

2020 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT GUIDE

OPPOSE BALLOT INITIATIVES #1, #3, AND #4

Regardless of whether Floridians vote-by-mail, vote early in person, or vote on election day, there will be six proposed constitutional amendments on their ballots. The ACLU of Florida has taken positions on three of those initiatives to ensure that civil rights and civil liberties prevail in Florida.

Ballot Initiative #1 — Vote NO

Ballot initiative #1, the so-called “Citizenship Requirement to Vote in Florida Elections,” is cloaked in xenophobia and false patriotism. Rather than strengthen our democracy or protect our elections, it subverts and endangers the right of every citizen to vote. The amendment purports to limit voting to only U.S. citizens. However, federal and state law are already clear that voting rights are strictly for U.S. citizens, and there are no movements to expand voting rights to noncitizens

in Florida. Instead, there have been persistent efforts to suppress voter registration and voting. One of the primary routes of such suppression has been through requiring increasingly costly and burdensome verification requirements, which could be enabled or justified by the passage of this amendment.

The ACLU of Florida urges you to vote NO on Ballot Initiative #1.

Ballot Initiative #3 — Vote NO

Ballot initiative #3, misleadingly titled, “All Voters Vote in Primary Elections for State Legislature, Governor and Cabinet,” would have a negative impact on voters of color and effectively silence their voices. In addition, it would create a “top-two” electoral system that could prevent voters in the general election from voting for members of their own party in state legislative, governor and cabinet races.

process, this amendment would have a negative impact on Black communities by diluting their vote in primary elections.

The measure also raises First Amendment concerns by hindering political dissent and a political party’s freedom of association, as well as the ability to select its candidates and messaging.

The ACLU of Florida urges you to vote NO on Ballot Initiative #3.

Ballot Initiative #4 — Vote NO

Florida voters’ right to participate directly in our democracy is protected by Florida’s constitution. Yet, Ballot initiative #4 would impede that right and make it twice as hard and twice as expensive for Floridians’ voices to be heard.” Ballot Initiative #4, disingenuously and misleadingly titled “Voter Approval of Constitutional Amendments,” is a cynical political effort to obstruct voters’ ability to pass future constitutional amendments, even those with support from a supermajority of voters. This ballot initiative disregards the will of the people and renders their voices mute on the very issues they care about most.

election. In other words, it negates the will of the people and requires them to try again a second time in order to get something passed. It is an effort to stifle the choices Floridians have made to improve our democracy.

Florida voters have a right to participate directly in our democracy and that right is protected by Florida’s constitution. Yet, Ballot Initiative #4 would impede that right and make it harder for Floridians voices to be heard.

The ACLU of Florida urges you to vote NO on Ballot Initiative #4.

Essentially, an amendment approved by Florida voters would not count unless it passed a second time in the next