

## **AMENDMENT 1** **Increased Homestead Property Tax Exemption**

### **Florida Chamber Position: Neutral**

**Official Ballot Summary:** Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to increase the homestead exemption by exempting the assessed valuation of homestead property greater than \$100,000 and up to \$125,000 for all levies other than school district levies. The amendment shall take effect January 1, 2019.

**Sponsor:** The Florida Legislature/House (HJR7105)

## **AMENDMENT 2** **Limitations on Property Tax Assessments**

### **Florida Chamber Position: Support**

Amendment 2 protects all Floridians by keeping a 10% cap on certain annual property tax increases. Amendment 2 is for everybody. It helps communities thrive by preventing excessive property taxes and ensuring Florida remains an affordable place to live, work and do business. Amendment 2 is supported by small businesses and local Realtors®, supported by city and local leaders, and has strong bipartisan support. Visit [www.EverybodyIsFor2.com](http://www.EverybodyIsFor2.com) to learn more.

**Official Ballot Summary:** Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to permanently retain provisions currently in effect, which limit property tax assessment increases on specified nonhomestead real property, except for school district taxes, to 10 percent each year. If approved, the amendment removes the scheduled repeal of such provisions in 2019 and shall take effect January 1, 2019.

**Sponsor:** The Florida Legislature/House (CS/HJR 21)

## **AMENDMENT 3** **Voter Control of Gambling in Florida**

### **Florida Chamber Position: Support**

The Voter Control of Gambling Amendment puts voters back in charge of gambling decisions in Florida, not Tallahassee politicians and gambling lobbyists. For nearly a century, approval of casino gambling was strictly left for voters to decide. Amendment 3 simply seeks to return to that standard to authorize casino gambling. Visit [www.VotersInCharge.org](http://www.VotersInCharge.org) to learn more.

**Official Ballot Summary:** This amendment ensures that Florida voters shall have the exclusive right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling by requiring that in order for casino gambling to be authorized under Florida law, it must be approved by Florida voters pursuant to Article XI, Section 3 of the Florida Constitution. Affects articles X and XI. Defines casino gambling and clarifies that this amendment does not conflict with federal law regarding state/tribal compacts.

**Sponsor:** Voters In Charge

## **AMENDMENT 4** **Voting Restoration Amendment**

### **Florida Chamber Position: Neutral**

**Official Ballot Summary:** This amendment restores the voting rights of Floridians with felony convictions after they complete all terms of their sentence including parole or probation. The amendment would not apply to those convicted of murder or sexual offenses, who would continue to be permanently barred from voting unless the Governor and Cabinet vote to restore their voting rights on a case by case basis.

**Sponsor:** Floridians for a Fair Democracy, Inc.

## **AMENDMENT 5** **Supermajority Vote Required to Impose, Authorize, or Raise State Taxes or Fees**

### **Florida Chamber Position: Support**

Amendment 5 was placed on the ballot by the Florida Legislature. Currently, the Florida Legislature can enact new taxes or fees, or increase existing ones (except the corporate income tax) through a simple majority vote. A “yes” vote for Amendment 5 supports requiring a two-thirds vote of each chamber of the Florida Legislature to enact new taxes or fees or increase existing ones.

**Official Ballot Summary:** Prohibits the legislature from imposing, authorizing, or raising a state tax or fee except through legislation approved by a two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature in a bill containing no other subject. This proposal does not authorize a state tax or fee otherwise prohibited by the Constitution and does not apply to fees or taxes imposed or authorized to be imposed by a county, municipality, school board, or special district.

**Sponsor:** The Florida Legislature/House (HJR7001)

## **AMENDMENT 6** **Rights of Crime Victims; Judges**

### **Florida Chamber Position: Neutral**

**Official Ballot Summary:** Creates constitutional rights for victims of crime; requires courts to facilitate victims’ rights; authorizes victims to enforce their rights throughout criminal and juvenile justice processes. Requires judges and hearing officers to independently interpret statutes and rules rather than deferring to government agency’s interpretation. Raises mandatory retirement age of state justices and judges from seventy to seventy-five years; deletes authorization to complete judicial term if one-half of term has been served by retirement age.

**Sponsor:** Constitution Revision Commission

## AMENDMENT 7\*

### First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits; Public Colleges and Universities

#### Florida Chamber Position: Neutral

**Official Ballot Summary:** Grants mandatory payment of death benefits and waiver of certain educational expenses to qualifying survivors of certain first responders and military members who die performing official duties. Requires supermajority votes by university trustees and state university system board of governors to raise or impose all legislatively authorized fees if law requires approval by those bodies. Establishes existing state college system as constitutional entity; provides governance structure.

**Sponsor:** Constitution Revision Commission

## AMENDMENT 8

### School Board Term Limits and Duties; Public Schools

Florida Supreme Court Removed from the Ballot

## AMENDMENT 9\*

### Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling; Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces

#### Florida Chamber Position: Oppose

This issue can be addressed and achieved through the legislative process, and therefore does not need to be permanently incorporated into Florida's Constitution.

**Official Ballot Summary:** Prohibits drilling for the exploration or extraction of oil and natural gas beneath all state-owned waters between the mean high water line and the state's outermost territorial boundaries. Adds use of vapor-generating electronic devices to current prohibition of tobacco smoking in enclosed indoor workplaces with exceptions; permits more restrictive local vapor ordinances.

**Sponsor:** Constitution Revision Commission

*\*At the time of this printing, these constitutional amendments were subject to litigation and the Florida Supreme Court had yet to rule on their constitutionality. Please visit [www.FloridaChamber.com/Election](http://www.FloridaChamber.com/Election) for the latest information.*

## AMENDMENT 10

### State and Local Government Structure and Operation

#### Florida Chamber Position: Neutral

**Official Ballot Summary:** Requires legislature to retain department of veterans' affairs. Ensures election of sheriffs, property appraisers, supervisors of elections, tax collectors, and clerks of court in all counties; removes county charters' ability to abolish, change term, transfer duties, or eliminate election of these offices. Changes annual legislative session commencement date in even-numbered years from March to January; removes legislature's authorization to fix another date. Creates office of domestic security and counterterrorism within department of law enforcement.

**Sponsor:** Constitution Revision Commission

## AMENDMENT 11 \*

### Property Rights; Removal of Obsolete Provision; Criminal Statutes

#### Florida Chamber Position: Support

**Official Ballot Summary:** Removes discriminatory language related to real property rights. Removes obsolete language repealed by voters. Deletes provision that amendment of a criminal statute will not affect prosecution or penalties for a crime committed before the amendment; retains current provision allowing prosecution of a crime committed before the repeal of a criminal statute.

**Sponsor:** Constitution Revision Commission

## AMENDMENT 12

### Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers

#### Florida Chamber Position: Oppose

This issue can be addressed and achieved through the legislative process, and therefore does not need to be permanently incorporated into Florida's Constitution.

**Official Ballot Summary:** Expands current restrictions on lobbying for compensation by former public officers; creates restrictions on lobbying for compensation by serving public officers and former justices and judges; provides exceptions; prohibits abuse of a public position by public officers and employees to obtain a personal benefit.

**Sponsor:** Constitution Revision Commission

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## AMENDMENT 13 Ends Dog Racing

### Florida Chamber Position: Oppose

This issue can be addressed and achieved through the legislative process, and therefore does not need to be permanently incorporated into Florida's Constitution.

**Official Ballot Summary:** Phases out commercial dog racing in connection with wagering by 2020. Other gaming activities are not affected.

**Sponsor:** Constitution Revision Commission

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