AMENDMENT AND LEGISLATION

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, INITIATED LEGISLATION, AND LAWS CHALLENGED BY REFERENDUM, SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORS

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AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

The people of Ohio participated directly in making their constitution, and it cannot be amended without their consent. In 1849, the General Assembly submitted to the people of the state a proposition to call a constitutional convention. A majority voted to do so. A constitutional convention was elected, it rewrote the constitution, and the new constitution was submitted to a vote of the people on June 17, 1851. Having received a majority vote, the new constitution went into effect on September 1, 1851, superseding Ohio's original constitution which had been adopted in 1802. The Constitution of 1851 has been amended many times since its adoption. Each of the procedures described below has been used.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION--A convention may be called to amend or revise the constitution, but any amendment or revision it proposes does not become effective unless adopted by the people by majority vote. There are two ways to call such a convention. First, it may be called at any time by a two-thirds vote of both houses of the General Assembly, which has never been done. Second, every twenty years a statewide election must be held on the question of calling a convention.

In 1871 the first election on this question was held, and the people voted for a convention, and consequently delegates were elected. This convention rewrote the constitution, but when the revised constitution was submitted to the people, they rejected it. In 1891 the people voted against calling a convention. In 1910 they voted to call a convention. The ensuing convention wrote 41 amendments, which were submitted to the people at the general election in November 1912. Thirty-three were adopted by the people, and eight were rejected. The 33 amendments amounted to a significant revision of the constitution. This was the last time, however, that the constitution was amended in this way. In 1932, 1952, 1972 and 1992, and 2012, the people voted against calling a convention. The question will appear on the ballot again in 2032.

JOINT RESOLUTION--A second method of amending the constitution is for the General Assembly to pass a joint resolution proposing an amendment. The joint resolution must be passed by a three-fifths majority of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly. Such a proposal becomes an effective amendment only if a majority of voters approves it.

INITIATIVE PETITION--The third method of amending the constitution was proposed by the constitutional convention in 1912 and adopted by the people on June 17. Essentially, it is a method whereby the people propose an amendment by petition, their proposal appears on the ballot, and if a majority vote favorably, the proposal becomes an amendment to the constitution. No action by the General Assembly is involved. Constitutional and statutory requirements guide the process.

While each of these procedures provides a different method for proposing amendments, no amendment is adopted, except by vote of the people.

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

A discussion of initiative and referendum must almost necessarily begin with definition of the terms. These words are often confused and used interchangeably. Initiative and referendum are not, however, the same thing. Each word has its own precise meaning.

Initiative is a process whereby the people make laws, directly and without action by a legislature. Ordinarily, the process involves the circulation of a petition asking for the law, and then an election on the question of whether the proposition shall become law.

Referendum is a process whereby the people block legislation enacted by a legislative body, preventing it from going into effect. Most types of laws do not go into effect for some time after their passage--thirty to ninety days. If during that time a referendum petition is filed, the law does not go into effect until an election is held to place the question before voters. If a majority vote against it, the law does not go into effect.

STATE INITIATIVE--The Constitution of Ohio provides that interested citizens may, by petition, submit a proposed law to the General Assembly. A petition for that purpose must be signed by qualified electors of the state equal in number to 3% of the total votes cast for governor at the last preceding state election. Such a petition is filed with the Secretary of State, and if he finds it sufficient, he submits the proposed law to the General Assembly. If after four months the General Assembly has not passed the proposed law, a supplementary petition bearing the signatures of another 3% of the electors may be filed and the proposed law will be submitted to the people at the next general election. If a majority of the people vote for the proposal, it becomes a law.

STATE REFERENDUM--The Constitution of Ohio provides that, with certain exceptions, laws passed by the General Assembly and signed by the governor do not go into effect for ninety days. During that ninety days, a referendum petition may prevent their going into effect pending an election.

It is important to note that certain types of laws are not subject to this procedure. Those types are: Laws providing for tax levies, appropriations for the current expenses of the state government and institutions, and emergency laws necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety. An emergency law must be enacted by a two-thirds majority, and the emergency clause must be voted on separately in the General Assembly. These three types of laws-tax levies, appropriations and emergency laws-go into effect immediately upon being signed by the governor, and they are consequently not subject to the referendum.

Assuming that the General Assembly has enacted a law which is subject to referendum, its opponents can file a referendum petition during the ninety day period before it goes into effect. The petition must bear the signatures of 6% of the electors. If such a petition is filed with the Secretary of State, the law does not go into effect until an election can be held. If the majority vote against the law, it does not go into effect. If the majority vote for it, it goes into effect.

SUMMARY OF OPERATION OF THE INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM IN OHIO 1912 THROUGH 2014

The provision for the initiative and referendum in Ohio was incorporated in the Ohio Constitution at a special election held September 3, 1912.

Five bills, proposed by initiative petition, were introduced in the General Assembly which convened in regular session January 6, 1913. The titles of these bills together with the action taken by the General Assembly on each, are as follows:

H.B. No. 1. Relative to regulating newspapers and publication of nothing but the truth. PASSED.

H.B. No. 2. To provide for the removal of certain officers. PASSED.

H.B. No. 3. To prohibit the shipment, conveyance, or receiving of intoxi- cating liquors into territory in which the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is prohibited. LOST.

H.B. No. 4. To provide for license to traffic in intoxicating liquors and to regulate the traffic therein. LOST.

H.B. No. 5. To classify municipal corporations and to define their powers.
LOST.

NOVEMBER 4, 1913

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Short Ballot for state officers (Art. III, Secs. 1, 2 and 3):
Yes--239,126 No--461,555 (Failed)

Short Ballot for county and township officers (Art. X, Secs. 1 and 2):
Yes--217,875 No--449,493 (Failed)

Exemption from taxation of State of Ohio, city, village, hamlet, township, road district and school bonds (Art. XII, Sec. 12):
Yes--312,232 No--340,570 (Failed)

Eligibility of women to appointment as members of boards or positions in departments and institutions affecting or caring for women and children (Art. XV, Sec. 4):
Yes--435,222 (Passed) No--255,036

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Small legislature (Art. XI, Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5):
Yes--240,237 No--418,114 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 3, 1914

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Home rule on subjects of intoxicating liquors (Art. XV, Sec. 9a):
Yes--559,872 (Passed) No--547,254

Limitation of tax rate and for classification of property for purpose of taxation (Art. XIX, Secs. 1 and 2):
Yes--223,873 No--551,760 (Failed)

To extend the suffrage of women (Art. V, Sec. 1):
Yes--335,390 No--518,295 (Failed)

Prohibition of sale, manufacture for sale, and importation for sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage (Art. XV, Sec. 9):
Yes--504,177 No--588,329 (Failed)

JANUARY 4, 1915

The General Assembly which convened the above date had before it for consideration one bill proposed by initiative petition. This bill provided compulsory compensation to employees injured and to dependents of employees killed in the course of their employment. The bill was lost in the Assembly.

