

## AMENDMENT AND LEGISLATION

### PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, INITIATED LEGISLATION, AND LAWS CHALLENGED BY REFERENDUM, SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORS

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## AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

The people of Ohio participated directly in making their constitution, and it cannot be amended without their consent. In 1849 the General Assembly submitted to the people of the state a proposition to call a constitutional convention. A majority voted to do so. A constitutional convention was elected, it rewrote the constitution, and the new constitution was submitted to a vote of the people on June 17, 1851. Having received a majority vote, the new constitution went into effect on September 1, 1851, superseding Ohio's original constitution which had been adopted in 1802. The Constitution of 1851 has been amended many times since its adoption. Each of the procedures described below has been used.

**CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION**--A convention may be called to amend or revise the constitution, but any amendment or revision it proposes does not become effective unless adopted by the people by majority vote. There are two ways to call such a convention. First, it may be called at any time by a two-thirds vote of both houses of the General Assembly, which has never been done. Second, every twenty years a statewide election must be held on the question of calling a convention.

In 1871 the first election on this question was held, and the people voted for a convention, and consequently delegates were elected. This convention rewrote the constitution, but when the revised constitution was submitted to the people, they rejected it. In 1891 the people voted against calling a convention. In 1910 they voted to call a convention. The ensuing convention wrote 41 amendments, which were submitted to the people at the general election in November 1912. Thirty-three were adopted by the people, and eight were rejected. The 33 amendments amounted to a significant revision of the constitution. This was the last time, however, that the constitution was amended in this way. In 1932, 1952, 1972 and 1992, the people voted against calling a convention. The question will appear on the ballot again in 2012.

**JOINT RESOLUTION**--A second method of amending the constitution is for the General Assembly to pass a joint resolution proposing an amendment. Such a proposal becomes an effective amendment only if the people vote to accept it. The joint resolution must be passed by a three-fifths majority of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly.

**INITIATIVE PETITION**--The third method of amending the constitution was proposed by the constitutional convention in 1912 and adopted by the people by their vote on June 17. Essentially, it is a method whereby the people propose an amendment by petition, their proposal appears on the ballot, and if a majority vote favorably, the proposal becomes an amendment to the constitution. No action by the General Assembly is involved. Constitutional and statutory requirements must be followed.

Each of these various procedures provides a different method for proposing amendments. No amendment is adopted, however, except by vote of the people.

## INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

A discussion of initiative and referendum must almost necessarily begin with definition of the terms. These words are often confused and used interchangeably. Initiative and referendum are not, however, the same thing. Each word has its own precise meaning.

Initiative is a process whereby the people make laws, directly and without action by a legislature. Ordinarily, the process involves the circulation of a petition asking for the law, and then an election on the question of whether the proposition shall become law.

Referendum is a process whereby the people block legislation enacted by a legislative body, preventing its going into effect. Most types of laws do not go into effect for some time after their passage--thirty to ninety days. If during that time a referendum petition is filed, the law does not go into effect until an election is held to determine the peoples' will in the matter. If a majority vote against it, it is killed.

STATE INITIATIVE--The Constitution of Ohio provides that interested citizens may, by petition, submit a proposed law to the General Assembly. A petition for that purpose must be signed by qualified electors of the state equal in number to 3% of the total votes cast for governor at the last preceding state election. Such a petition is filed with the Secretary of State, and if he finds it sufficient, he submits the proposed law to the General Assembly. If after four months the General Assembly has not passed the proposed law, a supplementary petition bearing the signatures of another 3% of the electors may be filed and in that case the proposed law will be submitted to the people at the next general election. If at that election a majority of the people vote for the proposal, it becomes a law without being enacted by the General Assembly.

STATE REFERENDUM--The Constitution of Ohio provides that, with certain exceptions, laws passed by the General Assembly and signed by the governor do not go into effect for ninety days. During that ninety days, a referendum petition may prevent their going into effect pending an election. If at the election a majority vote against the law, it never goes into effect.

