

## **LANDMARK CHANGES TO OHIO LAW THAT WOULD HAVE FAILED UNDER ISSUE 1 COMPILED BY CAROL KINSEY, NORTHEAST DISTRICT LIAISON**

In just the 21st century:

- 2000: Clean Ohio Fund; state can sell environmental bonds (57% in favor . . . would have failed)
- 2005: Third Frontier program to modernize Ohio's economy (54% in favor . . . would have failed)
- 2006: Increasing minimum wage (57% in favor . . . would have failed)
- 2009: Legalizing gambling at casinos in Columbus, Cleveland, Cincinnati, and Toledo (53% in favor . . . would have failed)
- 2015: Barring businesses from using the amendment process to form monopolies (51% in favor . . . would have failed)

Let's go farther back now:

- 1923: Remove the phrase "white male" from parts of the constitution describing VOTER ELIGIBILITY (56% in favor . . . would have FAILED)
- 1933: Giving counties authority to create city charters with "home rule" (53% in favor . . . would have failed)
- 1933: Set the 10-mill property tax limit that local governments can impose without getting approval from voters (59.7% in favor . . . would have FAILED)
- 1949: Ending the practice of straight-ticket voting; voters must mark their candidates, not just check off a party (57% in favor . . . would have failed)
- 1953: Creation of Ohio state school board, which advises local school districts on education policy (57% in favor . . . would have failed)
- 1953: Allowing people of color to serve in the Ohio National Guard (57% in favor . . . would have failed)
- 1961: Allowing women to serve in Ohio National Guard (50.1% in favor . . . would have failed)
- 1975: Allowing charitable organizations to run bingo games (form of gambling) (54% in favor . . . would have failed)
- 1978: Prison labor reform (54% in favor . . . would have failed)
- 1982: Enabled lower-interest, first-time home-buyer programs that continue today (57% in favor . . . would have failed)
- 1990: Tax credits and other steps to help finance housing projects (53% in favor . . . would have failed)

As you can see, if Issue 1 had been in effect starting when Ohio's constitution was written, then (19th amendment aside), being a white male would still be the requirement to vote; women and black people would still be ineligible to serve in the Ohio National Guard; local governments would be able to raise property taxes without voter approval; gambling would still be illegal; there would be no affordable housing programs; there'd still be unregulated prison labor; businesses would be allowed to use the amendment process to form monopolies; and minimum wage would still be \$4.25/hr.

*Weigh the pros and cons for yourself on Issue 1 and vote on August 8.*

Also check your polling location—a few have been changed across the state.