



G.R.I.D. CANDIDATES NIGHT
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024, 7:00 P.M.
GREENWOOD VILLAGE CLUBHOUSE



Refreshments will be served

United States Senator - State of Ohio

(Vote for not more than 1)
 Sherrod Brown (D)
 Bernie Moreno (R)

Representative to Congress (13th District)*

(Vote for not more than 1)
 Kevin Coughlin (R)
 Emilia Sykes (D)

State Representative (35th District)*

(Vote for not more than 1)
 Mark Curtis (D)
 Steve Demetriou (R)

County Executive *

(Vote for not more than 1)
 Ilene L. Shapiro (D)

County Prosecuting Attorney*

(Vote for not more than 1)
 John W. Greven (R)
 Elliot Kolkovich (D)

County Sheriff *

(Vote for not more than 1)
 Shane Barker (R)
 Kandy Fatheree (D)

County Fiscal Officer*

(Vote for not more than 1)
 Kristen M. Scalise (D)
 Scott W. Sigel (R)

County Engineer *

(Vote for not more than 1)
 Alan Brubaker (D)

County Council (District 1)*

(Vote for not more than 1)
 Rita Darrow (D)
 Yulia Gray (R)

Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court

FTC 1/1/2025 (Vote for not more than 1)
 Michael P. Donnelly (D)
 Megan E. Shanahan (R)

Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court

FTC 1/2/2025 (Vote for not more than 1)
 Joseph T. Deters (R)
 Melody J. Stewart (D)

Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court

FTC 12/31/2026 (Vote for not more than 1)
 Lisa Forbes (D)
 Daniel R. Hawkins (R)

Judge of the Court of Appeals (9th District)*

FTC 2/9/2025 (Vote for not more than 1))
 Steve Elliott (D)
 Jennifer Hensal (R)

Judge of the Court of Common Pleas*

FTC 1/1/2025 (Vote for not more than 1)
 Kathryn Michael (D)

Judge of the Court of Common Pleas*

FTC 1/2/2025 (Vote for not more than 1)
 Joseph James Darwal (R)
 Jennifer D. Towell (D)

Judge of the Court of Common Pleas*

FTC 5/17/2025 (Vote for not more than 1)
 Susan Baker Ross (D)
 Susan K. Steinhauer (R)

Clerk of Court of Common Pleas*

(Vote for not more than 1)
 Tavia Galonski (D)
 Katie Reed (R)

* Candidates for these positions have been invited to attend.



G.R.I.D. CANDIDATES NIGHT
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024, 7:00 P.M.
GREENWOOD VILLAGE CLUBHOUSE



Refreshments will be served

STATE OF OHIO – Proposed Constitutional Amendment

(Amendment) - To create an appointed redistricting commission not elected by or subject to removal by the voters of the state by replacing the current politician-run redistricting process with a citizen-led commission required to create fair state legislative and congressional districts through a more open and independent system. (See Ohio Secretary of State website for [official wording](#).)

SUMMIT COUNTY – Proposed Tax Levy

(Renewal) – A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Summit County Children Services for the purpose of supporting children services and the care and placement of children pursuant to Chapter 5153 of the Revised Code that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$41,415,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 3.25 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$68 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer’s appraised value, for 6 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

SUMMIT COUNTY – Proposed Charter Amendment

(Amendment) – Shall the Charter of the County of Summit be amended to require submission of estimated revenues and proposed expenditures by each County office, agency, authority, board and commission on a yearly basis?

SUMMIT COUNTY – Proposed Charter Amendment

(Amendment) – Shall the Charter of the County of Summit, Fairness in County Employment Eligibility Section, be amended to apply to Charter County employees and officials only, add “aunts” and “uncles” to the list of prohibited familial relations eligible for Charter County employment, and eliminate the \$80,000.00 salary limit?

NORDONIA HILLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT – Proposed Tax Levy

(Additional) – An additional tax for the benefit of the Nordonia Hills City School District for the purpose of providing funds for current operating expenses and for general permanent improvements that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$7,352,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 5 mills (apportioned 4 mills to current operating expenses and 1 mill to general permanent improvements) for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$175 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer’s appraised value, for a continuing period of time, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025.