It is important to note that certain types of laws are not subject to this procedure. Those types are: Laws providing for tax levies, appropriations for the current expenses of the state government and institutions, and emergency laws necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety. An emergency law must be enacted by a two-thirds majority, and the emergency clause must be voted on separately in the General Assembly. These three types of laws-tax levies, appropriations and emergency laws-go into effect immediately upon being signed by the governor, and they are consequently not subject to the referendum.

Assuming that the General Assembly has enacted a law which is subject to referendum, its opponents can file their referendum petition during the ninety day period before it goes into effect. Their petition must bear the signatures of 6% of the electors. If such a petition is filed with the Secretary of State, the law does not go into effect until an election can be held. If the majority vote against the law, it is dead. If the majority vote for it, it goes into effect.





NOVEMBER 5, 1918

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Referendum provision, reserving to the people the power to approve or reject an action of the General Assembly ratifying any proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States (Art. II, Sec. 1):

Yes--508,282 (Passed) No--315,030

Prohibition of the sale and manufacture for sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage (Art. XV, Sec. 9):

Yes--463,354 (Passed) No--437,895

The General Assembly shall classify property for taxation purposes (Art. XII, Sec. 2):

Yes--336,616 (Passed) No--304,399

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Law may be passed to provide against double taxation that results from the taxation of both the real estate and mortgage or the debt secured thereby, or other lien upon it (Art. XII, Sec. 2):

Yes--479,420 (Passed) No--371,176

(Note: The amendment to Art. XII, Sec. 2 of the Ohio Constitution submitted under authority of House Joint Resolution No. 34, adopted by the 82nd General Assembly March 12, 1917, received a larger number of votes than the amendment to such section which was proposed by initiative petition; therefore the above amendment submitted by the General Assembly was adopted although both amendments received a majority of the votes cast. State ex rel v. Fulton 99 O.S. 168)

NOVEMBER 4, 1919

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Defining the phrase "Intoxicating Liquor" (Art. XV, Secs. 9 and 1):

Yes--474,907 No--504,688 (Failed)

To repeal statewide prohibition (Art. XV, Sec. 9):

Yes--454,933 No--496,876 (Failed)

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Classification of property (Art. XII, Sec. 2):

Yes--439,987 No--517,245 (Failed)

## LAWS PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:

S.J.R. No. 4--Ratifying national prohibition:

Yes--499,971 No--500,450 (Failed)

H.B. No. 24--The Crabbe Act. To provide for state prohibition and its enforcement:

Yes--474,078 No--500,812 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 2, 1920

## LAW PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:

H.B. No. 620--The Crabbe Act. To provide for state prohibition and its enforcement:

Yes--1,062,470 (Passed) No--772,329







NOVEMBER 3, 1936

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To eliminate the additional liability of stockholders of corporations authorized to receive money on deposits (Art. XIII, Sec. 3):  
 Yes--1,078,170 (Passed)                      No--824,968

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Prohibiting the levy or collection of an excise tax on the sale or purchase of food for human consumption off the premises where sold (Art. XII, Sec. 12):  
 Yes--1,585,327 (Passed)                      No--719,966

NOVEMBER 8, 1938

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To provide for the original appointment of judges of the Supreme Court and Courts of Appeals (Art. IV, Sec. 1 to be supplemented by adding Secs. 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f and 1g; and amending Secs. 2, 6, 10, 13, 14, 15 and 18):  
 Yes--621,011                                      No--1,237,443 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 7, 1939

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Relative to a State Board of Education (Art. IV, Sec. 4):  
 Yes--747,545                                      No--1,137,054 (Failed)

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Relative to old age pensions (Art. XII, Sec. 13):  
 Yes--464,670                                      No--1,546,207 (Failed)

Requirements necessary to qualify initiative petitions (Art. II, Sec. 1h):  
 Yes--406,612                                      No--1,485,919 (Failed)

