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# CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMISSION

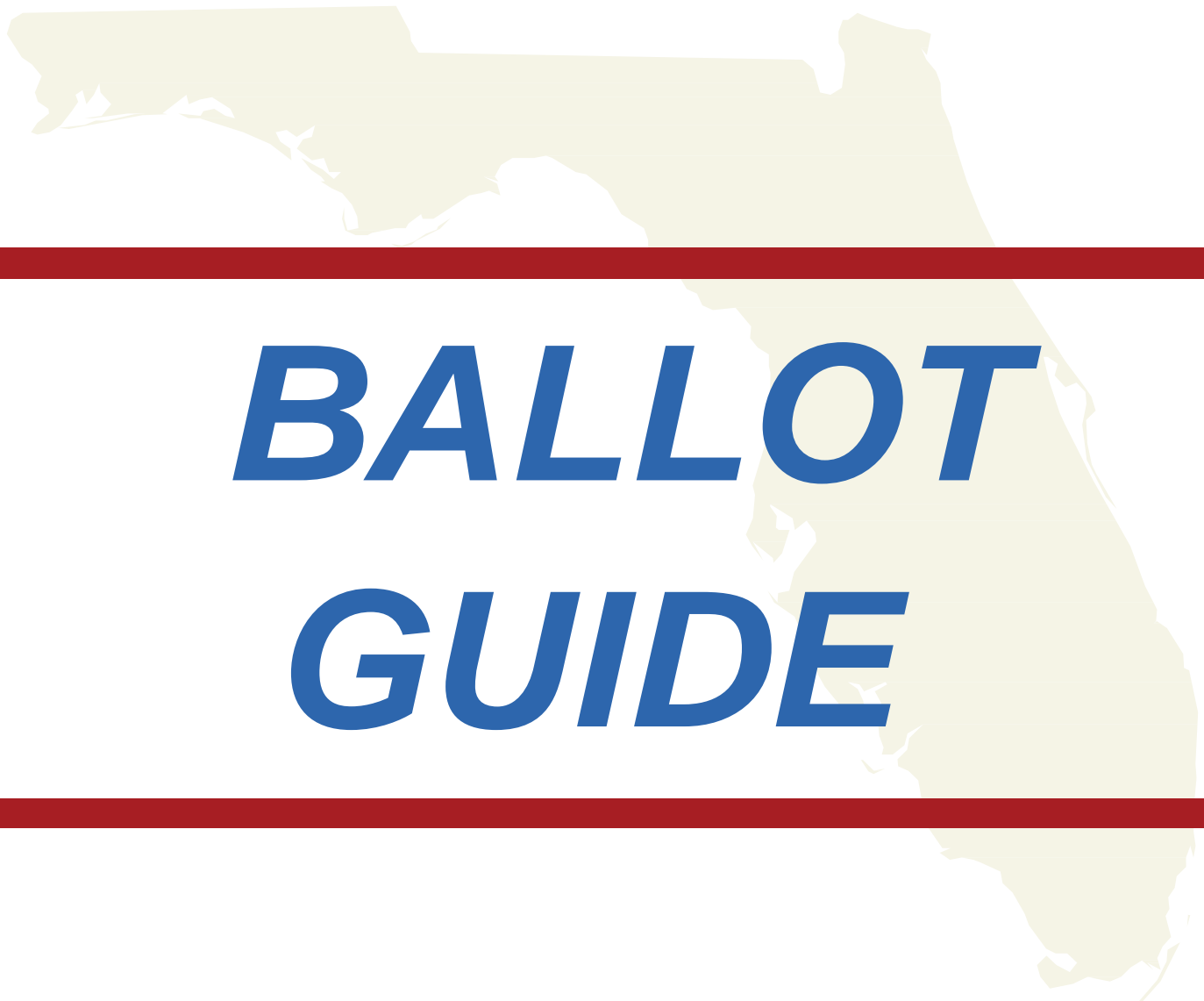
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2017 - 2018

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# ***BALLOT GUIDE***



# WHAT IS THE CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMISSION?

The Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) convenes once every 20 years to examine the Florida Constitution and propose changes for voter consideration. Created by Article XI, Section 2 of the Florida Constitution, the CRC is composed of 37 Commissioners. Proposed constitutional changes put forward by the CRC are placed on Florida's General Election ballot and must secure at least 60 percent voter approval to become part of the constitution.

