

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

✓ November 7, 2023

General Election

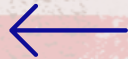


OFFICIAL VOTER GUIDE

ISSUE 1 | ABORTION RIGHTS

Ohio will be ground zero in the national abortion rights battle this fall when voters across the state will vote on a closely watched constitutional amendment to enshrine abortion rights into the Ohio Constitution.

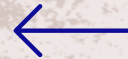
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ISSUE 2 | ADULT-USE CANNABIS

The passage of Ohio Issue # 2 on the November 7th ballot goes well beyond the provisions that would legalize adult-use cannabis or Marijuana.

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PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING CLE ISSUE 38

A People's Budget (PB) is a 5-step process where Cleveland residents make decisions about the city's budget together.

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EARLY VOTING INFO

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Promise of Democracy Mission

The mission of the Promise of Democracy Foundation (PDF) is to improve the quality of life of African Americans and individuals living in underserved communities by promoting democratic values, voting rights and electoral participation through research, voter registration, civic education, issue awareness programs, and the literary arts.

Ohio Voter Fund Mission

The Ohio Voter Fund's mission is to create sustainable voter engagement and mobilization programs in African American communities across Ohio by use of voter registration, education, and issue awareness programs through community based outreach to residents in low income communities.



The primary tactic included placing a constitutional amendment on the ballot in an August 8th special election to change the percentage threshold for passage of future constitutional amendments from 50% + 1 to 60%. Voters across Ohio soundly defeated the measure 57 to 43%.

The OURR coalition challenged the Ballot Board’s removal of the original language that listed additional reproductive rights that their original language covered. Most notably they opposed the exclusion of “the right to contraception, fertility treatment, miscarriage care, and continuing one’s own pregnancy” among the rights being enshrined into the constitution. Plaintiffs in the lawsuit argued that the ballot board-approved language “fails to capture the full substance of the amendment and only names abortion even though the amendment’s protections extend but are not limited to reproductive decisions.”

ISSUE # 1 | ABORTION RIGHTS BALLOT INITIATIVE PLACES OHIO IN NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT BY GREG MOORE

The statewide Ohio Ballot Issue # 1, officially entitled “The Right to Make Reproductive Decisions Including Abortion Initiative” was certified on July 24, 2023. Supporters submitted 495,930 valid signatures from 55 counties, more than enough to qualify for the November 7th ballot.

Ohio Issue # 1 in November seeks to enshrine the right to reproductive freedom into the Ohio Constitution in response to the 2022 landmark U.S. Supreme Court Dobbs v. Women’s Health Organization decision overturning the longstanding Roe v. Wade ruling. The Dobbs decision overturned over 50 years of precedent leaving abortion rights or restrictions up to each individual state to decide. The Vote Yes on Issue # 1 effort is being led by Ohioans United for Reproductive Rights, (OURR) a broad-based statewide coalition that includes supporters of the successful Vote NO on Issue # 1, One Person One Vote campaign.

A July statewide poll conducted by Suffolk University/USA Today showed 58% of Ohio voters statewide supported the proposed constitutional amendment that was certified for placement on the November ballot. Despite strong support in polling among voters across the state, supporters of a constitutional amendment are facing tactical opposition by Republican lawmakers and pro-life opponents in the lead up to the election. Political opponents of Issue # 1 are being led by Ohio Republican Secretary of State Frank LaRose and a coalition of pro-life groups led by the Ohio Right to Life coalition. All have worked for months to oppose the amendment by orchestrating a series of legislative and administrative tactics to ensure its defeat.

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PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING CLE ISSUE 38

Courtesy of People’s Budget Cleveland Committee

The People’s Budget Charter Amendment would give Cleveland residents aged 13+ the power to decide how to spend 2% of the City budget (more than \$14 million) each year.

In the People’s Budget (PB), Cleveland residents:

1. Design the process
2. Collect community ideas
3. Create proposals from those ideas
4. Vote
5. The City implements the projects

A resident-led Steering Committee guides the process.

