

THE  
**WATCHDAWG**  
REPORT

NOVEMBER 5 2024 VOTER GUIDE

## Proposed Amendments to the Missouri Constitution

When voting for any Amendment to the Missouri Constitution, be skeptical. The US Constitution, including Amendments contains 7662 words. The Missouri Constitution has approximately 39,000. For a long time, it has been too easy to amend our state constitution. We at AFC-CC will continue to pressure the Missouri General Assembly to pass a legitimate IP Reform bill that will help make it more difficult to amend our Constitution and better protect us from influencers outside our state. Until that passes, a NO vote on any amendment brought by initiative petition should be considered.

There are five Amendments proposed to the on the November 5<sup>th</sup> ballot, and one Proposition. The Amendments add to the Missouri Constitution. The Proposition adds to the Revised Statutes of Missouri, i.e., state law.

Amendments 2, 3 and 5 were introduced via Initiative Petition, as was Proposition A. Signatures are gathered throughout the state to bring these proposals to the voter...which sounds nice until you experience the signature gatherers and realize that they are paid out-of-state influencers who mislead potential signers because they have no interest except to be paid by signature for everyone they can coerce. There may be some who are ideologically driven, but I am skeptical of most.

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## Vote

Voter apathy is a big part of how we got into the mess we have now. Do you want to be part of the problem or part of the solution? If you sit out this election, you are part of the problem. If you do not reach out to friends and family to encourage a Conservative vote, you are not doing all you can for your country. We who vote are the Conservative Army for America. Do not let this opportunity to join in on something great pass you by.

The deadline to register is October 9.

If you do not have time to go to the courthouse, email me at [contact@watchdawgreport.com](mailto:contact@watchdawgreport.com) and we will bring you a registration form, and deliver it back to the county clerk for you.

No excuse early voting begins October 21<sup>st</sup>.

Absentee voting is open now.

Both are accomplished by visiting the County Clerk's office in the Camden County Courthouse in Camdenton. Enter at the lower level door by the back parking lot. Take the elevator or stairs to the second floor. The room set up for voter is across the hall from the Clerk's office. Call me at 660-238-6514 if you need a ride.

Vote early if you can. We do not know what may happen on November 5<sup>th</sup> (or before) to interfere with our election.

**Proposed Amendments to the Missouri Constitution - Cont'd from Page 1**

NOTE – the recommendations expressed in this voter guide are 100% that of Jennie Wall and Lorrie Askeland. AFC-CC members did not participate because of the complex logistics of reaching consensus in such a large group. Every voter should make their own choices. This guide is for those who wish to have my and Lorrie's input.

The descriptions are taken from the Secretary of State's website so you can see how they present the explanation as an influence.

**Missouri Constitutional Amendment 2 – Brought by Initiative Petition**  
**We recommend a NO vote.**

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to permit licensed sports wagering regulated by the Missouri Gaming Commission and restrict sports betting to individuals physically located in the state and over the age of 21. The amendment includes a 10% wagering tax on revenues received to be appropriated for educational institutions in Missouri. The General Assembly would be able to further enact laws consistent with this amendment (what does that even mean?).

Vote "No" to not amend the Missouri Constitution regarding licensed regulated sports wagering.

**Missouri Constitutional Amendment 3 – Brought by Initiative Petition**  
**We recommend a NO vote.** There are terrible ramifications too numerous to mention.

From Amendment 3 - "The Government shall not deny or infringe upon a person's fundamental right to reproductive freedom, which is the right to make and carry out decisions about all matters relating to reproductive health care, including but not limited to prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, birth control, abortion care, miscarriage care, and respectful birthing conditions."

In Missouri now, abortion is banned with certain exceptions, which include saving the life or preventing a serious risk to the health of the pregnant woman. This law went into effect on June 24, 2022, following the U.S. Supreme Court Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization decision. Missouri law includes a requirement that patients must undergo a mandatory 72-hour waiting period and receive counseling prior to an abortion. State Medicaid coverage and private health insurance are banned except in very limited circumstances. Missouri law also requires that a minor seeking an abortion must receive parental consent.

**Missouri Constitutional Amendment 5 – Brought by Initiative Petition**  
**We recommend a NO vote.** We think it likely that the focus on adult entertainment will diminish the lake areas reputation as a family friendly vacation destination.

A "yes" vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to allow the Missouri Gaming Commission to issue an additional gambling boat license to operate an excursion gambling boat on the Osage River, between the Missouri River and the Bagnell Dam. All state revenue derived from the issuance of the gambling boat license shall be appropriated to early-childhood literacy programs in public institutions of elementary education. (We are skeptical about the appropriation)

A "no" vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution regarding gambling boat licensure.