NORTH HILLS WATER DISTRICT – Proposed Tax Levy

(Renewal and Decrease) - A renewal of part of an existing levy, being a reduction of 0.05 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, to constitute a tax for the benefit of the North Hills Water District, Summit County, Ohio for the purpose of providing funds to pay current expenses that the county fiscal officer estimates will collect \$310,000 annually, at a rate not exceeding 0.45 mill for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$16 for each \$100,000 of the county fiscal officer’s appraised value, for 10 years, commencing in 2025, first due in calendar year 2026.

☆ **General Election – Tuesday, November 5, 2024** ☆

ISSUE I BALLOT LANGUAGE - To create an appointed redistricting commission not elected by or subject to removal by the voters of the state. Proposed Constitutional Amendment. Proposed by Initiative Petition. To repeal Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of Article XI, Repeal sections 1, 2 and 3 of Article XIX, and enact Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of Article XX of the Constitution of the State of Ohio.

A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass. The proposed amendment would:

1. Repeal constitutional protections against gerrymandering approved by nearly three-quarters of Ohio electors participating in the statewide elections of 2015 and 2018, and eliminate the longstanding ability of Ohio citizens to hold their representatives accountable for establishing fair state legislative and congressional districts.
2. Establish a new taxpayer-funded commission of appointees required to gerrymander the boundaries of state legislative and congressional districts to favor either of the two largest political parties in the state of Ohio, according to a formula based on partisan outcomes as the dominant factor, so that:
 - A. Each district shall contain single-member districts that are geographically contiguous, but state legislative and congressional districts will no longer be required to be compact; and
 - B. Counties, townships and cities throughout Ohio can be split and divided across multiple districts, and preserving communities of interest will be secondary to the formula that is based on partisan political outcomes.
3. Require that a majority of the partisan commission members belong to the state's two largest political parties.
4. Prevent a commission member from being removed, except by a vote of their fellow commission members, even for incapacity, willful neglect of duty or gross misconduct.
5. Prohibit any citizen from filing a lawsuit challenging a redistricting plan in any court, except if the lawsuit challenges the proportionality standard applied by the commission, requirements pertaining to an incumbent elected official's residence, or the expiration of certain senators' terms, and then only before the Ohio Supreme Court.
6. Create the following process for appointing commission members: Four partisan appointees on the Ohio Ballot Board will choose a panel of 4 partisan retired judges (2 affiliated with the first major political party and 2 affiliated with the second major political party). Provide that the 4 legislative appointees of the Ohio Ballot Board would be responsible for appointing the panel members as follows: the Ballot Board legislative appointees affiliated with the same major political party would select 8 applicants and present those to the Ballot Board legislative appointees affiliated with the other major political party, who would then select 2 persons from the 8 for appointment to the panel, resulting in 4 panel appointees. The panel would then hire a private professional search firm to help them choose 6 of the 15 individuals on the commission. The panel will choose those 6 individuals by initially creating a pool of 90 individuals (30 from the first major political party, 30 from the second major political party, and 30 from neither the first nor second major political parties). The panel of 4 partisan retired judges will create a portal for public comment on the applicants and will conduct and publicly broadcast interviews with each applicant in the pool. The panel will then narrow the pool of 90 individuals down to 45 (15 from the first major political party; 15 from the second major political party; and 15 from neither the first nor second major political parties). Randomly, by draw, the 4 partisan retired judges will then blindly select 6 names out of the pool of 45 to be members of the commission (2 from the first major political party; 2 from the second major political party; and 2 from neither the first nor second major political parties). The 6 randomly drawn individuals will then review the applications of the remaining 39 individuals not randomly drawn and select the final 9 individuals to serve with them on the commission, the majority of which shall be from the first and the second major political parties (3 from the first major political party, 3 from the second major political party, and 3 from neither the first nor second major political parties).
7. Require the affirmative votes of 9 of 15 members of the appointed commission to create legislative and congressional districts. If the commission is not able to determine a plan by September 19, 2025, or July 15 of every year ending in one, the following impasse procedure will be used: for any plan at an impasse, each commissioner shall have 3 days to submit no more than one proposed redistricting plan to be subject to a commission vote through a ranked-choice selection process, with the goal of having a majority of the commission members rank one of those plans first. If a majority cannot be obtained, the plan with the highest number of points in the ranked-choice process is eliminated, and the process is repeated until a plan receives a majority of first-place rankings. If the ranked-choice process ends in a tie for the highest point total, the tie shall be broken through a random process.
8. Limit the right of Ohio citizens to freely express their opinions to members of the commission or to commission staff regarding the redistricting process or proposed redistricting plans, other than through designated meetings, hearings and an online public portal, and would forbid communication with the commission members and staff outside of those contexts.
9. Require the commission to immediately create new legislative and congressional districts in 2025 to replace the most recent districts adopted by the citizens of Ohio through their elected representatives.
10. Impose new taxpayer-funded costs on the State of Ohio to pay the commission members, the commission staff and appointed special masters, professionals, and private consultants that the commission is required to hire; and an unlimited amount for legal expenses incurred by the commission in any related litigation.

