

DPCF DEMOCRATIC PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS OF FLORIDA **2018 Ballot Amendments**

RECOMMENDATIONS

- #1 NO** Increases the amount of a home's value exempted from property tax (Will force local governments to cut public services or raise local taxes)
- #2 NO** Makes the cap on non-homestead (2nd homes and commercial) property assessment increases permanent (Will continue to limit resources available for public services)
- #3 YES** Requires voter approval of casino gambling (Removes authority to expand gambling from the legislature and returns it to voters)
- #4 YES** Restores right to vote for most people with felony convictions upon completion of sentences (Gives 1.5 million Floridians the right to vote after paying their debt to society)
- #5 NO** Requires 2/3 vote of legislature to impose or increase tax or fee (Will tie the hands of future legislatures making it nearly impossible to address budget needs, such as teacher raises and natural catastrophes)
- #6 NO** Adds a Marsy's Law (victims' rights) to state constitution, increases judicial retirement age; prohibits judges from deferring to admin agencies to interpret law (Victims' rights already protected in the Constitution; Eliminates an existing provision that protects the constitutional rights of the accused)
- #7 NO** Requires death benefits for first responders and military members, a supermajority vote for college fees, and adds state college system structure to constitution (3/4 majority vote to increase fees makes it very difficult to meet university needs)
- #8 NO** Establishes school board term limits; allows state to operate non-board established schools; requires civic literacy (DPCF opposes term limits; amendment takes authority for charter school approval and oversight from local school boards and gives it to Tallahassee politicians)
- #9 YES** Bans offshore oil and gas drilling and vaping in enclosed indoor workplaces (Concern for the environment overrides concern about putting vaping in the Constitution.)
- #10 NO** Prohibits counties from abolishing certain local offices, changes start date of legislative sessions, and adds an executive office and executive department to constitution (Takes away control granted to charter counties limiting ability to respond to local conditions)
- #11 NO** Repeals some obsolete language; repeals a provision saying that changes to a criminal statute are not retroactive (Impact of criminal statute portion is unclear and disputed. Other repealed provisions are already unenforceable or expired)
- #12 NO** Prohibits public officials from lobbying for compensation while in office and 6 years thereafter (Applied too broadly at local level; will not solve problems of money and influence in politics)
- #13 YES** Prohibits betting on dog races (Ends legal wagering on inhumane dog racing)

For more information on the Amendments: www.progressivefl.org