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[FOR INFO ON](#)
[ISSUE 5](#)



ISSUE # 1 | ABORTION RIGHTS BALLOT INITIATIVE PLACES OHIO IN NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT (CONTINUED)

The other major change to the original amendment’s language included removing the medical term used throughout the original language from “fetus” to the more emotionally charged term “unborn child,” throughout the ballot amendment. The suit called on the Ohio Supreme Court to intervene and make an expedited ruling that would restore the original language submitted. Despite the outcome of the Court’s final ruling, Issue # 1 supporters vowed to continue their education and awareness campaign across the state.



Abortion rights advocates pointed to the failed attempt to change the percentage requirement for passing a constitutional amendment in the August 8th election, and the Republican-controlled Ballot Board’s efforts to dramatically alter the ballot language, as similarly misguided attempts by opponents to undermine the will of Ohio voters.

Opposition to the abortion rights amendment has been building within the pro-life community for many months. As early as July 25th the “ Ohio Right to Life’s CEO, Peter Range released a statement asserting that “This extreme anti-life, anti-parent amendment from the ACLU provides no protections for the preborn through all nine months of pregnancy and attacks a parent’s right even to know if their child is seeking an abortion.

The central question that remains unanswered by both sides of the issue is whether voters from across the state who voted No on Issue # 1 on August 8th will parlay their strong support for maintaining a simple majority to pass a constitutional amendment, to a YES on Issue # 1 on November 7th in support of enshrining abortion rights into the same constitution. Educating voters about the differences between the two issues is a top priority among abortion rights supporters and opponents.



PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING CLE ISSUE 38 (CONTINUED)

Courtesy of People’s Budget Cleveland Committee

The Steering Committee will be made up of 10 Cleveland residents, half appointed by the Mayor, half by City Council, and one staff member hired to support the PB process.

Note: The City is required to implement the projects residents select. All decisions must comply with local, state, and federal laws.

The participatory budgeting model was pioneered in Brazil in 1989 and has been used in 1,500 different cities worldwide, including Chicago, Grand Rapids, Durham, and New York.

For more information, visit PBCLE’s [website](#).

ISSUE # 2 | PASSAGE OF ISSUE # 2 WOULD BRING MILLIONS TO COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY CURRENT DRUG LAWS BY GREG MOORE



The Act to Control and Regulate Adult-Use Cannabis measure would enact a statutory change to the Ohio Revised Code regarding the adult-use of cannabis but would also establish a new state agency and regulations to “authorize and regulate the cultivation, processing, sale, purchase, possession, home grow, and use of adult-use cannabis by adults at least twenty-one years of age.

The passage of Issue # 2 would create a new Chapter 3780 of the Ohio Revised Code that would permit adults 21 years of age or older to possess 2.5 ounces of cannabis (fifteen grams of concentrates or extracts). The proposed law would also legalize and regulate the cultivation, manufacturing, testing, and sale of marijuana and marijuana products to adults over twenty-one and legalize cannabis home growing for adults ages 21 and up with a limit of six plants per person and 12 plants per household.



To facilitate the regulation of the new law, Issue # 2 would establish a new state agency called the Division of Cannabis Control within the already existing Ohio Department of Commerce. According to the statutory provisions, the new agency would “have the authority to license, regulate, investigate, and penalize adult-use cannabis operators, testing laboratories, and individuals required to be licensed.” The new law would be an expansion of the existing laws that regulate the current medical marijuana industry in the state of Ohio.

An Ohio State University Drug Enforcement and Policy Center study estimated statewide revenues from the regulated sale of cannabis range from \$276 to \$403 million per year after five years of a fully operational cannabis market has been operational in Ohio. Revenues would be drawn from a 10% excise tax on sales and a 5.75% sales tax on all cannabis-regulated adult-use sales. The OSU Policy Center’s tax revenue estimates are based on actual revenues from twenty-one other states where regulated cannabis sales have generated hundreds of millions of dollars in new state revenue after five years or more of operations.

