



NAACP Florida State Conference Constitutional Amendment Recommendations

For the 2020 General Election, we recommend:

- **Amendment 1 - Citizenship Requirement to Vote in Florida Elections** - This amendment provides that only United States Citizens who are at least eighteen years of age, a permanent resident of Florida, and registered to vote, as provided by law, shall be qualified to vote in a Florida election. (Sponsor – Florida Citizen Voters)
 - Pros: None
 - Cons: “Permanent resident” of Florida is intended to discourage college students from out of state to vote in Florida. Florida law is clear that only a U.S. citizen and resident of Florida who is 18 or older is eligible to vote.
 - **NAACP Recommendation: NO**

- **Amendment 2 - Raising Florida’s Minimum Wage** - Raises minimum wage to \$10.00 per hour effective September 30th, 2021. Each September 30th thereafter, minimum wage shall increase by \$1.00 per hour until the minimum wage reaches \$15.00 per hour on September 30th, 2026. From that point forward, future minimum wage increases shall revert to being adjusted annually for inflation starting September 30th, 2027. (Sponsor – Florida For A Fair Wage)
 - Pros: Ensures a living wage for families to meet their basic needs. Florida’s present minimum wage — \$8.56 an hour — was put in place by a successful initiative campaign in 2004, when it won 71 percent of the vote. It started out at \$6.15 per hour, indexed to inflation. Florida’s present minimum wage yields \$17,800 a year for a full-time worker, which doesn’t come close to a living wage for a family of four.
 - Cons: A belief that it would cost jobs and raise prices on everyday needs.
 - **NAACP Recommendation: YES**

- **Amendment 3 - All Voters Vote in Primary Elections for State Legislature, Governor, and Cabinet** - Allows all registered voters to vote in primaries for state legislature, governor, and cabinet regardless of political party affiliation. All candidates for an office, including party nominated candidates, appear on the same primary ballot. Two highest vote getters advance to general election. If only two candidates qualify, no primary is held and winner is determined in general election. Candidate’s party affiliation may appear on ballot as provided by law. Effective January 1, 2024. (Sponsor – All Voters Vote Inc.)
 - Pros: This may create increase overall competition for various races (Governor, Cabinet and state legislature) but it’s projected to have a negative impact on black candidates.
 - Cons: Would present a barrier to mainstream African-Americans seeking to win in multicultural districts based on overall demographics. Also, black candidates would generally have a tougher time getting elected.
 - **NAACP Recommendation: NO**

- **Amendment 4 - Voter Approval of Constitutional Amendments** - Requires all proposed amendments or revisions to the state constitution to be approved by the voters in two elections, instead of one, in order to take effect. The proposal applies the current thresholds for passage to each of the two elections. (Sponsor – Keep Our Constitution Clean PC)
 - Pros: None
 - Cons: This is totally unheard of that anyone should have to vote twice to get something approved. If enacted, this would have been a barrier to measures like 2018 Amendment 4 for felon disenfranchisement.
 - **NAACP Recommendation: NO**

- **Amendment 5 - Limitation on Homestead Assessments** - Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution, effective date January 1, 2021, to increase, from 2 years to 3 years, the period of time during which accrued Save-Our-Homes benefits may be transferred from a prior homestead to a new homestead. (Sponsor – The Florida Legislature)
 - Pros: Creates additional benefits for qualified homeowners; allows three years instead of the present two for people to transfer their accrued “Save Our Homes” benefit from an old home to a new one.
 - Cons: None
 - **NAACP Recommendation: YES**

- **Amendment 6 - Ad Valorem Tax Discount for Spouses of Certain Deceased Veterans Who Had Permanent, Combat-Related Disabilities** - Provides that the homestead property tax discount for certain veterans with permanent combat-related disabilities carries over to such veteran's surviving spouse who holds legal or beneficial title to, and who permanently resides on, the homestead property, until he or she remarries or sells or otherwise disposes of the property. The discount may be transferred to a new homestead property of the surviving spouse under certain conditions. The amendment takes effect January 1, 2021. (Sponsor – The Florida Legislature)
 - Pros: Creates additional benefits for spouses of certain deceased veterans.
 - Cons: None
 - **NAACP Recommendation: YES**

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Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest nonpartisan civil rights organization. Its members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities. In 1941, the NAACP Florida State Conference was formed as the 1st State Conference in the nation. For more information on the NAACP Florida State Conference, please visit www.FLNAACP.com or follow us on Twitter [@FLNAACP](https://twitter.com/FLNAACP).