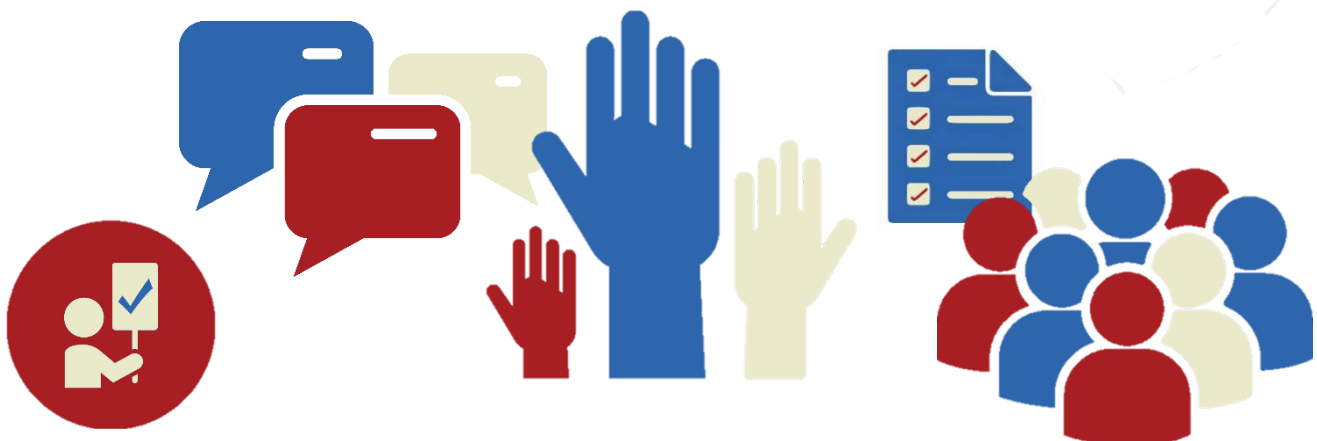
## WHAT DID THE CRC DO?

The 2017-2018 CRC held more than 15 public hearings across the State of Florida, the most of any CRC, reviewed thousands of public comments, identified issues that matter most to Floridians, and conducted months of in-depth research and debate, resulting in the CRC's recommended changes to the Florida Constitution.

On April 16, 2018, after more than a year of public meetings and deliberations, the CRC voted to place eight proposed constitutional revisions on the ballot for voter consideration. These eight revisions were submitted to the Florida Secretary of State on May 9, 2018, in the CRC's final report and will appear as constitutional amendments on the 2018 General Election ballot.

Five other constitutional amendments were previously placed on the General Election ballot by the Florida Legislature and citizen initiatives, and these amendments were numbered by the Secretary of State as Amendments 1-5. All CRC amendments will appear after these five and are numbered as Amendments 6-13.

For further information, visit the CRC website, [flcrc.gov](http://flcrc.gov), where you can read the CRC's final report, view proposal history and vote records, and much more.



# CONSTITUTIONAL REVISIONS

## WHAT DID THE CRC PLACE ON THE BALLOT?

### Amendments at a glance...

#### Amendment 6



Rights of Crime Victims;  
Judges

#### Amendment 7



First Responder and  
Military Member Survivor  
Benefits; Public Colleges  
and Universities

#### Amendment 8



School Board Term Limits  
and Duties; Public Schools

#### Amendment 9



Prohibits Offshore Oil and  
Gas Drilling; Prohibits  
Vaping in Enclosed Indoor  
Workplaces

#### Amendment 10



State and Local  
Government Structure and  
Operation

#### Amendment 11



Property Rights; Removal  
of Obsolete Provision;  
Criminal Statutes

#### Amendment 12



Lobbying and Abuse of  
Office by Public Officers

#### Amendment 13



Ends Dog Racing

# AMENDMENT 6

## Rights of Crime Victims; Judges

### Ballot Summary

Creates constitutional rights for victims of crime; requires courts to facilitate victims' rights; authorizes victims to enforce their rights throughout criminal and juvenile justice processes. Requires judges and hearing officers to independently interpret statutes and rules rather than deferring to government agency's interpretation. Raises mandatory retirement age of state justices and judges from seventy to seventy-five years; deletes authorization to complete judicial term if one-half of term has been served by retirement age.

