

Are you a Liberal? Here's How You Should Vote on Every State Ballot Initiative...

State ballot initiatives are how voters can immediately and permanently write new laws in their states. It is one of the greatest powers afforded to voters. Unfortunately, most ballot initiatives are written in "legalese," making them very difficult to understand. Worse yet, many politicians and special interests exploit this by writing initiatives that deliberately mislead voters.

This voter guide is designed to serve as a no-nonsense "Cliff Notes" version of each amendment and the position that would be considered most democratic and progressive. This guide is not a representation of the official Democratic National Committee position, as the DNC has not staked out a position on most of these amendments. When the state or national party has taken a position, we have taken the same one.

In the overwhelming majority of state ballot initiatives, where the DNC has not taken an official position, we have done our best to triangulate the most progressive position by evaluating the motives of each side, the monied interest(s) behind them, and the general principles espoused in the initiative. Most of the time, one side is the clear winner. When an initiative is likely to have a mixed impact, we have done our best to indicate that in the explanation.

North Carolina

- ✘ NO Right to Hunt and Fish Amendment**
Meaningless amendment designed to get gun activists to the polls—doesn't actually provide any new rights
- ✘ NO Marsy's Law Crime Victims Rights Amendment**
Removes the presumption of innocence for accused criminals, making it harder to get a fair trial
- ✘ NO Income Tax Cap Amendment**
Attempt to lure discouraged Republican voters to polls with promise of lower taxes, even though no taxes will be lowered with the passage of this amendment
- ✘ NO Voter ID Amendment**
Deliberate attempt to make it harder for people to vote, particularly elderly and minority voters, who traditionally vote Democratic
- ✘ NO Legislative Appointments to Elections Board Amendment**
Robs constitutionally guaranteed powers from the Democratic governor and gives it to the Republican legislature
- ✘ NO Judicial Selection for Midterm Vacancies Amendment**
Robs constitutionally guaranteed powers from the Democratic governor and gives it to the Republican legislature...again