## LAW PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:

Relative to civil service eligibility lists, certification, sick leave and layoffs in the classified service:  
 Yes--634,269                                      No--1,132,279 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 3, 1942

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Relative to vacancies in judicial office (Art. IV, Sec. 13):  
 Yes--954,704 (Passed)                      No--448,981

NOVEMBER 7, 1944

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To permit the use of temporary or substitute judges in the Supreme Court (Art. IV, Sec. 2):  
 Yes--1,429,635 (Passed)                      No--611,276

Jurisdiction of the Court of Appeals (Art. IV, Sec. 6):  
 Yes--1,279,216 (Passed)                      No--633,813







NOVEMBER 3, 1959

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To remove the limitation on the sale of water and sewage services by municipalities outside their corporate limits (Art. XVIII, Sec. 6):

Yes--1,085,378 (Passed)                      No--775,610

To permit the General Assembly to create additional judgeships in Courts of Appeals where the press of business requires (Art. IV, Sec. 6):

Yes--1,028,914 (Passed)                      No--809,957

NOVEMBER 7, 1961

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To establish a different method of filling vacancies in the General Assembly (Art. II, Sec. 2):

Yes--1,251,105 (Passed)                      No--650,064

Continuity of state government in case of emergency caused by enemy attack (Art. II, Sec. 42):

Yes--1,394,429 (Passed)                      No--516,992

To increase the age limits for the militia, provide for calling out the militia in time of disaster, and to conform the Constitution of Ohio to federal law (Art. IX, Secs. 1, 3 and 4):

Yes--947,130 (Passed)                      No--944,705

To provide for appointments being made subject to the advice and consent of the Senate (Art. III, Sec. 21):

Yes--1,168,831 (Passed)                      No--642,512

NOVEMBER 6, 1962

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To limit the power of the state to forbid the sale of certain goods and services on Sunday (Art. I, Sec. 21):

Yes--1,274,792                      No--1,697,433 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 5, 1963

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To raise the public debt limit by 250,000,000 dollars to permit the state to issue bonds in that amount for public improvements (Art. VIII, Sec. 2f):

Yes--1,397,971 (Passed)                      No--922,687

MAY 5, 1964

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To raise the public debt limit by 500,000,000 dollars to permit the state to issue bonds in that amount for highways (Art. VIII, Sec. 2g):

Yes--1,011,817 (Passed)                      No--538,684

MAY 4, 1965

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To guarantee loans to residents attending institutions of higher education (Art. VI, Sec. 5):

Yes--847,927 (Passed)                      No--438,945

Bond issue for development (Art. VIII, Sec. 2h):

Yes--715,642 (Passed)                      No--548,557

To apportion the House of Representatives (Art. XI, Secs. 1, 3, 8, 10 and 11; Art. XI, Secs. 4 and 5):

Yes--595,288                                      No--681,283 (Failed)

To guarantee loans for industrial development (Art. VIII, Sec. 13):

Yes--711,031 (Passed)                      No--542,802

NOVEMBER 2, 1965

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To authorize the same person to serve as judge of more than one court in counties of less than 40,000 population (Art. IV, Sec. 23):

Yes--1,194,966 (Passed)                      No--1,073,671

To authorize the creation of an urban service authority (Art. X, Secs. 5 and 6):

Yes--892,657                                      No--1,346,597 (Failed)

## PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To amend the school foundation program and to increase taxes to support it:

Yes--805,762                                      No--1,717,724 (Failed)

MAY 2, 1967

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Relative to the creation of the Ohio Bond Commission (Art. VIII, Sec. 21):

Yes--508,364                                      No--1,022,078 (Failed)

To provide for the apportionment of the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate (Art. II, Sec. 3; Art. XI, Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10):

Yes--699,021                                      No--850,068 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 7, 1967

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To provide a method for the apportionment of the House of Representatives and Senate into single member districts (Art. II, Secs. 2, 3; Art. XI, Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15):

