

ARGUMENT

Support State Issue 1

A YES vote on Issue 1 saves taxpayer dollars, helps build voter confidence in elections, and eases elections administration.

Issue 1 makes necessary, cost-saving improvements to elections deadlines for statewide ballot issues and should be approved for the following reasons:

- ✓ **ISSUE 1 PREVENTS WASTE OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS.** In 2007, taxpayers paid more than \$300,000 to advertise information about a ballot issue that ultimately did not qualify for the ballot. Additional expenditures were incurred by local boards of elections to verify signatures. Issue 1 helps prevent this wasteful spending of taxpayer dollars from occurring in the future by establishing firm deadlines for the administration of state ballot issues and resolving legal challenges.
- ✓ **ISSUE 1 HELPS MAINTAIN VOTER CONFIDENCE IN ELECTIONS.** Only statewide issues that qualify for voter consideration should be printed on the ballot. During the last two general elections, however, litigation had not concluded at the time ballots had to be printed so voters considered issues that were ultimately not counted. Issue 1's new deadlines helps maintain voter confidence in elections by preventing this waste from occurring.
- ✓ **ISSUE 1 PROMOTES EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE ELECTIONS.** Issue 1 establishes clear timelines for filing and reviewing statewide issues petitions, and for filing legal challenges to those petitions. This helps ensure smoother and more efficient elections.

By improving filing deadlines for petitions and streamlining the legal process, Issue 1 will help prevent voter confusion and promote more efficient elections. Vote YES on Issue 1.

Submitted by: Ohio State Representatives Jon Peterson and Dan Stewart, the group appointed by the Ohio General Assembly to prepare the argument for Issue 1