



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
of Tarrant County

This November, Texans will vote on 7 constitutional amendments. The following information is provided by Ballotpedia.org. For full details follow the link below:
https://ballotpedia.org/Texas_2017_ballot_measures

HIGHLIGHTS

The 85th regular session of the Texas State Legislature ended on May 29, 2017. The legislature referred seven constitutional amendments to the ballot.

Legislators proposed 156 constitutional amendments in 2017, and 4.5 percent of them made the ballot.

The number of measures on the ballot for the election on November 7, 2017, tied with the number for the election on November 3, 2015, as the lowest number of measures on the ballot between 1995 and 2017. The average number of measures for this period was 14.

Issues on the 2017 ballot include housing, banking, gambling, state executive officials, and taxes.

Getting measures on the ballot:

All statewide Texas ballot measures are legislatively referred constitutional amendments. State law does not allow for initiatives or referendums. Amendments are referred to the ballot by the Texas State Legislature and, if approved by voters, become a part of the Texas State Constitution. Texas is one of 16 states that requires a two-thirds supermajority vote in one session to place a proposed amendment on the ballot. That amounts to a minimum of 100 votes in the Texas House of Representatives and 21 votes in the Texas State Senate.

In 2017, seven statewide ballot measures were certified to appear on the Texas ballot for the election on November 7, 2017.

On the ballot

Title	Subject	Description
Home Equity Loan Amendment	Housing	Makes changes to home equity loan provision of constitution
Financial Institutions to Offer Prizes to Promote Savings Amendment	Banking	Authorizes financial institutions to offer prizes to promote savings
Definition of Professional Sports Team in Charitable Raffles Amendment	Gambling	Defines professional sports team in charitable raffles
Property Tax Exemption for Surviving Spouses of First Responders Killed in Line of Duty Amendment	Taxes	Authorizes property tax exemption for surviving spouses of first responders killed in line of duty
Require Court to Provide Notice to Attorney General Amendment	State Exec	Requires a court to provide notice to the attorney general of a challenge to a statute
Appointed Officer Term Expiration Amendment	State Exec	Provides for how long an appointed officer may serve after his or her term expires
Property Tax Exemption for Partially Disabled Veteran with Donated House Amendment	Taxes	Authorizes tax exemption for property of partially disabled veterans received as donations