Yes--1,315,736 (Passed)                      No--908,010

MAY 7, 1968

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Disposition of school and ministerial funds (Art. VI, Sec. 1):  
 Yes--847,861 (Passed)                      No--695,368

Filling vacancies in the House of Representatives of the General Assembly  
 (Art. II, Sec. 11):  
 Yes--1,020,500 (Passed)                      No---487,938

Administration and organization of the Ohio Judicial System (Art. IV, Secs.  
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12 and 14; Art. XI, Secs. 12 and 13):  
 Yes--925,481 (Passed)                      No--556,530

NOVEMBER 5, 1968

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Issuance of bonds or other obligations for highways and for other capital  
 improvements (Art. VIII, Sec. 2i):  
 Yes--1,732,512 (Passed)                      No--1,550,959

To permit the General Assembly to grant homestead exemptions for certain  
 residents (Art. XII, Sec. 2):  
 Yes--1,382,016                                      No--1,825,615 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 4, 1969

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To lower the voting age from twenty-one to nineteen years (Art. V, Sec. 1):  
 Yes--1,226,592                                      No--1,274,334 (Failed)

To provide for the elimination of the short term election of state officers  
 to fill a vacancy, where the remainder of the term is less than one year  
 (Art. III, Sec. 18; Art. XVII, Sec. 2):  
 Yes--1,432,960 (Passed)                      No--795,813

NOVEMBER 3, 1970

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To permit enactment of laws reducing the valuation of the homestead and  
 taxes for residents sixty-five years of age and over (Art. XII, Sec. 2):  
 Yes--2,115,557 (Passed)                      No--711,761

To reduce the voter residency requirement from one year to six months (Art.  
 V, Sec. 1):  
 Yes--1,702,600 (Passed)                      No--1,073,058

To allow newspaper advertising in lieu of mailed notice of proposed  
 municipal charter amendments (Art. XVIII, Sec. 9):  
 Yes--1,326,818 (Passed)                      No--1,212,814

NOVEMBER 2, 1971

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To require newspaper in lieu of mail notice of laws, proposed laws, or  
 proposed amendments to the constitution (Art. II, Sec. 1g):  
 Yes--1,645,961 (Passed)                      No--900,549



MAY 7, 1974

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To equalize the compensation of Public Officers and Members of the General Assembly (Art. II, Secs. 20 and 31):

Yes--611,726 No--747,518 (Failed)

To permit increases in the compensation of Public Officers with more than two years remaining in their terms (Art. II, Sec. 20a):

Yes--365,921 No--992,978 (Failed)

To provide for preparation of ballot language on constitutional amendments proposed by the General Assembly, to provide procedures for timely challenges to such language, and to provide information to voters about such amendments (Art. XVI, Sec. 1):

Yes--964,885 (Passed) No--376,022

NOVEMBER 5, 1974

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To permit laws reducing real estate taxes on the homesteads of permanently and totally disabled residents (Art. XII, Sec. 2):

Yes--2,266,355 (Passed) No--492,813

To repeal a section of the Ohio Constitution which requires the Governor to appoint a Superintendent of Public Works for a one-year term (Art. VII, Sec. 12):

Yes--1,463,408 (Passed) No--995,748

To include the following among the purposes for which public industrial development revenue bonds may be issued and loan guarantee programs undertaken, without obligating or pledging moneys raised by taxation: 1. The preservation of existing jobs; 2. The control of air, water and thermal pollution; 3. The disposal of solid waste, and 4. The construction of electric and gas utility services facilities for pollution control or solid waste disposal (Art. VIII, Sec. 13):

Yes--1,613,444 (Passed) No--882,778

NOVEMBER 4, 1975

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To create and preserve jobs by the authorization of tax incentives to industrial plants (Art. XII, Sec. 13):

Yes--573,874 No--2,164,957 (Failed)

