

PROTECT OUR CONSTITUTION - VOTE AGAINST

Raleigh politicians are asking for a “blank check” to steamroll our constitution, pushing through unprecedented, unnecessary, and politically-driven measures. North Carolina must send a loud message by voting “against” each of the proposed constitutional amendments.

VOTE AGAINST “BLANK CHECK” CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

1. **UNDERMINE SEPARATION OF POWERS (“BOARD OF ELECTIONS & ETHICS”)**

A “blank-check” giving politicians power over the board that investigates those same politicians. The 4-4 Board is set up to fail – exactly what legislators want.

2. **GIVE POLITICIANS POWER OVER THE COURTS (“JUDICIAL VACANCY”)**

This “blank-check” would give a few partisan politicians power to cherry-pick judges, undermining judicial independence and making our courts another partisan, political body.

3. **MAKE IT HARDER TO VOTE (“VOTER ID”)**

This will create new hurdles to the ballot box for seniors, veterans, young people, and people of color. Past illegal attempts targeted African-Americans “with almost surgical precision.”

4. **NICKEL-AND-DIME THE MIDDLE CLASS (“CAP INCOME TAXES AT 7%”)**

This amendment will nickel-and-dime consumers while starving resources for public schools and tying the state’s hands to deal with future recessions.

5. **UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES FROM CRIME VICTIMS (“MARSY’S LAW”)**

North Carolina already has robust victims’ rights laws – changing the state constitution is unnecessary. This measure could also impede victims’ ability to have their day in court.

6. **PLAYING POLITICS WITH HUNTING LAWS (“PROTECT THE RIGHT TO HUNT AND FISH”)**

This unnecessary amendment – an effort to lure Republican voters to the polls – could create backdoor restrictions on future common-sense gun safety laws.

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Any attempt to change our Constitution should be deliberate and bipartisan. A bipartisan group of leaders – including six Governors, six former chief justices – and newspapers agree:

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“[The legislature is] forcing people to vote for constitutional amendments that are **bad for our state** and that are unnecessary”.

– Gov. Roy Cooper

“You have to **defeat** (the amendment).”

– Republican Gov. Jim Martin

“Wise North Carolina voters should **vote ‘no’**”

– Wilmington Star News

“This is a **constitutional train wreck** waiting to happen.”

– News & Observer

“North Carolina’s proposed constitutional amendments **need to be defeated.**”

– News & Record

“Voters should **reject them outright.**”

– Star News

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WHAT IT SAYS:

BOARD OF ELECTIONS & ETHICS

“ **Constitutional amendment to establish an eight-member bipartisan Board of Ethics and Elections Enforcement to administer ethics and elections law.** ”

JUDICIAL VACANCY

“ Constitutional Amendment to change the process for filling judicial vacancies that occur between judicial elections from a process in which the appointment is solely at the will of the Governor to a process in which the people of the state will nominate individuals to fill vacancies by way of a commission comprised of appointees made by the judicial, executive, and legislative branches charged with making recommendations to the legislature as to which nominees are deemed qualified; then the legislature will recommend nominees to the Governor via legislative action that would not be subject to gubernatorial veto; and the Governor will appoint judges from among these nominees. ”

VOTER ID

“ **Constitutional Amendment to require voters to provide photo identification before voting in person.** ”

WHAT IT DOES:

- Creates a 4-4 board designed for gridlock – and failure.
- Allows politicians to choose the members of a board that will investigate those same politicians.
- Ignores that a Bipartisan Board of Ethics already exists.

- Gives a handful of partisan politicians the power to cherry-pick judges.
- Undermines the independence of our courts and makes our judiciary another partisan, political body.
- Could allow politicians to pack the State Supreme Court and allow them to continue to draw gerrymandered districts

- Doesn't say what form of ID will be acceptable – instead, politicians get a “blank check” to create new hurdles to the ballot box.
- Makes it harder for seniors, veterans, young people, and people of color to vote.
- Past attempts were found illegal after politicians targeted African-Americans “with almost surgical precision.”

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WHAT IT SAYS:

WHAT IT DOES:

CAP INCOME TAXES AT 7%

“

Constitutional Amendment to reduce the income tax rate in North Carolina to a maximum allowable rate of seven percent (7%). ”

- Nickel-and-dimes the middle class to protect the ultra-wealthy.
- Starves resources for public schools.
- Ties the state's hands to deal with future recessions.

MARSHY'S LAW

“

Constitutional Amendment to strengthen protections for victims of crime; to establish certain absolute basic rights for victims; and to ensure the enforcement of these rights. ”

- Could have unintended consequences on victims' ability to have their day in court.
- Fails to mention that North Carolina already has robust victims' rights laws

HUNTING & FISHING

“

Constitutional Amendment protecting the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife. ”

- Could create backdoor restrictions on future common-sense gun safety laws.
- Republicans hope this will lure voters to the polls, and are changing our constitution in a desperate attempt to win an election.

VOTE AGAINST