



There will be six (6) proposed constitutional amendments on the November 2008 ballot in Florida.

- ✦ 4 proposals from the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission, which is established in the Florida Constitution to convene every 20 years to examine the state budgetary process.
- ✦ 1 amendment proposed by the 2008 Legislature.
- ✦ 1 citizen's initiative.

Here is a summary of the proposals with links to the full text:

Amendment 1: Proposed by the 2008 Legislature

RELATING TO PROPERTY RIGHTS/INELIGIBLE ALIENS.--Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to delete provisions authorizing the Legislature to regulate or prohibit the ownership, inheritance, disposition, and possession of real property by aliens ineligible for citizenship.

<http://election.dos.state.fl.us/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/10-69.pdf>

Amendment 2: Proposed by Citizen Initiative (Florida4marriage.Org)

FLORIDA MARRIAGE PROTECTION AMENDMENT.--Amendment defining marriage as the legal union of only one man and one woman as husband and wife and provides that no other legal union that is treated as marriage or the substantial equivalent thereof shall be valid or recognized.

<http://election.dos.state.fl.us/initiatives/fulltext/pdf/41550-1.pdf>

Amendment 3: Proposed by the Taxation & Budget Reform Commission (TBRC)

CHANGES AND IMPROVEMENTS NOT AFFECTING THE ASSESSED VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY.--Authorizes the Legislature, by general law, to prohibit consideration of changes or improvements to residential real property which

increase resistance to wind damage and installation of renewable energy source devices as factors in assessing the property's value for ad valorem taxation purposes. Effective upon adoption, repeals the existing renewable energy source device exemption no longer in effect. <http://www.floridatbrc.org/pdf/CP4E2Final2.pdf>

Amendment 4: Proposed by the TBRC

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION OF PERPETUALLY CONSERVED LAND; CLASSIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT OF LAND USED FOR

CONSERVATION.-- Requires Legislature to provide a property tax exemption for real property encumbered by perpetual conservation easements or other perpetual conservation protections, defined by general law. Requires Legislature to provide for classification and assessment of land used for conservation purposes, and not perpetually encumbered, solely on the basis of character or use. Subjects assessment benefit to conditions, limitations, and reasonable definitions established by general law. Applies to property taxes beginning in 2010. http://www.floridatbrc.org/pdf/CP15_16Final2.pdf

Amendment 6: Proposed by the TBRC

ASSESSMENT OF WORKING WATERFRONT PROPERTY BASED UPON

CURRENT USE.--Provides for assessment based upon use of land used predominantly for commercial fishing purposes; land used for vessel launches into waters that are navigable and accessible to the public; marinas and drystacks that are open to the public; and water-dependent marine manufacturing facilities, commercial fishing facilities, and marine vessel construction and repair facilities and their support activities, subject to conditions, limitations, and reasonable definitions specified by general law. http://www.floridatbrc.org/pdf/CP6_8_34E2Final2.pdf

Amendment 8: Proposed by the TBRC

LOCAL OPTION COMMUNITY COLLEGE FUNDING.--Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to require that the Legislature authorize counties to levy a local option sales tax to supplement community college funding; requiring voter approval to levy the tax; providing that approved taxes will sunset after 5 years and may be reauthorized by the voters. <http://www.floridatbrc.org/pdf/CP35E2Final2.pdf>