State Issue 1

ARGUMENT FOR ISSUE 1

VOTE YES ON ISSUE 1

Restore power to where it belongs: with citizens, not politicians

When politicians draw biased voting districts to ensure their own re-election, it's called gerrymandering, and independent, nonpartisan experts have found that **Ohio is one of the most gerrymandered states in America.**

In fact, **the Ohio Supreme Court ruled 7 times that gerrymandered voting district maps - crafted by politicians under the current system - were unconstitutional.**

Ohio's current system allows politicians of both parties and their lobbyist friends to gerrymander voting districts in secret backroom deals to manipulate the outcomes to benefit themselves.

Voting YES on Issue 1 will ban politicians and lobbyists and make it illegal to gerrymander voting districts.

Issue 1 will:

- Create the 15-member Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission made up of Democratic, Republican, and Independent citizens who broadly represent the different geographic areas and demographics of the state.
- Ban politicians, political party officials and lobbyists from sitting on the Commission.
- Require fair and impartial districts by making it unconstitutional to draw voting districts that discriminate against or favor any political party or individual politician.
- Require the Commission to operate under an open and independent process.

A broad spectrum of Ohioans, including Republicans, Independents, and Democrats all support Issue 1.

More than 100 organizations from across the state have endorsed the measure, and a bipartisan group of 85 civic, community and business leaders endorsed Issue 1 as well.

Vote YES on Issue 1 to restore power to where it belongs: with citizens, not politicians.

Submitted by Kevin Cain, Nadia Zaiem, Michael Ahern, Annette Tucker Sutherland and Michele Roberts, petitioners committee for Citizens Not Politicians

ARGUMENT AGAINST ISSUE 1

Vote NO on Issue 1 - It's a bad deal for Ohio

Issue 1 is a cynical attempt to trick Ohio voters by promising to end gerrymandering and empower citizens when in fact the amendment forces gerrymandering in the Ohio constitution and removes accountability to Ohio voters.

POLITICAL AND RACIAL GERRYMANDERING

Issue 1 will require Ohio's legislative districts be gerrymandered to ensure that Republicans and Democrats can each win a set number of seats in the General Assembly and Congress. Ohio voters could be stuck with a representative from the opposite party on the opposite end of the state who doesn't share their point of view.

Issue 1 will allow for maps to divide any county, city or township into as many districts as necessary to achieve the set number of seats. It will also create legislative districts with strange shapes like the famous "snake on the lake" district that has defined Ohio gerrymandering for years.

UNACCOUNTABLE BUREAUCRACY

Issue 1 creates an unaccountable commission whose members are chosen out of a hat by four retired judges, an unknown private hiring firm and commission members themselves.

Commission members would not be required to meet any minimum level of qualifications and will be forced to hire consultants to draw maps.

Once appointed, Ohio voters cannot remove any commission member even if they commit a felony.

Issue 1 grants these unelected commission members with virtually unlimited power to spend Ohio tax dollars with no control by Ohio voters. Commission members could pay themselves whatever salaries they choose, and force Ohio taxpayers to pay for as many expensive lawyers as they need.

Issue 1 is nothing more than a partisan power grab by elite out-of-state special interests who want to rig Ohio's elections and impose gerrymandering into Ohio's constitution.

VOTE NO ON ISSUE 1.

Submitted by Ohio Works