NOVEMBER 2, 1915

Prohibition of the sale and manufacture for sale of intoxicating liquor as a beverage (Art. XV, Sec. 9):
Yes--484,969 No--540,377 (Failed)

To fix the terms of all county officers at four years, to provide for their election quadrennially, and applying the amendment to incumbents (Art. X, Sec. 2):
Yes--207,435 No--604,463 (Failed)

To limit elections on twice defeated constitutional proposals and to prevent the abuse of the initiative and referendum (Art. XVI, Sec. 4):
Yes--417,384 No--482,275 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To exempt bonds issued on or after January 1, 1916, of the State of Ohio, or any subdivision or district thereof authorized to issue bonds, from taxation (Art. XII, Sec. 12):
Yes--337,124 No--401,083 (Failed)

LAWS PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:

The Sprague Act-Congressional District Bill. An act to amend Section 4828-1
of the General Code, making an apportionment of the State of Ohio into congressional districts under the Thirteenth Census of the United States:
Yes--291,927 No--329,095 (Failed)

The McDermott Act-Amended Senate Bill No. 307. An act to provide for licenses to traffic in intoxicating liquors and to further regulate the traffic therein:
Yes--242,671 No-355,207 (Failed)

JANUARY 1, 1917

The General Assembly which convened the above date had before it one bill submitted by initiative petition. The bill, which made void contracts indemnifying employers against loss or liability for the payment of workmen's compensation, became a law by action of the General Assembly.

NOVEMBER 6, 1917

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INIATIVE PETITION:

Prohibition of the sale and manufacture for sale of intoxicating liquors (Art. XI, Sec. 9):
Yes--522,590 No--588,382 (Failed)

LAWS PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:

The Reynolds Act--Women may vote for, and be voted for presidential electors:
Yes--422,282 No--568,382 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 5, 1918

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Referendum provision, reserving to the people the power to approve or reject an action of the General Assembly ratifying any proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States (Art. II, Sec. 1):
Yes--508,282 (Passed) No-315,030

Prohibition of the sale and manufacture for sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage (Art. XV, Sec. 9):
Yes--463,354 (Passed) No--437,895

The General Assembly shall classify property for taxation purposes (Art. XII, Sec. 2):
Yes--336,616 (Passed) No--304,399

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Law may be passed to provide against double taxation that results from the taxation of both the real estate and mortgage or the debt secured thereby, or other lien upon it (Art. XII, Sec. 2):
Yes--479,420 (Passed) No--371,176

(Note: The amendment to Art. XII, Sec. 2 of the Ohio Constitution submitted under authority of House Joint Resolution No. 34, adopted by the 82nd General Assembly March 12, 1917, received a larger number of votes than the amendment to such section which was proposed by initiative petition; therefore the above amendment submitted by the General Assembly was adopted although both amendments received a majority of the votes cast. State ex rel v. Fulton 99 O.S. 168)

NOVEMBER 4, 1919

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Defining the phrase "Intoxicating Liquor" (Art. XV, Secs. 9 and 1):
Yes--474,907 No--504,688 (Failed)

To repeal statewide prohibition (Art. XV, Sec. 9):
Yes--454,933 No--496,876 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Classification of property (Art. XII, Sec. 2):
Yes--439,987 No--517,245 (Failed)

LAWS PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:

S.J.R. No. 4--Ratifying national prohibition:
Yes--499,971 No--500,450 (Failed)

H.B. No. 24--The Crabbe Act. To provide for state prohibition and its enforcement:
Yes--474,078 No--500,812 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 2, 1920

LAWS PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:

H.B. No. 620--The Crabbe Act. To provide for state prohibition and its enforcement:
Yes--1,062,470 (Passed) No--772,329

NOVEMBER 8, 1921

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To provide for a soldier bonus (Art. VIII, Sec. 2A):
Yes--949,109 (Passed) No--324,447

To provide for the apportionment of the members of the General Assembly by dividing the state into twenty-six senatorial districts (Art. XI, Sec. 7):
Yes--336,574 No--518,524 (Failed)

To authorize the levying of a poll tax (Art. XII, Sec. 1):
Yes--244, 509 No--672,581 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 7, 1922

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To provide for 2.75 per cent beverage (Art. XV, Secs. 9 and 1):
Yes--719,050 No--908,522 (Failed)

To provide for debt limitation, etc., for counties, school districts, townships, municipal corporations, or other political subdivisions (Art. VIII, Sec. 13):
Yes--499,203 No--691,471 (Failed)

To provide a limitation on tax rates of 15 mills, but additional levies may be authorized by vote. State tax rate limited to 1 mill (Art. XII, Sec. 1):
Yes--475,740 No--720,237 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 6, 1923

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To amend the Workmen's Compensation law increasing the authority of the Industrial Commission (Art. II, Sec. 35):
Yes--588,851 (Passed) No--528,572

Eliminating the words "white male" from the Ohio Constitution to conform to federal amendments (Art. V, Sec. 1):
Yes--536,762 (Passed) No--421,744

Authorizing publication of notice of constitutional amendments and proposed laws in newspapers (Art. II, Sec. 1g):
Yes--351,513 No--493,786 (Failed)

LAWS PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:

H.B. No. 20--Mr. Taft. Providing for changes in the law relative to tax limitations:
Yes--367,277 No--728,087 (Failed)

H.B. No. 330--Mr. Albaugh. Making the county the unit for assessment of personal property, and abolishing the office of elective assessor:
Yes-231,152 No--765,163 (Failed)

PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Providing for a system of old age pensions:
Yes--390,599 No--777,351 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 3, 1925

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Restrictions on the incurring of indebtedness by political subdivisions (Art. VIII, Sec. 13):
Yes--450,218 No--535,251 (Failed)

Taxation by uniform rule of real property and all tangible personal property except motor vehicles and a different rate for intangible personal property (Art. XII, Sec. 2):
Yes--435,944 No--501,221 (Failed)

Four year terms for state and county officers (To amend Art. III, Sec. 2 and Art. X, Sec. 2: and to repeal Art. XVII, Sec. 2 and Art. X, Sec. 3):
Yes--325,451 No--543,183 (Failed)

AUGUST 10, 1926

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Authorizing municipalities to levy assessments for entire cost of public improvements (Art. XVIII, Sec. 11):
Yes--234,754 No-352,301 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 2, 1926

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To eliminate the compulsory primary (To amend Art. V, Sec. 7, and enact Art. V, Sec. 8):
Yes--405,152 No--743,313 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 8, 1927

PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Providing for a State Board of Chiropractic Examiners:
Yes--522,612 No--765,093 (Failed)

LAW PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:

Am. S.B. No. 72--Mr. Marshall. Relating to the fees of Justices of the Peace and Constables:
Yes--438,458 No--916,016 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 6, 1928

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To equalize the compensation of judges (Art. IV, Sec. 14):
Yes--704,248 No--1,197,324 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 5, 1929

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Relative to taxation and which authorized classification in this state (To amend Art. XII, Sec. 2, and to repeal Art. XII, Sec. 3):

Yes--710,538 (Passed) No--510,874

NOVEMBER 4, 1930

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Relative to the distribution of income and inheritance taxes (Art. XII, Sec. 9):

Yes--930,914 (Passed) No--574,017

NOVEMBER 3, 1931

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To authorize the contracting of debts by the state in an aggregate amount not exceeding $7,500,000 for the welfare institutions of the state (Art. VIII, Sec. 2b):

