

ARGUMENT

Vote NO on Issue #1

Issue #1 creates delays in new laws taking effect.

The Constitution reserves to the People the power to propose laws, amendments to the constitution, and to approve or reject laws passed by the legislature. Issue #1 creates earlier filing deadlines which can cause a referendum petition to effectively delay for months the effective date of a law passed by the legislature. This is because the deadline for filing a referendum petition depends on when the law being referred to the voters was passed by the legislature. If the deadline to file the petition is *after* the new proposed deadline in the Constitution, the law referred by the petition won't be able to be on the ballot until the next election, which could be over a year away.

The immediate effect of the filing of a referendum petition is to stop the law from going into effect until voters decide the issue at the ballot. State Issue #1 gives people with the money to circulate petitions for hundreds of thousands of signatures increased power over the state legislature to delay laws passed from going into effect for months or even more than a year.

Issue #1 means More Expensive State Issue Campaigns.

The delays caused by Issue #1 can be expensive. Putting the issues off so long may mean that large amounts of money will have to be spent to get the attention of voters. Millions of dollars are already being spent for issues that are fresh in the voters' minds. More money is likely to be spent to inform voters when the issue is stale. With these powers reserved to the People, this proposed amendment makes it even more expensive and difficult for ordinary citizens to undertake the efforts to speak through the state initiative and referendum process.

Vote NO on Issue #1.

Prepared by the Ohio Ballot Board in the absence of any submission in opposition, as required by Ohio Revised Code Section 3505.063(B).