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VOTE EARLY DAY
Sponsor

PULL UP TO THE POLLS
A free early voting celebration

NOV 4 12-4PM

CLEVELAND VOTES
EDUCATE. CONNECT. EMPOWER.
Host

BOARD OF ELECTIONS
1900 E. 30th St.
Cleveland, OH 44144

LEKKO
Vendors

Registration for this event is not necessary.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ROBIN@CLEVOTES.COM OR VISIT CLEVOTES.COM

[CLICK HERE](#)

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF
BALLOT
ISSUES



EARLY VOTING DETAILS

Courtesy of Cuyahoga County Board of Elections

WHERE TO VOTE



Cuyahoga County Board of Elections
2925 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44115

QUESTIONS? **216-443-8683 (VOTE)**

ACCEPTABLE PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

You only need (1) of the following forms of ID:



- An Ohio driver license
- An Ohio state ID card
- An interim identification form issued by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles
- A U.S. passport or passport card
- A U.S. military ID card, Ohio National Guard ID card, or U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ID card (must include voter's name and photograph)

EARLY VOTING DAYS/HOURS

Weekdays*	October 11 - October 27	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Monday	October 30	7:30 AM - 7:30 PM
Tuesday	October 31	7:30 AM - 8:30 PM
Weekdays*	November 1 - 3	7:30 AM - 7:30 PM
Saturday	November 4	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Sunday	November 5	1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

- Weekdays denotes Monday through Friday

BECOME AN ELECTION DAY WORKER!

- Starting pay \$220
- Must be a registered voter in Cuyahoga County
- Must never have been convicted of a felony
- Cannot be a candidate for office or a position and serve as an election official in any precinct where your name appears on the ballot

Apply [here](#)



November 4, 2023

**WE WON'T
BLACK
DOWN**



Columbus & Cleveland

8:00 – 10:00 am ET

BREAKFAST & PRESS CONFERENCE
1506 E. Long St, Columbus, OH

3:00 – 4:30 pm ET

PARTY AT THE POLLS
2925 Euclid Ave, Cleveland, OH

10:30 – 11:00 am ET

CARAVAN TO BOARD OF ELECTIONS
1700 Morse Rd, Columbus, OH

2:00 – 5:30 pm ET

NATIONAL BEAUTY & BARBER EMPOWERMENT
11802 Buckeye Rd, Cleveland, OH

4:30 – 6:30 pm ET

NEW VOICES FOR REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE EVENT
1464 E 105th St, Cleveland, OH

11:15 am – 12:00 pm ET

PARTY TO THE POLLS
1981 Cleveland Ave, Columbus, OH

7:00 – 9:00 pm ET

POETRY SLAM
13116 Shaker Square, Shaker Heights, OH

FREE BVM MERCH, VOTER ENGAGEMENT, AND MORE!



ISSUE # 2 | PASSAGE OF ISSUE # 2 WOULD BRING MILLIONS TO COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY CURRENT DRUG LAWS (CONTINUED)

Supporters of Vote Yes on Issue # 2 led by the Coalition to Regulate Marijuana like Alcohol spelled out the benefits of the new revenues from the proposed law that are designed to benefit municipalities and communities that have been the most impacted by the existing marijuana laws. According to the proposed ballot measure the millions of dollars of new anticipated revenues would be disbursed based on the following breakdown:

36% all generated tax revenues would create a Social Equity and Jobs Fund to support social equity initiatives, jobs, and economic development programs across Ohio.

36% would be earmarked for a Host Communities Cannabis Fund for Ohio municipalities where adult-use cannabis dispensaries are located.

25% would be set aside for a Substance Abuse and Addiction Fund for research and treatment of substance abuse for individuals with addictions across Ohio.

3% would fund the proposed Division of Cannabis Control and Tax Commissioner Fund to support the regulatory and administrative cost of overseeing the adult-use cannabis industry statewide.

On September 27, 2023, the FM3 Research Firm released the results of a poll conducted in mid-August that showed 59% of likely Ohio Voters support Issue # 2, with 36% opposed. If passed by a majority of voters on Election Day, the new law would take effect 30 days after passage.

Unlike Issue # 1, Issue # 2 is a statutory amendment to the Ohio Revised Code, rather than an amendment to the Ohio constitution. As a statutory amendment, the Republican-led Ohio General Assembly could repeal, replace, or modify the law with additional requirements or mandates. Republican leaders in the General Assembly have not yet said what actions they would take if the Issue was approved by voters on Election Day, November 7th.



Masthead

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Acknowledgements