Yes--487,459 No--766,057 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 8, 1932

MANDATORY SUBMISSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION:

Shall there be a convention to revise, alter or amend the Constitution:

Yes--853,619 No--1,056,855 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 7, 1933

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Relative to repeal of prohibition (Art. XV, Sec. 9):

Yes--1,250,923 (Passed) No--578,035

PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Granting of aid to aged persons under certain circumstances:

Yes--1,388,860 (Passed) No--526,221

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To provide a ten mill tax limitation on real estate (Art. XII, Sec. 2):

Yes--979,061 (Passed) No--661,151

Relative to county and township organizations and government, and granting counties home rule government (Repealing existing Sec. 16 of Art. IV and existing Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of Art. X, and adopting new Secs. 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Art. X):

Yes--846,594 (Passed) No--742,925

RATIFICATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION:

Proposing to repeal the 18th Amendment:
For ratification-1,444,033 (Passed) Against ratfication-584,238

NOVEMBER 6, 1934

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Prohibiting the taxation as property of motor vehicles on which license taxes have been imposed and paid, and restricting the use of such licenses to public thoroughfares and related purposes (Art. XII, Sec. 5a):
Yes--825,157 No--883,373 (Failed)

Requiring motor vehicle fuel excise taxes to be measured by a sum for each gallon or other like unit, and limiting the amount thereof to three cents per gallon and restricting the use of such excise taxes to public thoroughfares and related purposes (Art. XII, Sec. 5b):
Yes--760,589 No--859,525 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 3, 1936

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To eliminate the additional liability of stockholders of corporations authorized to receive money on deposits (Art. XIII, Sec. 3):
Yes--1,078,170 (Passed) No--824,968

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Prohibiting the levy or collection of an excise tax on the sale or purchase of food for human consumption off the premises where sold (Art. XII, Sec. 12):
Yes--1,585,327 (Passed) No--719,966

NOVEMBER 8, 1938

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To provide for the original appointment of judges of the Supreme Court and Courts of Appeals (Art. IV, Sec. 1 to be supplemented by adding Secs. 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f and 1g; and amending Secs. 2, 6, 10, 13, 14, 15 and 18):
Yes--621,011 No--1,237,443 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 7, 1939

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Relative to a State Board of Education (Art. IV, Sec. 4):
Yes--747,545 No--1,137,054 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Relative to old age pensions (Art. XII, Sec. 13):
Yes--464,670 No--1,546,207 (Failed)

Requirements necessary to qualify initiative petitions (Art. II, Sec. 1h):
Yes--406,612 No--1,485,919 (Failed)

LAWS PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:

Relative to civil service eligibility lists, certification, sick leave and layoffs in the classified service:
Yes--634,269 No--1,132,279 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 3, 1942

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Relative to vacancies in judicial office (Art. IV, Sec. 13):
Yes--954,704 (Passed) No--448,981

NOVEMBER 7, 1944

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To permit the use of temporary or substitute judges in the Supreme Court (Art. IV, Sec. 2):
Yes--1,429,635 (Passed) No--611,276

Jurisdiction of the Court of Appeals (Art. IV, Sec. 6):
Yes--1,279,216 (Passed) No--633,813

NOVEMBER 4, 1947

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To provide a bonus to veterans (Art. VIII, Sec. 2b):
Yes--1,497,804 (Passed) No--478,701

Six year term for judges of probate courts, and to eliminate the provision that their compensation be payable out of the county treasury (Art. IV, Sec. 7; Art. XVII, Sec. 2):
Yes--855,106 (Passed) No--692,061

To increase the number of members of the Sinking Fund Commission to include the Governor and the Treasurer of State (Art. VIII, Sec. 8):
Yes--782,158 (Passed) No--762,129

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Relative to the prohibition of the expenditure of money from motor vehicles license taxes and gasoline taxes for other than highway and related purposes (Art. XII, Sec. 5a):
Yes--1,037,650 (Passed) No--669,718

NOVEMBER 8, 1949

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To provide that each county may have more than one probate judge (Art. IV, Sec. 7):
Yes--874,291 No--876,647 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Providing that electors of the State of Ohio may vote for candidates only by separately indicating their vote for each candidate (Art. V, Sec. 2a):
Yes--1,007,693 (Passed) No--750,206

PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To permit the manufacture and sale of colored oleomargarine:
Yes--1,282,206 (Passed) No--799,473

NOVEMBER 6, 1951

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To provide that each county may have more than 1 probate judge (Art. IV, Sec. 7):
Yes--875,083 (Passed) No--696,672

NOVEMBER 4, 1952

MANDATORY SUBMISSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION:

Shall there be a convention to revise, alter or amend the Constitution:
Yes--1,020,235 No--1,977,313 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 3, 1953

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To authorize the issuance of bonds up to $500,000,000, the proceeds thereof to be used to construct an adequate highway system for the State of Ohio (Art. VIII):
Yes--1,035,869 (Passed) No--676,496

To create a State Board of Education with power to appoint a Superintendent of Public Instruction (Art. VI, Sec. 4):
Yes--913,134 (Passed) No--693,624

Relative to militia duty for all male citizens, by removing the word "white" as a designation from those eligible or required to serve in the state militia (Art. IX, Sec. 1):
Yes--905,059 (Passed) No--650,567

To eliminate two conflicts with the United States Constitution (Art. II, Sec. 1 and Sec. 27):
Yes--1,004,862 (Passed) No--405,210

To eliminate an obsolete provision concerning the eligibility of women to offices (Art. XV, Sec. 4):
Yes--1,092,268 (Passed) No--500,380

Relating to the payment of adjusted compensation to soldiers of World War 1 (Art. VIII, Sec. 2a):
Yes--984,014 (Passed) No--616,113

Relative to the election of militia officers (Art. IX, Sec. 2):
Yes--755,725 (Passed) No--622,245

To repeal sections which authorized the appointment of three commissioners to revise, reform, simplify, and abridge the practice, pleadings, forms, and proceedings of the courts immediately following the adoption of the Constitution of 1851. (Art. XIV, Secs. 1,2 and 3):
Yes--789,511 (Passed) No--541,477

Relating to officials in office November 7, 1905 (Art. XVII, Sec.3):
Yes--835,195 (Passed) No--493,099

NOVEMBER 2, 1954

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Four-year terms of office for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, and to limit the office of Governor to two successive terms (Art. III, Sec. 2; Art. XVII, Secs. 1 and 2):
Yes--1,165,650 (Passed) No--933,716

Four-year terms for members of the Ohio Senate and House of Representatives (Art. XI, Secs. 1, 3, 6, 9, 10 and 11):
Yes--945,373 No--1,081,099 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 8, 1955

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To provide for a long range building program for public buildings and structures excluding highways, and for issuance of $150,000.000 in securities to provide the funds therefore (Art. VIII):
Yes--1,154,976 (Passed) No--909,030

To provide that the compensation of any officer may be increased or diminished during his existing terms (Art. II, Sec. 20):
Yes--793,384 No--1,142,738 (Failed)

