



NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT MEASURES

- ❖ Amendment 2 — Allows for sports wagering.
- ❖ Amendment 3 — Legalizes abortion.
- ❖ Amendment 5 — Add one additional gambling boat license on the Osage River.
- ❖ Amendment 6 — Supports salaries and benefits of current and former sheriffs, prosecuting attorneys, and circuit attorneys.
- ❖ Amendment 7 — Allows only U.S. citizens to vote and prohibits rank choice voting.
- ❖ Proposition A — Increases the minimum wage and mandates paid sick leave.

AMENDMENT 2

- Amendment to the Missouri Constitution.
- Submitted by initiative petition (2024-160).

Official Ballot Title¹

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- allow the Missouri Gaming Commission to regulate licensed sports wagering including online sports betting, gambling boats, professional sports betting districts and mobile licenses to sports betting operators;
- restrict sports betting to individuals physically located in the state and over the age of 21;
- allow license fees prescribed by the Commission and a 10% wagering tax on revenues received to be appropriated for education after expenses incurred by the Commission and required funding of the Compulsive Gambling Prevention Fund; and
- allow for the general assembly to enact laws consistent with this amendment?

State governmental entities estimate onetime costs of \$660,000, ongoing annual costs of at least \$5.2 million, and initial license fee revenue of \$11.75 million. Because the proposal allows for deductions against sports gaming revenues, they estimate

¹ The Official Ballot Title is the language that will be on the ballot. It is written by the Missouri Secretary of State's office.

unknown tax revenue ranging from \$0 to \$28.9 million annually. Local governments estimate unknown revenue.

Fair Ballot Language²

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.

A “no” vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution regarding licensed regulated sports wagering.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Analysis

Currently, 38 states (plus Washington, DC, and Puerto Rico) offer legal sports betting in some format.³ There are 30 states that have online sports betting via either smartphone apps or websites. DC and Puerto Rico also allow online betting.

In 2018, the Supreme Court struck down PASPA, the federal ban on sports betting. This decision allows each state to determine whether it wants to legalize sports betting within its borders.

Nearly every US state legislature has at least introduced a sports betting legalization bill at some point since 2018. More revisited or introduced new legislation in 2024.

Alabama, Alaska, California, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Minnesota, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, and Utah are states where there is no sports betting.

Sen. Denny Hoskins has single-handedly obstructed sports betting legislation for three years over his desire to include video lottery terminals (VLTs).

There is a wagering tax of 10% is imposed on the adjusted gross revenue received from sports wagering conducted by each licensee and each sports wagering operator acting on behalf of a licensee. The annual revenues received from such tax shall be appropriated for institutions of elementary, secondary, and higher education. This will probably not increase the budget for education, because the legislature will reduce the amount of other education budgets to offset the amount of money from the sports betting tax.

² The Fair Ballot Language will not appear on the ballot. It is written by the Missouri Secretary of State's office and appears on their website.

³ <https://www.legalsportsreport.com/sportsbetting-bill-tracker/>

Summary

Betting on sporting events is rapidly becoming the norm across the country. There is a lot of money involved and the profits to the companies that provide the service is tremendous. Individuals are free to spend their property (money) as they see fit. Gambling should not be part of the Missouri Constitution or the Revised Statutes of Missouri. There will probably be no net increase in money going to education.

AMENDMENT 3

- Amendment to the Missouri Constitution.
- Submitted by initiative petition (2024-086).

Official Ballot Title

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- establish a right to make decisions about reproductive health care, including abortion and contraceptives, with any governmental interference of that right presumed invalid;
- remove Missouri’s ban on abortion;
- allow regulation of reproductive health care to improve or maintain the health of the patient;
- require the government not to discriminate, in government programs, funding, and other activities, against persons providing or obtaining reproductive health care; and
- allow abortion to be restricted or banned after Fetal Viability except to protect the life or health of the woman?

State governmental entities estimate no costs or savings, but unknown impact. Local governmental entities estimate costs of at least \$51,000 annually in reduced tax revenues. Opponents estimate a potentially significant loss to state revenue.

Fair Ballot Language

A “yes” vote will enshrine the right to abortion at any time of a pregnancy in the Missouri Constitution. Additionally, it will prohibit any regulation of abortion, including regulations designed to protect women undergoing abortions and prohibit any civil or criminal recourse against anyone who performs an abortion and hurts or kills the pregnant women.

A “no” vote will continue the statutory prohibition of abortion in Missouri.

If passed, this measure may reduce local taxes while the impact to state taxes is unknown.

Analysis

The specifics are in the details. The petition states the legislature can regulate abortion after fetal viability, but it creates an exception. “. . . provided that under no circumstance shall the Government deny, interfere with, delay, or otherwise restrict an abortion that in the good faith judgment of a treating health care professional is needed to protect the life or physical or *mental health* of the pregnant person.”

There is never a situation where an abortion is required to save the life of a woman. If it is before viability and you have time, then you just induce labor and the woman

delivered a non-viable fetus. If time is critical or if it is after viability, then you perform a Cesarean section and deliver the baby.

The physical health is rare, like a pregnant woman diagnosed with cancer and the treatment would result in the demise of the fetus. Again, if it is before viability and you have time, then you just induce labor and the woman delivered a non-viable fetus. If time is critical or if it is after viability, then you perform a Cesarean section and deliver the baby.

The phrase mental health can be applied to any situation. All it takes is the woman saying she is depressed and she gets the abortion.

The Official Ballot Title which appears on the ballot specifically does not include mental health of the woman, only life and health. That is a significant misstatement by the Secretary of State.

It also uses the term “person” instead of “woman” throughout the petition which now enshrines transgender terminology into the Missouri Constitution.

Summary

Amendment 3 would enshrine abortion at any stage into the Missouri Constitution and make repeal extremely difficult.

AMENDMENT 5

- Amendment to the Missouri Constitution.
- Submitted by initiative petition (2024-165).

Official Ballot Title

Do you want to amend the Missouri Constitution to:

- allow the Missouri Gaming Commission to issue one additional gambling boat license to operate on the portion of the Osage River from the Missouri River to the Bagnell Dam;
- require the prescribed location shall include artificial spaces that contain water and are within 500 feet of the 100-year base flood elevation as established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and
- require all state revenues derived from the issuance of the gambling boat license shall be appropriated to early-childhood literacy programs in public institutions of elementary education?

State governmental entities estimate one-time costs of \$763,000, ongoing costs of \$2.2 million annually, initial fee revenue of \$271,000, ongoing admission and other fee revenue of \$2.1 million annually, and annual gaming tax revenue of \$14.3 million. Local governments estimate unknown revenue.

Fair Ballot Language

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.

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

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Summary

This allows one more riverboat for gambling on a Missouri waterway. Gambling should not be part of the Missouri Constitution or the Revised Statutes of Missouri. There will probably be no net increase in money going to education.

AMENDMENT 6

- Amendment to the Missouri Constitution.
- Submitted by legislative resolution (SJR71).

Official Ballot Title:

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to preserve funding of law enforcement personnel for the administration of justice?

State and local governmental entities estimate an unknown fiscal impact.

Fair Ballot Language:

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.

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.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Analysis

The counties use to charge the people they housed in jail \$40 a day. This income stream helped fund the sheriffs and prosecutors pension plans.

The Missouri Supreme Court struck down the law that charged prisoners to house them in jail, so the pension funds lost a significant revenue stream.

Amendment 6 is a method to replace some of the lost revenue.

Summary

This allows the levying of costs and fees by counties to support the salaries and benefits for sheriffs, prosecuting attorneys, and circuit attorneys. This should not be part of the Missouri Constitution. The General Assembly needs to find an existing revenue stream.

AMENDMENT 7

- Amendment to the Missouri Constitution.
- Submitted by legislative resolution (SJR78).

Official Ballot Title:

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:

- Make the Constitution consistent with state law by only allowing citizens of the United States to vote;
- Prohibit the ranking of candidates by limiting voters to a single vote per candidate or issue; and
- Require the plurality winner of a political party primary to be the single candidate at a general election?

State and local governmental entities estimate no costs or savings.

Fair Ballot Language:

A “yes” vote will amend the Missouri Constitution to specify that only United States citizens are entitled to vote, voters shall only have a single vote for each candidate or issue, restrict any type of ranking of candidates for a particular office and require the person receiving the greatest number of votes at the primary election as a party candidate for an office shall be the only candidate for that party at the general election, and require the person receiving the greatest number of votes for each office at the general election shall be declared the winner. This provision does not apply to any nonpartisan municipal election held in a city that had an ordinance in effect as of November 5, 2024, that requires a preliminary election at which more than one candidate advances to a subsequent election.

A “no” vote will not amend the Missouri Constitution to make any changes to how voters vote in primary and general elections.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Analysis

Currently, the Missouri Constitution states that:

“All citizens of the United States, . . . over the age of eighteen who are residents of this state and of the political subdivision in which they offer to vote are entitled to vote at all elections . . .”⁴

⁴ Article VIII Section 2 of the Missouri Constitution.

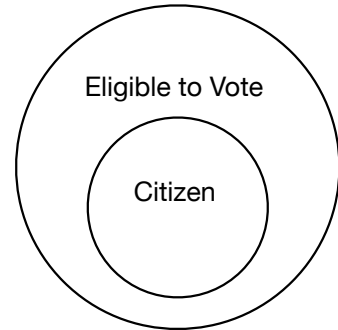
Amendment 7 will change it to:

“Only citizens of the United States, . . . over the age of eighteen who are residents of this state and of the political subdivision in which they offer to vote are entitled to vote at all elections . . .”

Here is the difference between All and Only.

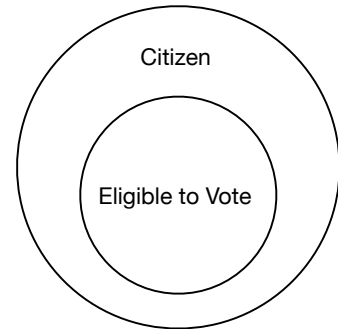
All Citizens Are Eligible To Vote

All citizens is a set that lies completely in the eligible to vote set. There may be other eligible to vote things that are not citizens. Some cities allow illegal aliens to vote in municipal elections.



Only Citizens Are Eligible To Vote

The eligible to vote set lies completely within the citizen set. There are no other eligible to vote things that are not citizens. There may be other citizens that are not eligible to vote, like felons. This would preclude illegal aliens from voting.



Ranked Choice Voting favors the political party that has just one candidate on the ballot. Republicans let anyone on the ballot with an (R) after their name as long as the candidate pays the filing fee. Democrats tend to just put up one candidate which favors them in a ranked choice vote. If you support only one candidate on the ballot, ranked choice voting guarantees that your vote will not count and your candidate as no chance to win. For ranked choice voting to make sense, every voter would have to approve to some extent every candidate on the ballot and make a choice at each level of voting. That situation is impossible.

Summary

The change from all citizens to only citizens guarantees that non-citizens will not be able to vote in elections. It eliminates ranked choice voting which favors the political party with only one person on the ballot.

PROPOSITION A

- Amendment to the Revised Statutes of Missouri.
- Submitted by initiative petition (2024-038).

Official Ballot Title

Do you want to amend Missouri law to:

- increase minimum wage January 1, 2025 to \$13.75 per hour, increasing \$1.25 per hour each year until 2026, when the minimum wage would be \$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; and
- exempt governmental entities, political subdivisions, school districts and education institutions?

State governmental entities estimate one-time costs ranging from \$0 to \$53,000, and ongoing costs ranging from \$0 to at least \$256,000 per year by 2027. State and local government tax revenue could change by an unknown annual amount depending on business decisions.

Fair Ballot Language

A “yes” vote will amend Missouri statutes to increase the state minimum wage beginning January 1, 2025 to \$13.75 per hour and increase the hourly rate \$1.25, to \$15.00 per hour beginning January 2026. Annually the minimum wage will be adjusted based on the Consumer Price Index. The law will require employers with fifteen or more employees to provide one hour of paid sick leave for every thirty hours worked. The amendment will exempt governmental entities, political subdivisions, school districts and education institutions from the minimum wage increase.

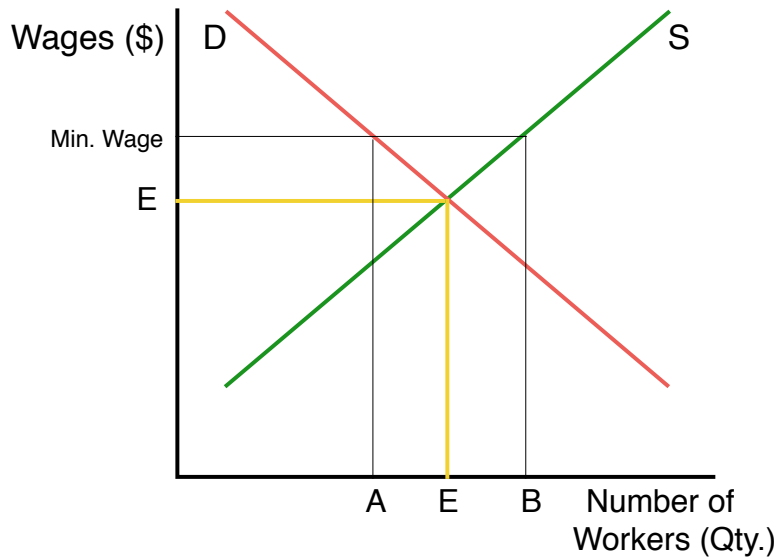
A “no” vote will not amend Missouri law to make changes to the state minimum wage law.

If passed, this measure will have no impact on taxes.

Analysis

A minimum wage sounds like a good idea, but in reality it creates unemployment by distorting the free market system.

The figure on the next page is a simplified supply and demand graph of the effect of the minimum wage on employment. The price of labor (Wages) is shown on the y-axis and the quantity of labor (Number of Workers) is shown on the x-axis. The red line (D) is



the demand for labor and the green line (S) is the supply of labor. If wages were high, there would be a large number of people willing to work at that wage (the supply of labor), but employers would not hire very many at a high wage. If wages were low, the opposite would occur.

In each specific market, like newly hired fast food workers in Springfield, there will be an equilibrium point (E) where the lines cross. This is the number of workers that will be hired at that wage. If the minimum wage is set above the equilibrium point, the number of workers employed will be (A) while the number of workers that would be willing to work in that job for that wage will be (B). The number of workers between A and B is the number now unemployed due to the rise in the wages above the equilibrium point. The number from A to E are the workers that got laid off due to the rise in the minimum wage, and the number from E to B are the workers that started looking for that job at that wage but can't find one.

Raising the minimum wage gives a small increase in wages to some employees, but other employees lose everything when they are laid off. In the end, prices are driven up so that everyone pays a little more.

Proposition A requires all employers to provide one hour of paid sick leave for every thirty hours worked, but exempts governmental entities, political subdivisions, school districts and education institutions. This is a direct attack on business (private property) owners. That is not the function of government. It is the opposite.

Summary

The minimum wage is a bad idea that only increases unemployment and the cost of goods and services for everyone.

The minimum wage is already in chapter 290 of the revised statutes. There are specific amounts of the minimum wage increase through 2023. After that it increases with the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W).

This would increase the minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour in 2026 which is a standard for a “living wage” by those that support a minimum wage.

This change to the Revised Statutes of Missouri is wrong for two reasons. First, it will only increase unemployment.

Second, it infringes on the private property rights of every private business owner by mandating the wages he sets and mandating paid sick leave. The free marketplace should determine whether or not a business survives or fails. The outcome in a free competitive marketplace is more beneficial to consumers than artificial government regulations imposed on businesses. Let the millions of individual consumer decisions decide the outcome, not a single, unelected bureaucrat.

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**MISSOURI REPUBLICAN ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
THE NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT MEASURES**

Amendment 2 ----- NO

Amendment 3 ----- NO

Amendment 5 ----- NO

Amendment 6 ----- NO

Amendment 7 ----- YES

Proposition A ----- NO