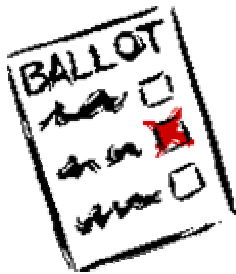


October 6, 2004

A Guide to Proposed Amendments

Voters Will Be Asked to Consider Eight Constitutional Amendments in November



The controversy surrounding the manner in which Florida's Constitution can be amended is expected to take a center stage during the upcoming 2005 Florida Legislature. In the meantime, voters will be asked to consider eight proposals on November 2 that seek to make further amendments to core document in Florida law. Here is a summary of those issues.

Proposed Amendment No. 1:
**Parental Notification of a Minor's
Termination of Pregnancy**
Sponsor: State Legislature

Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to authorize the Legislature to require by general law for the notification to a parent or guardian of a minor before the termination of the minor's pregnancy. The amendment provides that the Legislature shall not limit or deny the privacy rights guaranteed to minors under the United States

Constitution as interpreted by the United States Supreme Court. The Legislature shall provide exceptions to such requirement for notification and shall create a process for judicial waiver and the requirement for notification.

Your Vote:

- ✓ Yes if you support requiring a minor to notify a parent or guardian before the termination of the minor's pregnancy.
- ✗ No if you oppose the notification.

**Proposed Amendment No. 2:
Constitutional Amendments Proposed by
Initiative**

Sponsor: State Legislature

Requires the sponsor of a constitutional amendment proposed by citizen initiative to file the petition with the Secretary of State by February 1 of the year of a general election in order to have the measure submitted to the electors for approval or rejection at the following November's general election, and to require the Florida Supreme Court to render an advisory opinion addressing the validity of an initiative petition by April 1 of the year in which the amendment is to be submitted to the electors.

Your Vote:

- ✓ Yes if you support knowing what amendments are going to be on the ballot nine months prior to the election.
- ✗ No if you oppose it.

**Proposed Amendment No. 3:
The Medical Liability Claimant's
Compensation Amendment**

**Sponsor: Citizen Initiative
(Citizens for a Fair Share, Inc.)**

Proposes to amend the State Constitution to provide that an injured claimant who enters into a contingency fee agreement with an attorney in a claim for medical liability is entitled to no less than 70% of the first \$250,000 in all damages received by the claimant, and 90% of damages in excess of \$250,000, exclusive of reasonable and customary costs and regardless of the number of defendants. This amendment is intended to be self-executing.

Your Vote:

- ✓ Yes if you support the amendment.
- ✗ No if you oppose it.

**Proposed Amendment No. 4:
Authorizes Miami-Dade and Broward
County Voters to Approve Slot Machines
in Parimutuel Facilities**

**Sponsor: Citizen Initiative
(Floridians for a Level Playing Field)**

Authorizes Miami-Dade and Broward Counties to hold referenda on whether to authorize slot machines in existing, licensed parimutuel facilities (thoroughbred and harness racing, greyhound racing, and jai alai) that have conducted live racing or games in that county during each of the last two calendar years before effective date of this amendment. The Legislature may tax slot machine revenues, and any such taxes must supplement public education funding statewide. Requires implementing legislation.

Your Vote:

- ✓ Yes if you support allowing Miami-Dade and Broward counties to let their voters decide on whether to authorize slot machines in their respective counties.
- ✗ No if you oppose it.

**Proposed Amendment No. 5:
Florida Minimum Wage Amendment**

**Sponsor: Citizen Initiative
(Floridians for All PAC)**

This amendment creates a Florida minimum wage covering all employees in the state covered by the federal minimum wage. The state minimum wage will start at \$6.15 per hour six months after enactment, and thereafter be indexed to inflation each year. It provides for enforcement, including double damages for unpaid wages, attorney's fees, and fines by the state. It forbids retaliation against employees for exercising this right.

Your Vote:

- ✓ Yes if you support artificial raises in minimum wage that will increase each year based on inflation.
- ✗ No if you oppose constitutionally mandated wage increases.

Proposed Amendment No. 6:
Repeal of High Speed Rail Amendment
Sponsor: Citizen Initiative
(Derail the Bullet Train-DEBT)

This amendment repeals an amendment in the Florida Constitution that requires the Legislature, the Cabinet and the Governor to proceed with the development and operation of a high speed ground transportation system by the state and/or by a private entity.

Your Vote:

- ✓ Yes if you support repealing the high speed rail amendment that passed in 2000.
- ✗ No if you want the high speed rail amendment to remain in Florida's Constitution.

Proposed Amendment No. 7:
Patients' Right to Know About Adverse Medical Incidents
Sponsor: Citizen Initiative
(Floridians for Patient Protection)

Current Florida law restricts information available to patients related to investigations of adverse medical incidents, such as medical malpractice. This amendment would give patients the right to review, upon request, records of health care facilities' or providers' adverse medical incidents, including those which could cause injury or death. Provides that patients' identities should not be disclosed.

Your Vote:

- ✓ Yes if you support Floridians having the opportunity to review the past adverse medical incidents of their doctors or health care facilities.
- ✗ No if you oppose it.

Proposed Amendment No. 8:
Public Protection from Repeated Medical Malpractice
Sponsor: Citizen Initiative
(Floridians for Patient Protection)

Current law allows medical doctors who have committed repeated malpractice to be licensed to practice medicine in Florida. This amendment prohibits medical doctors who have been found to have committed three or more incidents of medical malpractice from being licensed to practice medicine in Florida.

Your Vote:

- ✓ Yes if you believe that doctors who have committed three or more incidents of medical malpractice should be prohibited from practicing medicine in Florida.
- ✗ No if you oppose it.

**Carlton Fields Government
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Our Government Consulting Team members are completely versed in Florida's political campaigns and candidates and can provide counsel regarding the best use of political contributions.

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