To provide that the compensation of judges of the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, Probate Court, and the Court of Common Pleas, and of other courts inferior to the Court of Appeals, may be increased or diminished during their term of office (Art. IV, Sec. 14):
Yes--849,677 No--1,107,646 (Failed)

PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To increase unemployment compensation:
Yes--865,326 No--1,481,339 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 6, 1956

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To pay a bonus to veterans of the Korean conflict (Art. VIII):
Yes--2,202,510 (Passed) No--889,245
Increasing the terms of members of the State Senate to four years (Art. II, Sec. 2 and Art. XI, Sec. 1, 6, 9, 10 and 11):
Yes--1,636,449 (Passed) No--1,214,643

NOVEMBER 5, 1957

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To permit the appointment to state offices of persons not possessing the qualifications of an elector of the state (Art. XV, Sec. 4):
Yes--696,372 No--1,040,638 (Failed)

To permit new residents of the state, who have not yet attained the qualifications of electors by one year's residence, to vote for President and Vice President only (Art. V. Sec. 1):
Yes--1,072,396 (Passed) No--658,244

To permit the electors of counties to adopt county charters (Art. X, Sec. 3):
Yes--832,912 (Passed) No--799,094

NOVEMBER 4, 1958

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To permit the electors of the counties to form metropolitan federations (Art. X, Sec. 5):
Yes--1,108,383 No--1,410,277 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To forbid labor contracts which established union membership as a condition for continuing employment (called "right to work") (Art. I, Sec. 1a):
Yes--1,160,324 No--2,001,512 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 3, 1959

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To remove the limitation on the sale of water and sewage services by municipalities outside their corporate limits (Art. XVIII, Sec. 6):
Yes--1,085,378 (Passed) No--775,610

To permit the General Assembly to create additional judgeships in Courts of Appeals where the press of business requires (Art. IV, Sec. 6):
Yes--1,028,914 (Passed) No--809,957

NOVEMBER 7, 1961

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To establish a different method of filling vacancies in the General Assembly (Art. II, Sec. 2):
Yes--1,251,105 (Passed) No--650,064

Continuity of state government in case of emergency caused by enemy attack (Art. II, Sec. 42):
Yes--1,394,429 (Passed) No--516,992

To increase the age limits for the militia, provide for calling out the militia in time of disaster, and to conform the Constitution of Ohio to federal law (Art. IX, Secs. 1, 3 and 4):
Yes--947,130 (Passed) No--944,705

To provide for appointments being made subject to the advice and consent of the Senate (Art. III, Sec. 21):
Yes--1,168,831 (Passed) No--642,512

NOVEMBER 6, 1962

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To limit the power of the state to forbid the sale of certain goods and services on Sunday (Art. I, Sec. 21):
Yes--1,274,792 No--1,697,433 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 5, 1963

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To raise the public debt limit by 250,000,000 dollars to permit the state to issue bonds in that amount for public improvements (Art. VIII, Sec. 2f):
Yes--1,397,971 (Passed) No--922,687

MAY 5, 1964

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To raise the public debt limit by 500,000,000 dollars to permit the state to issue bonds in that amount for highways (Art. VIII, Sec. 2g):
Yes--1,011,817 (Passed) No--538,684

MAY 4, 1965

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To guarantee loans to residents attending institutions of higher education (Art. VI, Sec. 5):
Yes--847,927 (Passed) No--438,945

Bond issue for development (Art. VIII, Sec. 2h):
Yes--715,642 (Passed) No--548,557

To apportion the House of Representatives (Art. XI, Secs. 1, 3, 8, 10 and 11; Art. XI, Secs. 4 and 5):
Yes--595,288 No--681,283 (Failed)

To guarantee loans for industrial development (Art. VIII, Sec. 13):
Yes--711,031 (Passed) No--542,802

NOVEMBER 2, 1965

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To authorize the same person to serve as judge of more than one court in counties of less than 40,000 population (Art. IV, Sec. 23):
Yes--1,194,966 (Passed) No--1,073,671

To authorize the creation of an urban service authority (Art. X, Secs. 5 and 6):
Yes--892,657 No--1,346,597 (Failed)

PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To amend the school foundation program and to increase taxes to support it:
Yes--805,762 No--1,717,724 (Failed)

MAY 2, 1967

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Relative to the creation of the Ohio Bond Commission (Art. VIII, Sec. 21):
Yes--508,364 No--1,022,078 (Failed)

To provide for the apportionment of the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate (Art. II, Sec. 3; Art. XI, Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10):
Yes--699,021 No--850,068 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 7, 1967

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To provide a method for the apportionment of the House of Representatives and Senate into single member districts (Art. II, Secs. 2, 3; Art. XI, Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15):
Yes--1,315,736 (Passed) No--908,010

MAY 7, 1968

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Disposition of school and ministerial funds (Art. VI, Sec. 1):
Yes--847,861 (Passed) No--695,368

Filling vacancies in the House of Representatives of the General Assembly (Art. II, Sec. 11):
Yes--1,020,500 (Passed) No---487,938

Administration and organization of the Ohio Judicial System (Art. IV, Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12 and 14; Art. XI, Secs. 12 and 13):
Yes--925,481 (Passed) No--556,530

NOVEMBER 5, 1968

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Issuance of bonds or other obligations for highways and for other capital improvements (Art. VIII, Sec. 2i):
Yes--1,732,512 (Passed) No--1,550,959

To permit the General Assembly to grant homestead exemptions for certain residents (Art. XII, Sec. 2):
Yes--1,382,016 No--1,825,615 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 4, 1969

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To lower the voting age from twenty-one to nineteen years (Art. V, Sec. 1):
Yes--1,226,592 No--1,274,334 (Failed)

To provide for the elimination of the short term election of state officers to fill a vacancy, where the remainder of the term is less than one year (Art. III, Sec. 18; Art. XVII, Sec. 2):
Yes--1,432,960 (Passed) No--795,813

NOVEMBER 3, 1970

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To permit enactment of laws reducing the valuation of the homestead and taxes for residents sixty-five years of age and over (Art. XII, Sec. 2):
Yes--2,115,557 (Passed) No--711,761

To reduce the voter residency requirement from one year to six months (Art. V, Sec. 1):
Yes--1,702,600 (Passed) No--1,073,058

To allow newspaper advertising in lieu of mailed notice of proposed municipal charter amendments (Art. XVIII, Sec. 9):
Yes--1,326,818 (Passed) No--1,212,814

NOVEMBER 2, 1971

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To require newspaper in lieu of mail notice of laws, proposed laws, or proposed amendments to the constitution (Art. II, Sec. 1g):
Yes--1,645,961 (Passed) No--900,549

NOVEMBER 7, 1972

MANDATORY SUBMISSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION:

Shall there be a convention to revise, alter or amend the constitution:
Yes--1,291,267 No--2,142,534 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Conditions for Prohibitions Upon the Levy of a Tax on Income, Except a Municipal Income Tax, or Increasing the Rates Thereof, Without the Approval of a Majority of the Voting Electors (Art. XII, Sec. 8):
Yes--1,164,653 No--2,571,516 (Failed)

