

2018 VOTERS GUIDE

Be informed • Your vote makes a difference!

NOVEMBER 6

On **November 6th**, South Dakotans will have the opportunity to vote for our United States Representative, Governor and Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Auditor, State Treasurer, Commission of School and Public Lands, PUC Commissioner AND 105 State Legislators along with local elections. In addition, on the ballot will be **THREE** Constitution Amendments and **TWO** Initiated Measures.

be | prepared

It is estimated that it will take approximately **30 MINUTES** for each person to vote unless they prepared in advance.

The Secretary of State's website <https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/default.aspx> has a wealth of information, including:

Ballot Question Pamphlet
<https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/assets/2018BQPamphlet.pdf>

2018 Candidate Lists
<https://vip.sdsos.gov/CandidateList.aspx?eid=291>

Check your voter registration, where to vote and view your sample ballot
<https://vip.sdsos.gov/VIPLogin.aspx>



CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Constitutional Amendment W

An initiated amendment to the South Dakota Constitution changing campaign finance and lobbying laws, creating a government accountability board, and changing certain initiative and referendum provisions.

- Creates a 7-member government tribunal ("accountability board") with unchecked powers to oversee things such as ethics and government contracts and changing certain initiative and referendum provisions.
- Amendment W is being promoted by a Ballot Question Committee that exists only to pass this amendment using out of state money. As of the latest financial reports, they have not received a single donation from South Dakota.
- **SDABA's Board of Directors has voted to oppose W, and urges you to VOTE NO ON W.**

AG's Official Explanation: A vote "Yes" to adopt the amendment. A vote "No" to leave the Constitution as it is.



W is Wrong – Vote NO on Amendment W

Constitutional Amendment X

An amendment to the South Dakota Constitution increasing the number of votes needed to approve a constitutional amendment.

- The South Dakota Constitution may only be amended by a vote of the people. Currently, the Constitution provides that a proposed amendment must receive a majority of the votes cast in order to be approved. Constitutional Amendment X changes the Constitution, increasing the number of votes needed to approve an amendment from a majority to 55% of the votes cast on the amendment.

AG's Official Explanation: A vote "Yes" to adopt the amendment. A vote "No" to leave the Constitution as it is

Constitutional Amendment Z

An amendment to the South Dakota Constitution establishing that a proposed constitutional amendment may embrace only one subject and requiring proposed amendments to be presented and voted on separately.

- By law, any proposed amendment to the South Dakota Constitution must first be submitted to and approved by a vote of the people.
- Constitutional Amendment Z changes the Constitution to add the requirement that a proposed amendment may not embrace more than one subject. In addition, multiple amendments proposed at the same election must be individually presented and voted on separately

AG's Official Explanation: A vote "Yes" to adopt the amendment. A vote "No" to leave the Constitution as it is.



September 21, 2018

Absentee voting begins

<https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/voting/absentee-voting.aspx>

October 22, 2018

Voter Registration Deadline

<https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/voting/register-to-vote/default.aspx>

November 6, 2018

South Dakota's 2018
General Election

INITIATED MEASURES

Initiated Measure 24

An initiated measure prohibiting contributions to ballot question committees by non-residents, out-of-state political committees, and entities that are not filed with the Secretary of State.

- This measure prohibits contributions to statewide ballot question committees by non-residents, by political committees organized outside South Dakota, and by any entity that is not filed as an entity with the Secretary of State for the four years prior to making a contribution. It requires the Secretary of State to impose a civil penalty on any ballot question committee that accepts a prohibited contribution. The civil penalty is double the amount of the contribution
- The measure is likely to be challenged on constitutional grounds.

AG's Official Explanation: A vote "Yes" to adopt the initiated measure. A vote "No" to leave South Dakota law as it is.

Initiated Measure 25

An initiated measure increasing the State tobacco tax and creating a postsecondary technical institute fund for the purposes of lowering student tuition and providing financial support to the State postsecondary technical institutes.

- This measure increases the State tax on tobacco products sold in the state. The tax on packs containing 20-cigarettes would increase \$1.00 per pack, and 25-cigarette packs would increase \$1.25 per pack. Tax on other types of tobacco products such as cigars, roll-your-own, and chewing tobacco would change from the current rate (35% of the wholesale price) and be increased to 55% of the wholesale price.
- This measure increases a tax with no accountability on how the money is spent.

AG's Official Explanation: A vote "Yes" to adopt the initiated measure. A vote "No" to leave South Dakota law as it is.