To authorize the issuance of bonds and notes in an amount not to exceed one billion seven hundred fifty million dollars (\$1,750,000,000) to be paid from an additional levy of nine-tenths (9/10) of one cent (1¢) per gallon gasoline tax, commencing April 1, 1976 and from other highway funds and the general revenue fund if the additional gasoline tax moneys are insufficient, for the development, restoration, and upgrading of highways and other transportation facilities (Art. VIII, Sec. 2k):

Yes--439,041 No--2,304,854 (Failed)

Relative to the authority of the state, municipal corporations and counties to provide assistance with respect to housing and nursing, extended care and other health facilities (Art. VIII, Sec. 14):

Yes--869,437 No--1,882,454 (Failed)

To authorize the issuance of bonds and notes in the amount not to exceed two billion seven hundred fifty million dollars (\$2,750,000,000), with the principal and interest to be paid by an additional levy of seven-tenths (7/10) of one (1) per cent sales and use tax commencing July 1, 1976, and from the general revenue fund, if such additional tax moneys are insufficient, for capital improvements for cities, villages, counties, and other subdivisions and for other capital improvements including energy facilities and heart and cancer facilities (Art. VIII, Sec. 21):

Yes--487,326 No--2,219,093 (Failed)

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To authorize laws to be passed which permit land that is devoted exclusively to outdoor recreation to be valued for tax purposes at its current value for recreational use, except land which is utilized and controlled or owned by an organization or person who discriminates against or violates the civil rights of individuals (Art. II, Sec. 36a):

Yes--1,014,425 No--1,539,423 (Failed)

To require the General Assembly to provide by law methods to give each candidate's name reasonably equal treatment on the ballot by rotation or other methods appropriate to the voting procedure used (Art. V, Sec. 2a):

Yes--1,619,219 (Passed) No--915,599

To require delegates to national conventions of political parties to be chosen by the voters in a manner provided by law (Art. V, Sec. 7):

Yes--1,653,931 (Passed) No--906,156

To permit the state, or any city, village, county, township or regional transportation authority to give or loan its credit to aid federal corporations and state agencies for reorganization of rail systems in the state. Laws may be passed to reduce the taxation on property used to provide the state with rail transportation service and to permit the state to reimburse local governments for revenue lost as a result of such tax reductions. Moneys raised by taxation shall not be obligated or pledged for the payment of bonds or other obligations issued pursuant to this section (Art. VIII, Sec. 14):

Yes--871,726 No--1,614,597 (Failed)

To permit the general assembly to authorize and regulate the operation of bingo conducted by charitable organizations for charitable purposes (Art. XV, Sec. 6):

Yes--1,405,453 (Passed) No--1,205,009

JUNE 8, 1976

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To require the Lieutenant Governor to be elected jointly with the Governor, and to provide for the duties of the Lieutenant Governor (Art. III, Sec. 3; Art. V, Sec. 2a; adopt Art. III, Sec. 1a, 1b; repeal Art. III, Sec. 16):

Yes--1,085,175 (Passed) No--689,244

To provide rail transportation services (Adopt Sec. 14 of Art. VIII):

Yes--775,697 No--953,322 (Failed)

To authorize issuance of bonds for projects to conserve energy or energy resources (Art. VIII, Sec. 13):

Yes--819,424 No--833,454 (Failed)

Relative to the qualifications of electors and to remove unconstitutional and unnecessary language (Art. V, Secs. 1 and 4; repeal Art. V, Secs. 3 and 5):

Yes--975,196 (Passed) No--743,060

Relative to elections, terms of office and vacancies and to remove unnecessary language (Art. XVII, Secs. 1 and 2):

Yes--954,446 (Passed) No--668,159

To require political divisions to make provisions for payment of debt from taxation or other sources and to specify property tax limitations (Adopt Art. XII, Sec. 7; repeal Art. XII, Sec. 11):

Yes--675,012 No--890,896 (Failed)