MAY 8, 1973

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To authorize the state to conduct lotteries, the net proceeds of which shall be paid into the general revenue fund of the state (Art. XV, Sec. 6):
Yes--973,956 (Passed) No--547,655

To permit the obtaining of possession before payment in the taking of property for water and sewage purposes (Art. I, Sec. 19):
Yes--405,035 No--993,245 (Failed)

To repeal a section of the Ohio Constitution relative to disqualification from holding public office (Art. II, Sec. 5):
Yes--530,232 No--848,743 (Failed)

To repeal a section of the Ohio Constitution relative to a Supreme Court Commission (Art. IV, Sec. 22):
Yes--563,919 No--692,623 (Failed)

*Relative to Amendments to Court rules of practice and procedure (Art. IV, Sec. 5):
Yes--580,106 No--679,223 (Failed)

*Relative to the Compensation of Judges (Art. IV, Sec. 6):
Yes--646,384 No--677,787 (Failed)

Relative to the administration, organization and procedures of the General Assembly (Proposing to amend Sections 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 16 of Art. II, to enact new Sections 8 and 15 or Art. II, and to repeal Sections 8, 15, 17, 18, 19 and 25 of Art. II):
Yes--680,870 (Passed) No--572,980

NOVEMBER 6, 1973

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To permit agricultural land to be valued for taxation in accordance with its agricultural use (Art. II, Sec. 36):
Yes--1,810,630 (Passed) No--567,189

To authorize the General Assembly to provide by law for the amount of income which is exempt from taxation (Art. XII, Sec. 8):
Yes--1,299,882 (Passed) No--883,123

Relative to the Administration and Organization of the Courts of Ohio (Art. IV, Secs. 1, 4, 5 and 6):
Yes--1,317,379 (Passed) No--778,466

To authorize the issuance of bonds or notes to provide a veterans bonus for Vietnam and other military service (Art. VIII, Sec. 2j):
Yes--1,650,120 (Passed) No--647,629

*Presented as separate questions at request of legislature.

MAY 7, 1974

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To equalize the compensation of Public Officers and Members of the General Assembly (Art. II, Secs. 20 and 31):
Yes--611,726 No--747,518 (Failed)

To permit increases in the compensation of Public Officers with more than two years remaining in their terms (Art. II, Sec. 20a):
Yes--365,921 No--992,978 (Failed)

To provide for preparation of ballot language on constitutional amendments proposed by the General Assembly, to provide procedures for timely challenges to such language, and to provide information to voters about such amendments (Art. XVI, Sec. 1):
Yes--964,885 (Passed) No--376,022

NOVEMBER 5, 1974

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To permit laws reducing real estate taxes on the homesteads of permanently and totally disabled residents (Art. XII, Sec. 2):
Yes--2,266,355 (Passed) No--492,813

To repeal a section of the Ohio Constitution which requires the Governor to appoint a Superintendent of Public Works for a one-year term (Art. VII, Sec. 12):
Yes--1,463,408 (Passed) No--995,748

To include the following among the purposes for which public industrial development revenue bonds may be issued and loan guarantee programs undertaken, without obligating or pledging moneys raised by taxation: 1. The preservation of existing jobs; 2. The control of air, water and thermal pollution; 3. The disposal of solid waste, and 4. The construction of electric and gas utility services facilities for pollution control or solid waste disposal (Art. VIII, Sec. 13):
Yes--1,613,444 (Passed) No--882,778

NOVEMBER 4, 1975

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To create and preserve jobs by the authorization of tax incentives to industrial plants (Art. XII, Sec. 13):
Yes--573,874 No--2,164,957 (Failed)

To authorize the issuance of bonds and notes in an amount not to exceed one billion seven hundred fifty million dollars ($1,750,000,000) to be paid from an additional levy of nine-tenths (9/10) of one cent (1¢) per gallon gasoline tax, commencing April 1, 1976 and from other highway funds and the general revenue fund if the additional gasoline tax moneys are insufficient, for the development, restoration, and upgrading of highways and other transportation facilities (Art. VIII, Sec. 2k):
Yes--439,041 No--2,304,854 (Failed)

Relative to the authority of the state, municipal corporations and counties to provide assistance with respect to housing and nursing, extended care and other health facilities (Art. VIII, Sec. 14):
Yes--869,437 No--1,882,454 (Failed)

To authorize the issuance of bonds and notes in the amount not to exceed two billion seven hundred fifty million dollars ($2,750,000,000), with the principal and interest to be paid by an additional levy of seven-tenths (7/10) of one (1) per cent sales and use tax commencing July 1, 1976, and from the general revenue fund, if such additional tax moneys are insufficient, for capital improvements for cities, villages, counties, and other subdivisions and for other capital improvements including energy facilities and heart and cancer facilities (Art. VIII, Sec. 21):
Yes--487,326 No--2,219,093 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To authorize laws to be passed which permit land that is devoted exclusively to outdoor recreation to be valued for tax purposes at its current value for recreational use, except land which is utilized and controlled or owned by an organization or person who discriminates against or violates the civil rights of individuals (Art. II, Sec. 36a):
Yes--1,014,425 No--1,539,423 (Failed)

To require the General Assembly to provide by law methods to give each candidate's name reasonably equal treatment on the ballot by rotation or other methods appropriate to the voting procedure used (Art. V, Sec. 2a):
Yes--1,619,219 (Passed) No--915,599

To require delegates to national conventions of political parties to be chosen by the voters in a manner provided by law (Art. V, Sec. 7):
Yes--1,653,931 (Passed) No--906,156

To permit the state, or any city, village, county, township or regional transportation authority to give or loan its credit to aid federal corporations and state agencies for reorganization of rail systems in the state. Laws may be passed to reduce the taxation on property used to provide the state with rail transportation service and to permit the state to reimburse local governments for revenue lost as a result of such tax reductions. Moneys raised by taxation shall not be obligated or pledged for the payment of bonds or other obligations issued pursuant to this section (Art. VIII, Sec. 14):
Yes--871,726 No--1,614,597 (Failed)

To permit the general assembly to authorize and regulate the operation of bingo conducted by charitable organizations for charitable purposes (Art. XV, Sec. 6):
Yes--1,405,453 (Passed) No--1,205,009

JUNE 8, 1976

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To require the Lieutenant Governor to be elected jointly with the Governor, and to provide for the duties of the Lieutenant Governor (Art. III, Sec. 3; Art. V, Sec. 2a; adopt Art. III, Sec. 1a, 1b; repeal Art. III, Sec. 16):
Yes--1,085,175 (Passed) No--689,244

To provide rail transportation services (Adopt Sec. 14 of Art. VIII):
Yes--775,697 No--953,322 (Failed)

To authorize issuance of bonds for projects to conserve energy or energy resources (Art. VIII, Sec. 13):
Yes--819,424 No--833,454 (Failed)

Relative to the qualifications of electors and to remove unconstitutional and unnecessary language (Art. V, Secs. 1 and 4; repeal Art. V, Secs. 3 and 5):
Yes--975,196 (Passed) No--743,060

Relative to elections, terms of office and vacancies and to remove unnecessary language (Art. XVII, Secs. 1 and 2):
Yes--954,446 (Passed) No--668,159