*Want to learn more?* 

Read the full text of the amendment on the Florida Division of Elections website:

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/>



# AMENDMENT 7

## First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits; Public Colleges and Universities

### Ballot Summary

Grants mandatory payment of death benefits and waiver of certain educational expenses to qualifying survivors of certain first responders and military members who die performing official duties. Requires supermajority votes by university trustees and state university system board of governors to raise or impose all legislatively authorized fees if law requires approval by those bodies. Establishes existing state college system as constitutional entity; provides governance structure.

*Want to learn more?* 

Read the full text of the amendment on the Florida Division of Elections website:

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# AMENDMENT 8

## School Board Term Limits and Duties; Public Schools

### Ballot Summary

Creates a term limit of eight consecutive years for school board members and requires the legislature to provide for the promotion of civic literacy in public schools. Currently, district school boards have a constitutional duty to operate, control, and supervise all public schools. The amendment maintains a school board's duties to public schools it establishes, but permits the state to operate, control, and supervise public schools not established by the school board.

*Want to learn more?* 

Read the full text of the amendment on the Florida Division of Elections website:

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# AMENDMENT 9

## Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling; Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces

### Ballot Summary

Prohibits drilling for the exploration or extraction of oil and natural gas beneath all state-owned waters between the mean high water line and the state's outermost territorial boundaries. Adds use of vapor-generating electronic devices to current prohibition of tobacco smoking in enclosed indoor workplaces with exceptions; permits more restrictive local vapor ordinances.

*Want to learn more?* 

Read the full text of the amendment on the Florida Division of Elections website:

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# AMENDMENT 10

## State and Local Government Structure and Operation

### Ballot Summary

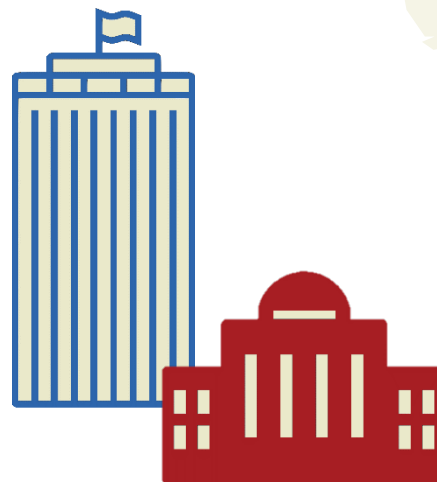
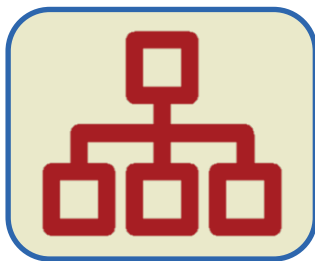
Requires legislature to retain department of veterans' affairs. Ensures election of sheriffs, property appraisers, supervisors of elections, tax collectors, and clerks of court in all counties; removes county charters' ability to abolish, change term, transfer duties, or eliminate election of these offices. Changes annual legislative session commencement date in even-numbered years from March to January; removes legislature's authorization to fix another date. Creates office of domestic security and counterterrorism within department of law enforcement.

*Want to learn more?*



Read the full text of the amendment on the Florida Division of Elections website:

<http://dos.elections.myflorida.com/initiatives/>





# AMENDMENT 11

## Property Rights; Removal of Obsolete Provision; Criminal Statutes

### Ballot Summary

Removes discriminatory language related to real property rights. Removes obsolete language repealed by voters. Deletes provision that amendment of a criminal statute will not affect prosecution or penalties for a crime committed before the amendment; retains current provision allowing prosecution of a crime committed before the repeal of a criminal statute.

