

Virginia voters face **three proposed constitutional amendments** this election cycle, each carrying real weight for communities that have long fought for fairness, equity, and protection under the law. The **NAACP Virginia State Conference** advocates for the 3 Constitutional Amendments. When you talk with voters, tell them to step into the voting booth, carrying this: **Don't Guess, Vote Yes 3 Times** - because all three amendments move Virginia closer to the inclusive community that the NAACP envisions.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, BALLOT QUESTION 1 VIRGINIA REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM AMENDMENT

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) protect the freedom to make personal decisions about prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, birth control, abortion, miscarriage management, and fertility care; (ii) protect doctors, nurses, and patients from being punished for these decisions; and (iii) allow for restrictions on access to abortion during the third trimester of pregnancy except when the patient's health is at risk or the pregnancy cannot survive?

What this amendment means: The Reproductive Freedom Amendment ballot measure protects our freedom in Virginia to make reproductive health care decisions without fear of government interference or criminal punishment. It amends the state constitution to ensure we can make our own decisions around reproductive health care, from contraception to childbirth. This includes protecting our freedoms to prenatal care, childbirth, postpartum care, birth control, abortion, miscarriage management, and fertility care.

We should be able to make decisions about our reproductive health for ourselves, and our health care providers need to be able to act in the best interests of their patients, without government interference or fear of punishment. The Reproductive Freedom Amendment gives patients the freedom to make personal reproductive health decisions without fear of government interference, while protecting medical professionals from criminal punishment.

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PARTNERS AND ALLIES

Virginians for Reproductive Freedom | www.va4reprofreedom.org | Han Jones, han@virginiansforreproductivefreedom.org

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, BALLOT QUESTION 2 MARRIAGE EQUALITY AMENDMENT

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) remove the ban on same-sex marriage; (ii) affirm that two adults may marry regardless of sex, gender, or race; and (iii) require all legally valid marriages to be treated equally under the law?

What this amendment means: The Virginia Marriage Equality Amendment protects the freedom of two adults to marry regardless of their sex, gender, or race by removing the outdated same-sex marriage ban from Virginia's Constitution and replacing it with an affirmative constitutional guarantee of marriage for all Virginians. If approved, it would require the Commonwealth to recognize all lawful marriages equally under the law.

Marriage is about both love and protection. Who someone loves and whether they choose to marry are deeply personal decisions. No one should have to worry that their marriage or family could lose constitutional protections because of shifting political or legal landscapes. It provides families with hundreds of important legal rights and responsibilities- from the ability to make medical decisions for a spouse in an emergency, to inheritance rights, hospital visitation, family health insurance, tax benefits, parental protections, and the security that comes from knowing your family will be recognized and treated equally under the law.

At its core, this amendment is about ensuring that our Constitution reflects the principle that every family deserves equal treatment under the law, regardless of who they are or whom they love. It affirms that Virginia's Constitution should protect all families.

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PARTNERS AND ALLIES

Virginians for Marriage Equality | www.vaformarriageequality.com | Narissa Rahman, nr@vaformarriageequality.com

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, BALLOT QUESTION 3 THE RIGHT TO VOTE

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended (i) to provide for the fundamental right to vote in the Commonwealth, (ii) to revise the qualifications of voters so that a person convicted of a felony is not entitled to vote during his period of incarceration but is automatically invested with the right to vote upon release from incarceration, and (iii) to update the existing prohibition on voting by persons found to be mentally incompetent to instead apply to persons who have been found to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting?

What this amendment means: This amendment will amend Virginia's constitution to create a right to vote for every eligible voter. Voting Yes on 3 is an opportunity to protect ourselves against current and future attempts of corrupt politicians to take our rights away. It is urgent that we pass this amendment now given the recent attacks on our democracy, including the gutting of the Voting Rights Act and the advancing of the SAVE Act, which could make it more difficult for married women who have changed their names to vote.

This amendment will also automatically restore voting rights for people who have completed felony sentences upon their release from prison and return to their communities. This will create a fair process that will undo a racist legacy of Jim Crow and will bring Virginia in line with other states.

This amendment will also ensure that people with disabilities will not have their right to vote taken away from them provided that a judge determines they understand the act of voting.

Because the Right to Vote amendment is the last ballot issue, voters may need to turn their ballots over and should be reminded of this to prevent down-ballot drop-off.

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PARTNERS AND ALLIES

VA Right to Vote

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REFERENDA

[Click Here](#) for additional information and explanation for what will be on the ballot