

Issue 2

Proposed Constitutional Amendment

TO PROHIBIT LOCAL GOVERNMENT FROM ALLOWING NON-ELECTORS TO VOTE

Proposed by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly

To amend Section 1 of Article V, Section 3 of Article X, and Section 3 of Article XVIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio.

A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass.

The proposed amendment would:

- Require that only a citizen of the United States, who is at least 18 years of age and who has been a legal resident and registered voter for at least 30 days, can vote at any state or local election held in this state.
- Prohibit local governments from allowing a person to vote in local elections if they are not legally qualified to vote in state elections.

If passed, the amendment will be effective immediately.

A **"yes"** vote supports the proposed amendment.

A **"no"** vote opposes the proposed amendment.

[Note: Federal law does not allow noncitizens to vote in federal elections but it does not prohibit them from voting in local elections]

PROS

- This amendment would prevent the confusion for non-citizen legal residents voting in local elections.
- This amendment would protect non-citizens from adverse legal action in regard to voting.
- This amendment would prevent an increased administrative burden by creating a new system of voter registration for non-citizen legal residents in areas where this is enacted.
- Passing this initiative clarifies the intent of the Ohio Constitution in regard to citizenship and voting.

CONS

- This amendment prevents non-citizen legal residents from voting locally, which weakens community involvement and input in cities that allow it.
- Non-citizen legal residents are taxpaying members of our communities. This amendment prevents these residents from the right to vote provided to other taxpayers.
- This amendment weakens the ability of municipalities to govern themselves.
- This amendment eliminates the rights of 17-year old citizens (who will be 18 by election day) to vote in a primary election, as well as permanently makes the voter registration deadline 30 days prior to election day.