



Business Voice Political Committee has compiled a voter guide to the 2018 Ballot Amendments. In addition to the 3 amendments placed on the November General Election ballot by the Florida Legislature, there are 2 amendments brought up by the petition process and 8 placed on by the Florida Constitutional Review Committee*.

These are all amendments to our state constitution and we hope all voters will take the time to research and understand these issues thoroughly before they vote.

Visit **www.BusinessVoicePAC.com** 2018 Elections center to read summary of each amendment, as well as the policy and political background, links to articles and sources to help you research further.

You may also want to read amendment summaries and positions from other organizations. We offer links to the following Amendment Guides from our webpage:

Florida Chamber of Commerce
Florida League of Cities
Florida League Of Women Voters
Florida Trend Magazine
The James Madison Institute
Dr. Ed Moore: Guide to improving our State Constitution

On the following page is an Amendment summary guide, stating each amendment and the position taken by Business Voice (BV), the League of Women Voters (LWV), the Florida Chamber (FLC) and Florida Today (FT). There is not one amendment all four groups agree on and we encourage voters to consider the pros and cons of each amendment before deciding for themselves how to vote.

Finally, due to the length of the November Ballot, this will be a great election to vote by mail. Request your mail ballot today at **www.votebrevard.com**

** Numerous Amendments have been challenged in the courts and all 13 may not appear on the final General Election Ballot. As of Sept. 7th The Florida Supreme Court confirmed Amendment 8 to be stricken from ballot, and confirmed 6, 10 and 13 will appear on.*

Position Guide

Amendment 1 (Legislature)

BV: N LWV: O FLC: N FT: O

- Third Homestead Exemption Amendment: Exempting the assessed valuation of homestead property greater than \$100,000 and up to \$125,000 for all levies other than school district levies.

Amendment 2 (Legislature)

BV: S LWV: O FLC: S FT: S

- Limitation on property tax assessments; first put in place in 2008, when the voters passed the non-homestead 10 percent tax cap in. This cap is scheduled to expire on January 1, 2019. This amendment makes that tax cap permanent.

Amendment 3 (Petition)

BV: O LWV: S FLC: S FT: O

- Statewide Voter Approval of Casino Gambling As Only Means To Expand Gambling

Amendment 4 (Petition)

BV: N LWV: S FLC: N FT: S

- Voting Rights Restoration for Felons Initiative for Some Felons; Does not apply to murder or a felony sexual offense.

Florida Amendment 5 (Legislature)

BV: O LWV: S FLC: S FT: O

- Require Two-Thirds Vote of Legislature to Increase Taxes or Fees Amendment

Amendment 6: Rights of Crime Victims; Judges (CRC).

BV: N LWV: O FLC: N FT: O

- Marsy's Law; Judicial Retirement Age; and Judicial Interpretation of Laws and Rules Amendment

Amendment 7: First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits; Public Colleges and Universities (CRC).

BV: N LWV: O FLC: N FT: O

- Extend Benefits to First Responder and Military Member Survivors, Require Supermajority Board Votes for College Fees, and Establishes existing state college system as constitutional entity; provides governance structure

Amendment 9: Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling; Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces (CRC)

BV: N LWV: S FLC: O FT: S

- Florida Ban Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Ban Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces Amendment

Florida Amendment 10: State and Local Government Structure and Operation (CRC)

BV: N LWV: O FLC: O FT: O

- Creates the Department of Veteran Affairs and an Office of Domestic Security and Counter-Terrorism within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, as well as move the legislative session commencement in even numbered years from March to January.

Florida Amendment 11: Property Rights; Removal of Obsolete Provision; Criminal Statutes (CRC)

BV: N LWV: N FLC: S FT: S

- Florida Repeal Prohibition on Aliens' Property Ownership, Delete Obsolete Provision on High-Speed Rail, and Repeal of Criminal Statutes Effect on Prosecution Amendment

Florida Amendment 12: Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers (CRC)

BV: N LWV: N FLC: O FT: O

- If the six-year lobbying ban becomes law it would be the strongest revolving door law in the nation. According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, no state currently has more than a two-year ban on former law makers becoming legislative lobbyists.

Florida Amendment 13: Ends Dog Racing (CRC).

BV: N LWV: S FLC: O FT: S

- Phases out commercial dog racing in connection with wagering by 2020. Other gaming activities