*Want to learn more?* 

Read the full text of the amendment on the Florida Division of Elections website:

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# AMENDMENT 12

## Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers

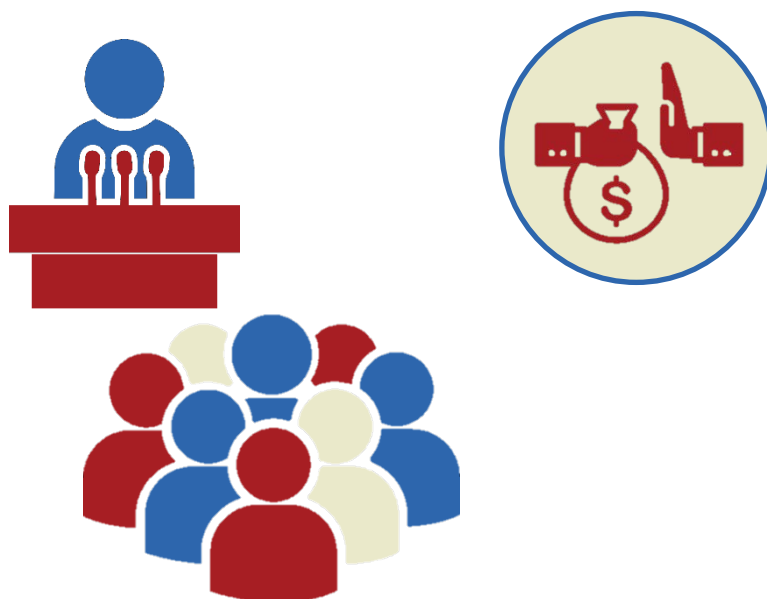
### Ballot Summary

Expands current restrictions on lobbying for compensation by former public officers; creates restrictions on lobbying for compensation by serving public officers and former justices and judges; provides exceptions; prohibits abuse of a public position by public officers and employees to obtain a personal benefit.

*Want to learn more?* 

Read the full text of the amendment on the Florida Division of Elections website:

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# AMENDMENT 13

## Ends Dog Racing

### Ballot Summary

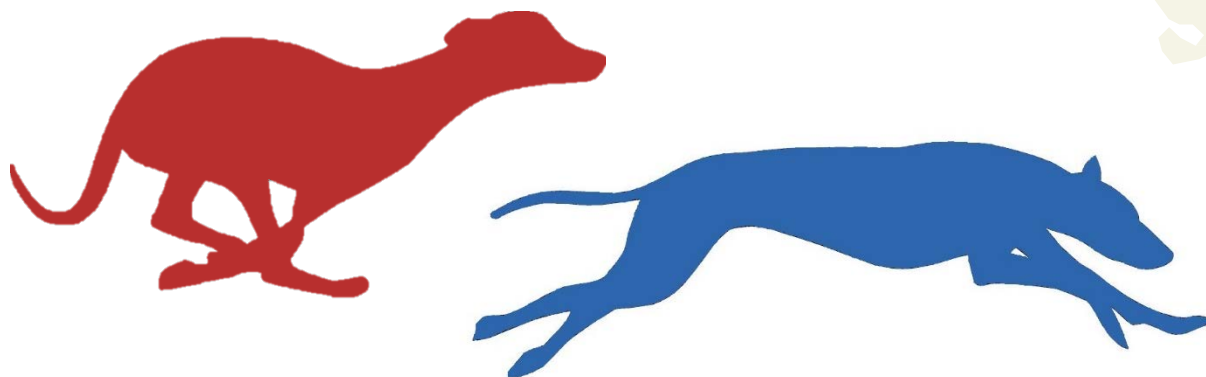
Phases out commercial dog racing in connection with wagering by 2020. Other gaming activities are not affected.

*Want to learn more?*



Read the full text of the amendment on the Florida Division of Elections website:

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## ***WHEN WILL I BE ABLE TO VOTE ON THE AMENDMENTS?***

All CRC amendments will appear on the General Election ballot on November 6, 2018. At least 60 percent of the vote is required to pass a constitutional amendment in Florida.



## ***WHERE CAN I GO FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?***

To get more Election Day information, check your voter status, find your polling place, or get information on vote-by-mail and early voting, please contact the [Florida Division of Elections](#) or your [local Supervisor of Elections](#).