To require a return of not less than 50% of the estate taxes to political subdivisions, etc. (Art. XII, Secs. 4 and 9):

Yes--951,310 (Passed) No--699,823

To consolidate into one section provisions for imposition of taxes and to clarify language (Adopt Art. XII, Sec. 3; repeal Art. XII, Secs. 7, 8, 10 and 12):

Yes--918,450 (Passed) No--712,489

NOVEMBER 2, 1976

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Relative to limiting the rates which may be charged to residential consumers for fixed amounts of gas and electricity (Adopt Art. XIX):

Yes--1,247,388 No--2,334,816 (Failed)

Relative to providing for representation of residential utility regulatory actions affecting their interests (Adopt Art. XX):

Yes--1,092,781 No--2,557,265 (Failed)

Relative to establishing procedures for legislative hearings and approval of safety features of nuclear power plants and related facilities (Adopt Art. XV, Sec. 11):

Yes--1,150,360 No--2,462,000 (Failed)

Relative to simplifying the procedures for initiative and referendum (Adopt Sec. 1 of Art. II and Art. XIV; repeal Secs. 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f and 1g of Art. II):

Yes--1,175,410 No--2,407,960 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To provide for certain provisions in regard to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor (Adopt Secs. 15, 16 and 17 of Art. III; repeal Secs. 15 and 17 of Art. III):

Yes--2,388,184 (Passed) No--1,048,967

To eliminate from the Constitution obsolete and unnecessary provisions (Repeal Secs. 2, 5 and 8 of Art. XV):

Yes--2,284,178 (Passed) No--1,129,165

To require the declaration of election results for state executive officers at the next regular session of the General Assembly (Art. III, Sec. 3; repeal Sec. 4 of Art. III):

Yes--2,297,422 (Passed) No--1,103,822

NOVEMBER 8, 1977

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To provide that a person is entitled to vote if he has been registered for thirty days. Elector failing to vote at least once in four consecutive years must register again before voting. (Amends Sec. 1 of Art. V):

Yes--1,964,361 (Passed) No--1,225,852

Prohibits use of leghold traps or any trapping device causing prolonged suffering (Adopts Art. XIX):

Yes--1,169,068 No--2,027,642 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Authorizes state, municipal corporations and counties to lend aid and credit and issue bonds or notes for housing; validates bond authority of Sub. H.B. 870 (Amends Art. VIII by adopting Sec. 14):

Yes--1,120,885 No--1,773,779 (Failed)

Revises limitations upon state indebtedness (Adopt Sec. 1 of Art. VIII; repeal Secs. 1, 2, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 2h, 3, 7, 9 and 10 of Art. VIII and Sec. 6 of Art. XII):

Yes--759,327 No--1,999,791 (Failed)





NOVEMBER 3, 1987

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

The entire net proceeds of the state lotteries be used solely for the support of elementary, secondary, vocational, and special education programs (Art. XV, Sec. 6):

Yes--1,984,905 (Passed)                      No--564,421

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Permit the state to finance or assist local governments in financing the construction of improvement of roads and bridges, waste water treatment systems, water supply systems, solid waste disposal facilities, and storm water and sanitary collection, storage, and treatment facilities (Art. VIII, Sec. 2k):

Yes--1,674,913 (Passed)                      No--689,383

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Change the way Ohio selects its Supreme Court and Appeals Court Judges by abolishing the direct election method and replacing it with an appointment system. (Adopt Sec. 7 and amend Secs. 6 and 13 of Art. IV.