To require political divisions to make provisions for payment of debt from taxation or other sources and to specify property tax limitations (Adopt Art. XII, Sec. 7; repeal Art. XII, Sec. 11):
Yes--675,012 No--890,896 (Failed)

To require a return of not less than 50% of the estate taxes to political subdivisions, etc. (Art. XII, Secs. 4 and 9):
Yes--951,310 (Passed) No--699,823

To consolidate into one section provisions for imposition of taxes and to clarify language (Adopt Art. XII, Sec. 3; repeal Art. XII, Secs. 7, 8, 10 and 12):
Yes--918,450 (Passed) No--712,489

NOVEMBER 2, 1976

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Relative to limiting the rates which may be charged to residential consumers for fixed amounts of gas and electricity (Adopt Art. XIX):
Yes--1,247,388 No--2,334,816 (Failed)

Relative to providing for representation of residential utility regulatory actions affecting their interests (Adopt Art. XX):
Yes--1,092,781 No--2,557,265 (Failed)

Relative to establishing procedures for legislative hearings and approval of safety features of nuclear power plants and related facilities (Adopt Art. XV, Sec. 11):
Yes--1,150,360 No--2,462,000 (Failed)

Relative to simplifying the procedures for initiative and referendum (Adopt Sec. 1 of Art. II and Art. XIV; repeal Secs. 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f and 1g of Art. II):
Yes--1,175,410 No--2,407,960 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To provide for certain provisions in regard to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor (Adopt Secs. 15, 16 and 17 of Art. III; repeal Secs. 15 and 17 of Art. III):
Yes--2,388,184 (Passed) No--1,048,967

To eliminate from the Constitution obsolete and unnecessary provisions (Repeal Secs. 2, 5 and 8 of Art. XV):
Yes--2,284,178 (Passed) No--1,129,165

To require the declaration of election results for state executive officers at the next regular session of the General Assembly (Art. III, Sec. 3; repeal Sec. 4 of Art. III):
Yes--2,297,422 (Passed) No--1,103,822

NOVEMBER 8, 1977

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To provide that a person is entitled to vote if he has been registered for thirty days. Elector failing to vote at least once in four consecutive years must register again before voting. (Amends Sec. 1 of Art. V):
Yes--1,964,361 (Passed) No--1,225,852

Prohibits use of leghold traps or any trapping device causing prolonged suffering (Adopts Art. XIX):
Yes--1,169,068 No--2,027,642 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Authorizes state, municipal corporations and counties to lend aid and credit and issue bonds or notes for housing; validates bond authority of Sub. H.B. 870 (Amends Art. VIII by adopting Sec. 14):
Yes--1,120,885 No--1,773,779 (Failed)

Revises limitations upon state indebtedness (Adopt Sec. 1 of Art. VIII; repeal Secs. 1, 2, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 2h, 3, 7, 9 and 10 of Art. VIII and Sec. 6 of Art. XII):
Yes--759,327 No--1,999,791 (Failed)

JUNE 6, 1978

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Requires the Ohio Ballot Board to write ballot language for the state issues; limits advertising of proposals and make requirements for circulating and signing initiative and referendum petitions (Amends Sec. 1g of Art. II):
Yes--720,661 (Passed) No--379,067

NOVEMBER 7, 1978

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To modify the procedures by which the voters of a county may adopt, amend, or repeal a charter form of county government (Amends Sec. 4 of Art. X):
Yes--1,297,846 (Passed) No--1,039,259

Allows the General Assembly to regulate prison labor by law; removes Constitutional restrictions on sale of prison-made goods (Amends Sec. 41, of Art. II):
Yes--1,281,941 (Passed) No-1,083,814

NOVEMBER 6, 1979

PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To provide mandatory deposits on all bottles and prohibits sale of beverages in metal cans that have detachable pull-tabs.
Yes--768,898 No--2,019,834 (Failed)

JUNE 3, 1980

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To authorize public financing of electric generating facilities by allowing non-profit corporations to become political subdivisions to operate electric utilities; permits the legislature to pass laws regulating such utilities; allows such political subdivisions to issue bonds (Art. VIII, Sec. 14):
Yes--793,256 No--1,124,596 (Failed)

To authorize the State, municipal corporations and counties to borrow money for the purpose of making available lower cost financing of privately owned housing for persons of low and moderate income (Art. VIII, Sec. 14 (or 15)):
Yes--797,020 No--1,137,028 (Failed)

To authorize the issuance of bonds and notes for construction, restoration or other permanent improvements of bridges, highways, roads, streets and highway rest areas (Art. VIII, Sec. 2k):
Yes--815,011 No--1,084,438 (Failed)

To change the method by which copies of proposed municipal or county charters, or changes to existing charters, are delivered to registered voters (Art. X, Sec. 4 and Art. XVIII, Sec. 8):
Yes--868,199 No--956,204 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 4, 1980

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To authorize the general assembly to classify real property for tax purposes (Art. XII, Sec. 2a):
Yes--1,973,344 (Passed) No--1,751,277

PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITON:

To restructure state taxes on personal income, real estate, corporations, and personal property:
Yes--880,671 No--3,000,028 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 3, 1981

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To authorize the sale of workers compensation insurance coverage by private insurance companies (Art. II, Sec. 35):
Yes--572,227 No--2,164,395 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To abolish the present methods of establishing general assembly and congressional districts, to create the commission for reapportionment and re- districting, and to require the commission to approve the plan which is most compact. (Art. II, Sec. 2 and Art. XI):
Yes--1,093,485 1,513,502 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 2, 1982

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To allow the state to issue revenue bonds to make financing available for low cost housing (Art. VIII, Sec. 14 or 15):
Yes--1,827,453 (Passed) No--1,356,336

To authorize the Ohio Rail Transportation Authority to build high speed rail system and levy a 1% sales tax to build it (Art. VIII, Sec. 14):
Yes--708,605 No--2,420,593 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To provide for electing members of the Public Utilities Commission and provide public financing of their campaigns (Art. XIX):
Yes--1,053,274 No--2,175,893 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 8, 1983

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To raise the minimum age to 21 years for the consumption of beer (Art. XV, Sec. 11):
Yes--1,386,959 No--1,965,469 (Failed)

To require a 3/5 Majority of the General Assembly to raise taxes (Art. II, Sec. 15):
Yes--1,354,320 No--1,967,129 (Failed)

To repeal all taxes passed since 1982 (Art. XII, Sec. 3a):
Yes--1,452,061 No--1,883,270 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 5, 1985

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To allow the state to issue bonds to finance coal research (Art. VIII, Sec. 15):
Yes--1,439,344 (Passed) No--807,647

NOVEMBER 3, 1987

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

The entire net proceeds of the state lotteries be used solely for the support of elementary, secondary, vocational, and special education programs (Art. XV, Sec. 6):
Yes--1,984,905 (Passed) No--564,421

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Permit the state to finance or assist local governments in financing the construction of improvement of roads and bridges, waste water treatment systems, water supply systems, solid waste disposal facilities, and storm water and sanitary collection, storage, and treatment facilities (Art. VIII, Sec. 2k):
Yes--1,674,913 (Passed) No--689,383

