increase to comply with the new minimum wage levels. Additional annual wage costs will be approximately \$16 million in 2022, increasing to about \$540 million in 2027 and thereafter. Government actions to mitigate these costs are unlikely to produce material savings. Other government costs and revenue impacts, both positive and negative, are not quantifiable.  <b>THIS PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT IS ESTIMATED TO HAVE A NET NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE STATE BUDGET. THIS IMPACT MAY RESULT IN HIGHER TAXES OR A LOSS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN A BALANCED STATE BUDGET AS REQUIRED BY THE CONSTITUTION.</b>  <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
	<input type="radio"/> Allen Ellison	DEM			<input type="radio"/> Debra Burtcher
	<input type="radio"/> Theodore "Pink Tie" Murray	NPA			<input type="radio"/> Esmeralda Manriquez
<b>State Attorney</b> <b>Judicial Circuit 12</b> (Vote for 1)	<input type="radio"/> Ed Brodsky	REP	<b>Superintendent of Schools</b> (Vote for 1)		
	<input type="radio"/> Betsy Young	DEM			<input type="radio"/> Bobby Bennett
<b>State Representative</b> <b>District 56</b> (Vote for 1)	<input type="radio"/> Melony Bell	REP	<input type="radio"/> Adrian H. Cline		
	<input type="radio"/> James Davis	DEM	<b>Supervisor of Elections</b> (Vote for 1)		
			<input type="radio"/> Brian Burns		
			<input type="radio"/> Mark Negley		

Vote Both Sides of Page

**No. 3 Constitutional Amendment  
Article VI, Section 5**

**All Voters Vote in Primary Elections for State Legislature, Governor and Cabinet**

Allows all registered voters to vote in primaries for state legislature, governor, and cabinet regardless of political party affiliation. All candidates for an office, including party nominated candidates, appear on the same primary ballot. Two highest vote getters advance to general election. If only two candidates qualify, no primary is held and winner is determined in general election. Candidate's party affiliation may appear on ballot as provided by law. Effective January 1, 2024.

It is probable that the proposed amendment will result in additional local government costs to conduct elections in Florida. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference projects that the combined costs across counties will range from \$5.2 million to \$5.8 million for each of the first three election cycles occurring in even-numbered years after the amendment's effective date, with the costs for each of the intervening years dropping to less than \$450,000. With respect to state costs for oversight, the additional costs for administering elections are expected to be minimal. Further, there are no revenues linked to voting in Florida. Since there is no impact on state costs or revenues, there will be no impact on the state's budget. While the proposed amendment will result in an increase in local expenditures, this change is expected to be below the threshold that would produce a statewide economic impact.

- Yes
- No

**No. 4 Constitutional Amendment  
Article XI, Sections 5 and 7**

**Voter Approval of Constitutional Amendments**

Requires all proposed amendments or revisions to the state constitution to be approved by the voters in two elections, instead of one, in order to take effect. The proposal applies the current thresholds for passage to each of the two elections.

It is probable that the proposed amendment will result in additional state and local government costs to conduct elections in Florida. Overall, these costs will vary from election cycle to election cycle depending on the unique circumstances of each ballot and cannot be estimated at this time. The key factors determining cost include the number of amendments appearing for the second time on each ballot and the length of those amendments. Since the maximum state cost is likely less than \$1 million per cycle but the impact cannot be discretely quantified, the change to the state's budget is unknown. Similarly, the economic impact cannot be modelled, although the spending increase is expected to be below the threshold that would produce a statewide economic impact. Because there are no revenues linked to voting in Florida, there will be no impact on government taxes or fees.

**THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THIS AMENDMENT CANNOT BE DETERMINED DUE TO AMBIGUITIES AND UNCERTAINTIES SURROUNDING THE AMENDMENT'S IMPACT.**

- Yes
- No

**No. 6 Constitutional Amendment  
Article VII, Section 6 Article XII**

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

Provides 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 takes effect January 1, 2021.

- Yes
- No

**Referendum – Economic Development Ad Valorem Tax Exemption Under Section 196.1955, Florida Statutes**

Shall the Board of County Commissioners of DeSoto County be authorized to grant, pursuant to s. 3, Art. VII of the State Constitution, property tax exemptions to new businesses and expansions of existing businesses?

- Yes
- No

**No. 5 Constitutional Amendment  
Article VII, Section 4 and Article XII**

**Limitation on Homestead Assessments; Increased Portability Period to Transfer Accrued Benefit**

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution, effective date January 1, 2021, 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.

- Yes
- No

Vote Both Sides of Page