Yes--878,683                                      No--1,600,588 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 7, 1989

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Lieutenant Governor, the Governor shall nominate a Lieutenant Governor who shall take office upon confirmation by vote of a majority of the members elected to each house of the general assembly (Art. III, Sec. 17a)

Yes--1,641,719 (Passed)                      No--873,114

NOVEMBER 6, 1990

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To allow the state and political subdivisions to provide or assist in providing housing and housing assistance by grants, loans, subsidies, guarantees, or other means as determined by the general assembly. The state may provide funding by issuing obligations, including obligations backed by appropriations of state revenues, but the state's full faith and credit shall not be pledged to retire obligations issued for this purpose. (Art. VIII, Sec. 16)

Yes--1,705,528 (Passed)                      No--1,517,466

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To permit the general assembly to allow surviving spouses of persons who were receiving a homestead tax reduction at the time of death to continue receiving the reduction if the surviving spouse: (Article XII, Sec. 2)



NOVEMBER 2, 1993

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

(Bond Issue/Capital Improvements for Parks)

To improve state and local parks, recreation areas and to enhance the use and enjoyment of Ohio's Natural Resources.

Yes--1,547,841 (Passed) No--1,008,172

NOVEMBER 8, 1994

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To change the procedure for appeals of cases in which the death penalty is imposed.

Yes--2,199,791 (Passed) No--936,323

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To afford victims of criminal offenses constitutional rights.

Yes--2,447,260 (Passed) No--704,650

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To increase opportunities to the residents of the State of Ohio for higher education and to encourage Ohio families to save ahead to better afford higher education.

Yes--1,816,087 (Passed) No--1,191,116

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Prohibiting the current wholesale tax on soft drinks and other carbonated, non-alcoholic beverages.

Yes--2,228,874 (Passed) No--1,126,728

NOVEMBER 7, 1995

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To limit the governor's authority to reduce criminal sentences by requiring the governor to follow regulations prescribed by law when granting commutation to a person convicted of a crime.

Yes--1,816,213 (Passed) No--742,590

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

In order to preserve and expand public infrastructure of local governments and the state including highways and to improve Ohio's economic well-being.

Yes--1,408,834 (Passed) No--865,698

NOVEMBER 5, 1996

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To Authorize the establishment of River Boat Casino Gambling in Ohio.

Yes--1,639,955 No--2,659,076 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 4, 1997

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

To Provide that a Court may Deny Bail to a Person Charged with a Felony Offense where the Proof is evident or the presumption great that the Person Committed the Offense and that the person Poses a Substantial Risk of Serious Physical Danger to Others.

(Art. I, Sec. 9)

Yes--2,168,949 (Passed)                      No--803,658

## LAW PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION

Am. S.B. No. 45--Relating to and Amending Ohio's Workers' Compensation Laws.

Yes--1,305,040                                      No--1,730,502 (Failed)

MAY 5, 1998

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

To adopt Sections 2(n) and 17 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to authorize the state to issue bonds and other obligations to pay for or assist in paying for capital facilities of local public school districts and state-supported and state assisted institutions of higher education.

Yes--714,823                                      No--1,101,625 (Failed)

EDUCATION LEGISLATION SUBJECT TO VOTER APPROVAL  
(PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY)

To enact the provisions of House Bill 697 levying a statewide one percent sales and use tax, to be used one-half for school operations, education technology, school facilities and debt service for school facilities, and one-half for additional property tax relief for homesteads.

Yes--383,913                                      No--1,527,536 (Failed)

November 3, 1998

## PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To amend Ohio Revised Code sections 1531.01 and 1531.02 to prohibit the hunting or taking of mourning doves in Ohio.

Yes--1,348,533                                      No--1,976,981 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 2, 1999

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

To adopt sections 2(n) and 17 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to authorize the issuance of bonds and other obligations to pay cost of construction, renovation and repair of facilities for Ohio's public schools and state-supported colleges and universities.

Yes--1,303,830 (Passed)                      No--840,240

NOVEMBER 7, 2000PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - Issue No. 1  
(Proposed by Resolution of the General Assembly of Ohio)

Authorize the state to issue bonds and other obligations to pay the costs of projects for environmental conservation and revitalization purposes.

Yes--2,197,773 (Passed)                      NO--1,628,716



PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - Issue No. 5  
(Proposed by Initiative Petition)

To adopt Section 4 of Article XVII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to create a newly appointed board to administer elections.