## **Proposed Amendments to the Missouri Constitution** -Cont'd from Page 2

### **Missouri Constitutional Amendment 6** – Proposed by the General Assembly

**We recommend a NO Vote.** The language of “certain current and former law enforcement personnel” is very vague, and we do not agree that state taxpayers should be responsible for unequal distribution of salaries and benefits among counties. We will be looking for a bill in the General Assembly this session to allow counties to develop their own structure for sheriffs.

A “yes” vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to levy costs and fees to support salaries and benefits for current and former sheriffs, prosecuting attorneys, and circuit attorneys to ensure all Missourians have access to the courts of justice. (Notice the encouraging language included)

A “no” vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution to levy costs and fees related to current or former sheriffs, prosecuting attorneys and circuit attorneys.

### **Missouri Constitutional Amendment 7** – Proposed by the General Assembly

**We recommend a YES Vote.** This proposal removes the threat of Rank Choice Voting in Missouri, which is a good thing. It would codify existing law that prohibits non-citizens from voting. The catch on this one is that it would prevent establishment of run-off elections if we ever wanted them. We think it is a fair trade off for protection from Rank Choice. We encourage all to do their own research.

A “yes” vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to make the State Constitution consistent with existing state law by allowing only US citizens to vote. It will prohibit the ranking of candidates by limiting a voter to a single vote per candidate (regardless of party) or issue; and require the plurality winner of a political party primary to be the single candidate at a general election.

A “no” vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution to be consistent with state law regarding only citizens may vote and allow a pathway via Initiative Petition for Rank Choice voting to become practice in Missouri.

### **Proposition A** – proposed by Initiative Petition

**We recommend a NO Vote.** Minimum wage legislation interferes with free market enterprise. We think employers and employees should have the right to negotiate compensation that is agreeable between the two and does not involve the government.

A “yes” vote will amend Missouri Statutes to increase minimum wage to \$13.75 per hour, and then \$1.25 per hour until 2026 topping at \$15.00 per hour; adjust minimum wage based on changes in the Consumer Price Index each January beginning in 2027; require all employers to provide one hour of paid sick leave for every thirty hours worked; allow the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to provide oversight and enforcement; exempt governmental entities, political subdivisions, school districts and educational institutions.

A “no” vote will mean that state law is not amended.

## **Ballot Recommendations for the General Election**

**United States President and Vice President** – Donald J. Trump and JD Vance

**United States Senator** – Josh Hawley

**Missouri Governor** – Mike Kehoe

**Missouri Lieutenant Governor** – Dave Wasinger

**Secretary of State** – Denny Hoskins

**State Treasurer** – Vivek Malek

**Attorney General** – Andrew Bailey

**United States Representative District 3** – Bob Onder

**United States Representative District 4** – Mark Alford

**State Representative District 123** – Jeff Verneti

**State Representative District 142** – Jeff Knight

**Circuit Judge in Circuit 26, Division 1** – Andrew Hardwick

**County Commissioner, District 1** – James Gohagan

**County Commissioner, District 2** – Steve Dougan

**County Sheriff** – Patrick Cochran, Independent with Constitutional Party  
Chris Edgar, Republican

Both candidates appear to be fair minded and respected in the community. Neither has sufficient experience managing people, so there will be a learning curve. We encourage both to keep their own council and avoid the good ole boys. Voters should reach out to both for a conversation.

**Assessor** – Marty McGuire

**Treasurer** – Kendra Hicks

**Public Administrator** – Thomas Gorsline

**Missouri Supreme Court Judge** – vote Yes to retain Kelly C. Broniec

**Missouri Supreme Court Judge** – vote Yes to retain Ginger K. Gooch

**Southern District Court of Appeals** – vote Yes to retain Becky J.W. Borthwick

**Southern District Court of Appeals** – vote Yes to retain Jennifer R. Growcock

**Camden County Ambulance District Proposal** to impose one-half of one percent sales tax intake while calculating an annual property tax reduction that amounts to 50% of the sales tax revenue collected the previous year.

**We will vote no** because the replacement should be one to one in our opinion. The reduction in property tax should equal 100% of the sales tax collected. Citizens pay both of these taxes.

**Mid-County Fire Protection District** proposes a tax levy increase of \$0.15 per \$100 of assessed valuation (assume this is property tax) to provide funds for hiring firefighters, emergency medical personnel and to otherwise support the district - folks in Mid-County district, please do your research. We are outside this district so will not venture an opinion.

If you would like to join AFC-CC (America First Conservatives in Camden County) to get The Watchdawg Report via email, please contact us with your name and email address. Contact Jennie at [contact@watchdawgreport.com](mailto:contact@watchdawgreport.com), call 660-238-6514 or email Lorrie at [laskelan@gmail.com](mailto:laskelan@gmail.com).