

NOVEMBER 5

# BALLOT MEASURE GUIDE ON KEY INITIATIVES

— MISSOURI —

## **Proposition A – Raises the state’s minimum wage and establishes universal paid family or sick leave for workers.**

- Minimum wage workers in Missouri currently make less than \$25,000 a year. More than 1/3 of these workers are Black or Latin and nearly 1 in 3 are working women. Over 1 in 3 Missouri workers also receive no paid time to care for themselves or their families.
- Proposition A will gradually raise the state’s minimum wage to \$15/hr, after which it would rise yearly with the cost of living. The measure also allows all private sector workers the ability to earn at least 5 – 7 paid sick or family leave days.
- Proposition A gives hundreds of thousands of hardworking Missourians – including many people living with or vulnerable to HIV – a much needed raise and makes it easier for working families to take care of their health. **VOTE “YES” ON PROPOSITION A TO HELP OUR COMMUNITIES STAY HEALTHY AND THRIVE.**

## **Amendment 3 – Amends the state constitution to protect the right to make decisions about reproductive health care without government interference.**

- In 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade and allowed states to ban or severely restrict access to abortion care. In response, Missouri officials began enforcing a total abortion ban that was previously blocked.
- Amendment 3 would repeal the state’s abortion ban and recognize a state constitutional right to make personal decisions about reproductive health care, including birth control, fertility treatments, and abortion care.
- All Missourians deserve the freedom to make personal decisions about their health care, including reproductive care. **VOTE “YES” ON AMENDMENT 3 TO END THE STATE’S CRUEL ABORTION BAN AND PROTECT OUR RIGHTS.**

## **Amendment 6 – Repeals the ban on charging court fees to fund some law enforcement salaries and pensions.**

- The Missouri constitution bans the use of court fees to enhance pay and benefits for executive department officials. In 2021, the state Supreme Court ruled that this ban included a 1983 court fee funding sheriffs’ pensions. Since then, that pension system has been funded by counties and third parties.
- Very few states rely on fees to fund public pensions due to the incentive it creates for law enforcement to ramp up criminalization, which tends to harm Black and Brown communities, LGBTQ+ people, people living in poverty, and other marginalized communities. These fees are also difficult to collect and result in unstable revenue levels.
- Reinstating a fee-based funding system is unnecessary and could worsen criminalization of those most impacted by HIV. **WE RECOMMEND VOTING “NO” ON AMENDMENT 6.**

## **Amendment 7 – Bans Missouri communities from deciding what voting system to use.**

- Cities and states use a variety of voting systems to elect officials. For example, St. Louis uses “approval voting,” where voters cast a vote for each candidate in a race they support and the candidate with the most votes wins. Other places are choosing to use ranked-choice voting (RCV), which allows voters to rank their preferred candidates until someone secures a majority.
- Amendment 7 would ban cities or the state from choosing to adopt RCV or other similar election systems if they wanted. It also includes language barring immigrants from voting even though state law already bans them from doing so.
- Amendment 7 is a misleading measure that would prevent people living with HIV from deciding what voting system works best for their communities. **DON’T FALL FOR THE BAIT-AND-SWITCH; VOTE “NO” ON AMENDMENT 7.**



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