Yes-854,918 No--2,001,983 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 7, 2006

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - Issue No. 2  
(Proposed by Initiative Petition - Minimum Wage)

To adopt Section 34a of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to raise the state minimum wage rate.

Yes-2,205,850 (Passed) No-1,687,996

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - ISSUE NO. 3  
(Proposed by Initiative Petition - Ohio Learn & Earn)

To adopt Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to provide moneys for scholarships/education funding by permitting limited gaming.

Yes-1,753,452 No-2,286,840 (Failed)

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - ISSUE NO. 4  
(Proposed by Initiative Petition - Smoke Less)

To adopt Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to provide a smoking ban in enclosed areas with certain exceptions.

Yes-1,450,164 No-2,590,448 (Failed)

PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION (SMOKE FREE) - ISSUE NO. 5

To enact Chapter 3794. of the Ohio Revised Code to restrict smoking in places of employment and most places open to the public.

Yes-2,370,314 (Passed) No-1,679,833

NOVEMBER 4, 2008

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - Issue No. 1  
(Proposed by Resolution of the General Assembly of Ohio)

To provide for earlier filing deadlines for statewide ballot issues.

Yes - 3,397,389 (Passed) No- 1,550,365

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - Issue No. 2  
(Proposed by Resolution of the General Assembly of Ohio)

To authorize the state to issue bonds to continue the Clear Ohio program for environmental revitalization and conservation.

Yes - 3,574,294 (Passed) No - 1,585,410

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - Issue No. 3  
(Proposed by Resolution of the General Assembly of Ohio)

To protect private property rights in ground water, lakes and other watercourses.

Yes - 3,631,380 (Passed) No - 1,415,933

REFERENDUM - Issue No. 5

Legislation making changes to check cashing lending sometimes known as "payday lending" fees, interest rates and practices.

Yes - 3,396,968 (Passed) No - 1,943,721



COMPILED BY:  
Jennifer Brunner  
SECRETARY OF STATE

SUMMARY OF ACTION ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS  
1913 - 2010  
(updated 8/6/10)

YEAR	SUBMITTED BY INITIATIVE PETITION		SUBMITTED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY		YEAR	SUBMITTED BY INITIATIVE PETITION		SUBMITTED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY	
	ADOPTED	REJECTED	ADOPTED	REJECTED		ADOPTED	REJECTED	ADOPTED	REJECTED
1913		1	1	3	1963			1	
1914	1	3			1964			1	
1915		3		1	1965			4	2
1916					1966				
1917		1			1967			1	2
1918	3		1		1968			4	1
1919		2		1	1969			1	1
1920					1970			3	
1921			1	2	1971			1	
1922		3			1972		1		
1923			2	1	1973			6	5
1924					1974			4	2
1925				3	1975		4	3	2
1926		1		1	1976		4	8	3
1927					1977	1	1		2
1928		1			1978			3	
1929			1		1979				
1930			1		1980			1	4
1931				1	1981		2		
1932					1982		1	1	1
1933	2		1		1983		3		
1934		2			1984				
1935					1985			1	
1936	1		1		1986				
1937					1987		1	2	
1938		1			1988				
1939		2		1	1989			1	
1940					1990		1	2	
1941					1991				
1942			1		1992	3	1		1
1943					1993			1	
1944			2		1994	1		3	
1945					1995			2	
1946					1996		1		
1947	1		3		1997			1	
1948					1998		1		2
1949	1			1	1999			1	
1950					2000			1	
1951			1		2001				
1952					2002		1		
1953			9		2003				1
1954			1	1	2004	1			
1955			1	2	2005	0	4	1	0
1956			2		2006	2	2		
1957			2	1	2007				
1958		1		1	2008		1	3	
1959			2		2009	1	0	2	0
1960					2010	0	0	2	0
1961			4		2011				
1962		1			2012				
					GRAND TOTAL	17	51	98	49