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Change the way Ohio selects its Supreme Court and Appeals Court Judges by abolishing the direct election method and replacing it with an appointment system. (Adopt Sec. 7 and amend Secs. 6 and 13 of Art. IV.
Yes--878,683 No--1,600,588 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 7, 1989

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Lieutenant Governor, the Governor shall nominate a Lieutenant Governor who shall take office upon confirmation by vote of a majority of the members elected to each house of the general assembly (Art. III, Sec. 17a)
Yes--1,641,719 (Passed) No--873,114

NOVEMBER 6, 1990

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To allow the state and political subdivisions to provide or assist in providing housing and housing assistance by grants, loans, subsidies, guarantees, or other means as determined by the general assembly. The state may provide funding by issuing obligations, including obligations backed by appropriations of state revenues, but the state's full faith and credit shall not be pledged to retire obligations issued for this purpose. (Art. VIII, Sec. 16)
Yes--1,705,528 (Passed) No--1,517,466

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To permit the general assembly to allow surviving spouses of persons who were receiving a homestead tax reduction at the time of death to continue receiving the reduction if the surviving spouse: (Article XII, Sec. 2)

1. Is 60 years old or older, and
2. Continues to live in a qualifying homestead.

Yes--2,967,935 (Passed) No--372,950

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

1.To authorize the licensing of a casino resort hotel, including games by electronic and mechanical devices, for profit, in the City of Lorain as a pilot project for a period not yet specified, but for not less than five years, if approved by the voters of the City of Lorain pursuant to laws required to be enacted by the general assembly.

2. To allow the voters of the City of Lorain to vote on the continuation of the casino after the expiration of the pilot period.

3. If after three years the Lorain pilot project is determined by the general assembly to be a success, then the state shall be divided into seven districts. A license to establish a single casino facility in each district may be issued if approved by the voters both in the district and in the political subdivision in which the facility would be located.

4. To levy taxes on gross revenues of games of chance at licensed casinos, on the state lottery, and on horse-racing with pari-mutuel wagering for education and treatment of compulsive gambling, and to levy taxes on gross revenues of games of chance at licensed casinos for other special purposes. (Art. XV, Sec. 6)

Yes--1,270,387 No--2,098,725 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 3, 1992

MANDATORY SUBMISSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION:

Shall there be a convention to revise, alter or amend the constitution:

Yes--1,672,373 No--2,660,270 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To limit successive terms of office for United States Senator from Ohio to two terms and United States Representative from Ohio to four terms.

Yes--2,897,123 (Passed) No--1,476,461

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To limit successive terms of office for State Senator to two terms and State Representative to four terms.

Yes--2,982,285 (Passed) No--1,378,009

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To limit the successive terms of office for Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer of State, Attorney General, or Auditor of State to two terms.

Yes--3,028,288 (Passed) No--1,349,244

PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To require businesses to provide labels and/or warnings in the use or release of toxic chemical substances.

Yes--1,007,882 No--3,587,734 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 2, 1993

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

(Bond Issue/Capital Improvements for Parks)

To improve state and local parks, recreation areas and to enhance the use and enjoyment of Ohio's Natural Resources.
Yes--1,547,841(Passed) No--1,008,172

NOVEMBER 8, 1994

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To change the procedure for appeals of cases in which the death penalty is imposed.
Yes--2,199,791 (Passed) No--936,323

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To afford victims of criminal offenses constitutional rights.
Yes--2,447,260 (Passed) No--704,650

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To increase opportunities to the residents of the State of Ohio for higher education and to encourage Ohio families to save ahead to better afford higher education.
Yes--1,816,087 (Passed) No--1,191,116

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDEMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

Prohibiting the current wholesale tax on soft drinks and other carbonated, non-alcoholic beverages.
Yes--2,228,874 (Passed) No--1,126,728

NOVEMBER 7, 1995

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To limit the governor’s authority to reduce criminal sentences by requiring the governor to follow regulations prescribed by law when granting commutation to a person convicted of a crime.
Yes--1,816,213 (Passed) No--742,590

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

In order to preserve and expand public infrastructure of local governments and the state including highways and to improve Ohio’s economic well-being.
Yes--1,408,834 (Passed) No--865,698

NOVEMBER 5, 1996

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To Authorize the establishment of River Boat Casino Gambling in Ohio.
Yes--1,639,955 No--2,659,076 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 4, 1997

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To Provide that a Court may Deny Bail to a Person Charged with a Felony Offense where the Proof is evident or the presumption great that the Person Committed the Offense and that the person Poses a Substantial Risk of Serious Physical Danger to Others.
(Art. I, Sec. 9)
Yes--2,168,949 (Passed) No--803,658

LAW PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:

Am. S.B. No. 45—Relating to and Amending Ohio's Workers' Compensation Laws.
Yes--1,305,040 No--1,730,502 (Failed)

MAY 5, 1998

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To adopt Sections 2(n) and 17 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to authorize the state to issue bonds and other obligations to pay for or assist in paying for capital facilities of local public school districts and state-supported and state assisted institutions of higher education.
Yes--714,823 No--1,101,625 (Failed)

EDUCATION LEGISLATION SUBJECT TO VOTER APPROVAL:
(PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY)

To enact the provisions of House Bill 697 levying a statewide one percent sales and use tax, to be used one-half for school operations, education technology, school facilities and debt service for school facilities, and one-half for additional property tax relief for homesteads.
Yes--383,913 No--1,527,536 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 3, 1998

PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION:

To amend Ohio Revised Code sections 1531.01 and 1531.02 to prohibit the hunting or taking of mourning doves in Ohio.
Yes--1,348,533 No--1,976,981 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 2,1999

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

To adopt sections 2(n) and 17 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to authorize the issuance of bonds and other obligations to pay cost of construction, renovation and repair of facilities for Ohio's public schools and state-supported colleges and universities.
Yes--1,303,830 (Passed) No--840,240

NOVEMBER 7, 2000

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
Issue No. 1

Authorize the state to issue bonds and other obligations to pay the costs of projects for environmental conservation and revitalization purposes.

Yes--2,197,773 (Passed) NO--1,628,716

NOVEMBER 5, 2002

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:
Issue No. 1

In order to provide for persons charged with or convicted of illegal possession or use of a drug, in certain circumstances, to choose treatment instead of incarceration. (Drug treatment in lieu of incarceration)

Yes--1,012,682 No--2,048,770 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 4, 2003

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
Issue No. 1

To adopt Section 2p of Article VIII to create jobs and stimulate economic growth in Ohio; to support science and technology based research and development purposes…

Yes--1,195,706 No--1,235,323 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 2, 2004

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:
Issue No. 1

Only a union between one man and one woman may be a marriage valid in or recognized by this state and its political subdivisions. This state and its political subdivisions shall not create or recognize a legal status for relationships of unmarried individuals that intends to approximate the design, qualities, significance or effect of marriage.

Yes--3,329,335 (Passed) No--2,065,462

NOVEMBER 8, 2005

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
Issue No. 1

To adopt Section 2p of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio for the purpose of creating and preserving jobs and stimulating economic growth.

Yes—1,512,669 (Passed) No—1,282,571

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:
Issue No. 2

To adopt Section 6 of Article XVII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio in order to expand to all electors the choice to vote by absentee ballot in all elections.

