

proposed CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS



PROPOSITION 1 – CHARITABLE RAFFLES/RODEO

Would add rodeos to the list of professional sports organizations permitted to host charitable raffles.

Recommendation: YES

PROPOSITION 2 – DEVELOPMENT FINANCING

Would allow counties to use tax increment financing in a similar manner to cities, towns, and other taxing entities.

Recommendation: YES

PROPOSITION 3 – RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Would ban local entities from enacting public health limitations on religious services.

Recommendation: NO

The proposed amendment is in contravention to local control measures and could impact public health authorities maintaining public safety during a pandemic. Also, "religious organizations" is undefined and could be exploited to circumvent public safety measures.

PROPOSITION 4 – JUDICIAL ELIGIBILITY

Enhances the requirements to serve as a judge on the Texas Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, or as a District Court Judge.

Recommendation: YES

PROPOSITION 5 – STATE COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

Would allow the SCJC to receive complaints and conduct investigations on judicial candidates in addition to judges.

Recommendation: YES

PROPOSITION 6 – CAREGIVERS FOR LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENTS

Would allow residents of long-term care facilities the right to designate an essential caregiver with whom the facility could not deny visitation.

Recommendation: NO

Opposed by the Dallas Fort Worth Hospital Council on the grounds that such facilities should be able to limit visitors to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and similar viruses as needed during a pandemic. If passed, the amendment could be in contravention to public health. The recommendation on this amendment would likely be different if the amendment permitted limited, necessary restrictions in the event of a public health emergency.

PROPOSITION 7 – SURVIVING SPOUSE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

Would allow the surviving spouse of an individual who received a limitation of property taxes on the individual's homestead on the basis of disability to continue to receive such an exemption if they are 55 years or older.

Recommendation: YES

PROPOSITION 8 – SERVICE MEMBER SURVIVING SPOUSE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

Would expand property tax exemption for surviving spouse of U.S. armed services member who was killed in action to also include U.S. armed services member who was killed or fatally injured in the line of duty.

Recommendation: YES