

"Shall the following Amendments to the Constitution of Alabama be adopted?"

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT STATEWIDE

STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 1

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to amend Article VIII of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 177 of the Official Compilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, to provide that only a citizen of the United States has the right to vote. (Proposed by Act 2019-330)

☐ YES
☐ NO

STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 2

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to increase the membership of the Judicial Inquiry Commission and further provide for the appointment of the additional members; further provide for the membership of the Court of the Judiciary and further provide for the appointment of the additional members; further provide for the process of disqualifying an active judge, repeal provisions providing for the impeachment of Supreme Court Justices and appellate judges and the removal for cause of the judges of the district and circuit courts, judges of the probate courts, and judges of certain other courts by the Supreme Court; delete the authority of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to appoint an Administrative Director of Courts; provide the Supreme Court of Alabama with authority to appoint an Administrative Director of Courts; require the Legislature to establish procedures for the appointment of the Administrative Director of Courts; delete the requirement that a district court hold court in each incorporated municipality with a population of 1,000 or more where there is no municipal court; provide that the procedure for the filing of vacancies in the office of a judge may be changed by local constitutional amendment; delete certain language relating to the position of constable holding more than one state office; delete a provision providing for the temporary maintenance of the prior judicial system; repeal the office of circuit solicitor; and make certain nonsubstantive stylistic changes. (Proposed by Act 2019-187)

☐ YES
☐ NO

STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 3

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to provide that a judge, other than a judge of probate, appointed to fill a vacancy would serve an initial term until the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January following the next general election after the judge has completed two years in office. (Proposed by Act 2019-346)

☐ YES
☐ NO

STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 4

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to authorize the Legislature to recompile the Alabama Constitution and submit it during the 2022 Regular Session, and provide a process for its ratification by the voters of this state. (Proposed by Act 2019-271)

☐ YES
☐ NO

STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 5

Relating to Franklin County, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to provide that a person is not liable for using deadly physical force in self-defense or in the defense of another person on the premises of a church under certain conditions. (Proposed by Act 2019-194)

☐ YES
☐ NO

STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 6

Relating to Lauderdale County, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to provide that a person is not liable for using deadly physical force in self-defense or in the defense of another person on the premises of a church under certain conditions. (Proposed by Act 2019-193)

☐ YES
☐ NO

END OF BALLOT

What do those Constitutional Amendments on the Ballot mean and why are they on the Ballot?

With Julian Butler and David Person

Presented by the League of Women Voters of Tennessee Valley

Six Amendments on the Ballot

- Amendment 1 – “only a citizen of the United States has the right to vote”
- Amendment 2 – includes six changes to the State’s Judicial System
- Amendment 3 – changes the initial term of a judge that is appointed to fill a vacancy
- Amendment 4 – allow legislature to draft a rearranged version of the state constitution
- Amendment 5 – Franklin County; allow deadly force in self-defense on church premises
- Amendment 6 – Lauderdale County; allow deadly force in self-defense on church premises

Why does our state constitution require ballot amendments?

- Alabama's constitution can be changed **only** during a constitutional convention or when a majority of voters approve a constitutional amendment
- Alabama's constitution is the longest and most amended constitution anywhere in the world.
- Includes 946 amendments, with about 75 percent of those amendments covering specific counties (2 of the 6 amendments on the ballot are specific to counties)
- Only 6 counties in Alabama have limited "home rule" (Lee, Mobile, Madison, Montgomery, Shelby and Tuscaloosa)

Amendment 1 Details

- Proposing an amendment to amend Article VIII of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 177 of the Official ReCompilation of the Constitutional of Alabama of 1901, as amended, to provide that **only** a citizen of the United States has the right to vote.
 - Sponsor: Senator Marsh
 - Plain Language from Secretary of State site: The state constitution grants the right to vote to U.S. citizens who meet certain requirements. **This amendment does not change those requirements.**
 - If a majority of voters vote “yes” for Amendment 1, the state constitution will grant the right to vote to “**only**” those U.S. citizens who meet the requirements.

Amendment 2 Details

- This amendment proposes six changes to the state's judicial system. Plain language from Secretary of State site:
 - Provides the county district courts do not have to hold city court in a city with a population of less than 1,000.
 - Allows Alabama Supreme Court, rather than the Chief Justice to appoint the Administrative Director of Courts
 - Increases from 9 to 11 the total membership of the Judicial Inquiry Commission and determines who appoints each member (this commission evaluates ethics complaints filed against judges)
 - Governor, rather than the Lieutenant Governor, to appoint a member of the Court of the Judiciary (court hears complaints filed by the Judicial Inquiry Commission)
 - Prevents a judge from being automatically disqualified from holding office simply because a complaint was filed with the Judiciary Inquiry Commission
 - Provides that a judge can be removed from office only by the Court of the Judiciary
- Sponsors: Senator Orr and Senator Ward

Amendment 3 Details

- Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to provide that judge, other than a judge of probate, appointed to fill a vacancy would serve an initial term until the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January following the next general election after the judge has completed two years in office.
- Plain language: Changes the initial term of a judge that is appointed to fill a vacancy due to death, resignation, retirement or removal. Current law a judge has to complete one year in office or the remainder of the original term, whichever is longer.
- Sponsors: Representative Faulkner and Representative Fridy

Amendment 4 Details:

- Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to authorize the Legislature to recompile the Alabama Constitution and submit it during the 2022 Regular Session and provide a process for its ratification by the voters of this state.
- Plain language: Would allow the Alabama Legislature, when it meets in 2022 to draft a rearranged version of the state constitution. This draft could only (1) remove racist language, (2) remove language that is repeated or no longer applies, (3) combine language related to economic development, and (4) combine language that relates to the same county. No other changes could be made.
- Sponsor: Representative Coleman
- Co-Sponsor: Representatives McCutcheon, Hollis, Rafferty, Bracy, Alexander, Drummond, Moore (M), Rogers, McClammy, Clarke, Gray, Jackson, Warren, Hill and Wadsworth

Amendments 5 & 6 Details

- Amendment 5 relates to Franklin County and Amendment 6 relates to Lauderdale County
- Propose an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to provide that a person is not liable for using deadly physical force in self-defense of another person on the premises of a church under certain conditions.
- Plain Language: Alabama's "Stand Your Ground" law allows a person to legally use physical force against another person under certain conditions. The law does not require the person to retreat before using physical force.
- Sponsors: Franklin – Representative Kiel; Lauderdale – Representative Greer