Yes—1,065,109 No—1,840,658 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:
Issue No. 3

To adopt Section 5 of Article XVII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio in order to establish revised limits on political contributions, establish prohibitions regarding political contributions and provide for revised public disclosure requirements of campaign contributions and expenditures.

Yes—955,334 No—1,927,502 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:
Issue No. 4

To amend Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to provide for the creation of a state redistricting commission with responsibility for creating legislative districts.

Yes—871,898 No—2,005,952 (Failed)

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT – Issue No. 5
(Proposed by Initiative Petition)

To adopt Section 4 of Article XVII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to create a newly appointed board to administer elections.

Yes—854,918 No--2,001,983 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 7, 2006

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:
Issue No. 2
(Minimum Wage)

To adopt Section 34a of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to raise the state minimum wage rate.

Yes—2,205,850 (Passed) No—1,687,996

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:
ISSUE NO. 3
(Ohio Learn & Earn)

To adopt Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to provide moneys for scholarships/education funding by permitting limited gaming.

Yes—1,753,452 No—2,286,840 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:
ISSUE NO. 4
(Smoke Less)

To adopt Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to provide a smoking ban in enclosed areas with certain exceptions.

Yes—1,450,164 No—2,590,448 (Failed)

PROPOSED LAW BY INITIATIVE PETITION (SMOKE FREE) – ISSUE NO. 5

To enact Chapter 3794. of the Ohio Revised Code to restrict smoking in places of employment and most places open to the public.

Yes—2,370,314 (Passed) No—1,679,833

NOVEMBER 4, 2008

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
Issue No. 1

To provide for earlier filing deadlines for statewide ballot issues.

Yes – 3,397,389 (Passed) No- 1,550,365

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
Issue No. 2

To authorize the state to issue bonds to continue the Clear Ohio program for environmental revitalization and conservation.
Yes – 3,574,294 (Passed) No – 1,585,410

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
Issue No. 3

To protect private property rights in ground water, lakes and other watercourses.
Yes – 3,631,380 (Passed) No – 1,415,933

LAWS PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:
Issue No. 5

Legislation making changes to check cashing lending sometimes known as "payday lending" fees, interest rates and practices.
Yes – 3,396,968 (Passed) No – 1,943,721

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:
Issue No. 6

Proposed by initiative petition for a casino near Wilmington in Southwest Ohio and distribute to all Ohio counties a tax on the casino.
Yes – 2,092,074 No - 3,466,574 (Failed)

NOVEMBER 3, 2009

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
Issue No. 1

To authorize the state to issue bonds to provide for compensation to veterans of the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq conflicts.
Yes – 2,277,521 (Passed) No- 876,520

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
Issue No. 2

To create the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board to establish and implement standards of care for livestock and poultry.
Yes – 2,020,851 (Passed) No- 1,148,538

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:
Issue No. 3

To allow for one casino each in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, and Toledo and distribute to all Ohio counties a tax on the casinos.
Yes – 1,713,288 (Passed) No- 1,519,636

MAY 4, 2010

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
Issue No. 1

To extend the Ohio Third Frontier Program by authorizing the issuance of additional general obligation bonds to promote economic growth.

Yes – 1,050,265 (Passed) No- 650,988

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
Issue No. 2

To change the location of the Columbus casino facility authorized by previous statewide vote.
Yes – 1,154,504 (Passed) No- 534,013

NOVEMBER 8, 2011

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
Issue No. 1

To increase the maximum age at which a person may be elected or appointed judge, to eliminate the authority of the General Assembly to establish courts of conciliation, and to eliminate the authority of the governor to appoint a Supreme Court Commission
Yes – 1,273,536 No- 2,080,207 (Failed)

LAWS PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SUBMITTED TO THE PEOPLE BY REFERENDUM PETITION:
Issue No. 2

Referendum on new law relative to government union contracts and other government employment contracts and policies
Yes –1,373,724 No- 2,202,404 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:
Issue No. 3

To preserve the freedom of Ohioans to choose their health care
and health care coverage
Yes – 2,268,470 (Passed) No- 1,190,385

NOVEMBER 6, 2012

MANDATORY SUBMISSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION:

Shall there be a convention to revise, alter or amend the constitution:
Yes – 1,523,271 No – 3,248,183 (Failed)

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION:
Issue No. 2

To create a state-funded commission to draw legislative and congressional districts
Yes – 1,800,105 No – 3,088,402 (Failed)

MAY 6, 2014

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Issue No. 1

To enact Section 2s of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to fund public infrastructure capital improvements by permitting the issuance of general obligation bonds.
Yes – 797,207 (Passed) No - 427,273

SUMMARY OF ACTION ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
1913 – 2015
Current as of 9/21/2015

Jon Husted
SECRETARY OF STATE

	SUBMITTED BY INITIATIVE PETITION		SUBMITTED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY			SUBMITTED BY INITIATIVE PETITION		SUBMITTED BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY	
YEAR	ADOPTED	REJECTED	ADOPTED	REJECTED	YEAR	ADOPTED	REJECTED	ADOPTED	REJECTED
1913		1	1	3	1965			4	2
1914	1	3			1966				
1915		3		1	1967			1	2
1916					1968			4	1
1917		1			1969			1	1
1918	2[1]		1		1970			3	
1919		2		1	1971			1	
1920					1972		1		
1921			1	2	1973			6	5
1922		3			1974			4	2
1923			2	1	1975		4	3	2
1924					1976		4	8	3
1925				3	1977	1	1		2
1926		1		1	1978			3	
1927					1979				
1928		1			1980			1	4
1929			1		1981		2		
1930			1		1982		1	1	1
1931				1	1983		3		
1932					1984				
1933	2		1		1985			1	
1934		2			1986				
1935					1987		1	2	
1936	1		1		1988				
1937					1989		1		
1938		1			1990		1	2	
1939		2		1	1991				
1940					1992	3			
1941					1993			1	
1942			1		1994	1		3	
1943					1995			2	
1944			2		1996		1		
1945					1997			1	
1946					1998				1
1947	1		3		1999			1	
1948					2000			1	
1949	1			1	2001				
1950					2002		1		
1951			1		2003				1
1952					2004	1			
1953			9		2005		4	1	
1954			1	1	2006	1	2		
1955			1	2	2007				
1956			2		2008		1	3	
1957			2	1	2009	1		2	
1958		1		1	2010			2	
1959			2		2011	1			1
1960					2012		1		
1961			4		2013				
1962		1			2014			1	
1963			1						
1964			1						
					TOTAL	17	51	102	48

[1] See page 5. There was a third constitutional amendment proposed by initiative petition that received enough votes to pass; however, the constitutional amendment proposed by the General Assembly modified the same provision of the Ohio Constitution and received more votes. Thus, the General Assembly-sponsored proposal became effective instead of the initiated proposal. See *State ex rel. Greenlund v. Fulton*, 99 Ohio St. 168.

This document was compiled through 1954 by Arthur A. Schwartz, Director, Legislative Reference Bureau. Most recent updates (current through 9/21/2015) were competed by the office of Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted.