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DIRECTIVE 2015-13

August 25, 2015

To: All County Boards of Elections
Directors, Deputy Directors, and Board Members

Re: Ballot Layout Instructions for the November 3, 2015 General Election

SUMMARY

This Directive provides instructions to boards of elections for the layout of ballots for the November 3, 2015 General Election and includes the certified form of the official ballot to be used at the November 3, 2015 General Election.¹

Prior to starting any programming, all boards of elections should review the AIGA/Election Assistance Commission's report entitled [Effective Designs for the Administration of Federal Elections](#), specifically chapters [2](#), [3](#), and [5](#), and the National Institute of Standards' [Use of Language in Ballot Instructions](#).

INSTRUCTIONS

I. GENERAL GUIDELINES

A. Format

1. Headings must be printed in display Arial, Roman, or similar font.² The font used for headings is the font that you will use for all copy throughout the ballot. Fonts *sans serif* are easier to read; therefore Arial or a similar font is preferred.
 2. A 2-point rule must separate columns from each other.³
- B.** The date of the election and the facsimile signatures of the members of the county board of elections must be placed at the end of the ballot.⁴
- C.** All ballots must be printed with black ink.⁵
- D.** The names of all candidates for a single office must be in the same column of a paper

¹ R.C. 3505.01.

² R.C. 3501.05(I).

³ R.C. 3505.08(A).

⁴ R.C. 3505.08(A).

⁵ R.C. 3505.08(A).

ballot or on the same screen of a DRE so that the voter does not have to go to the next column or advance to the next screen to view all of the eligible candidates for that contest.

Because language for a ballot question or issue may be longer than is available in a single column, it may be necessary to wrap the language from one column to the next. The “Yes/No” ovals/buttons should never stand alone in a column without any portion of the text preceding it in that column. If your voting system is capable of combining more than one column to create a wider column to avoid wrapping text, you may do so. As a general rule, you should do your best to avoid wrapping text for a ballot question or issue. The text for a ballot question or issue should never be split over two pages.

In counties where a language in addition to English is required to appear on the ballot, the presentation of the additional language version should follow, and wrap as necessary, immediately after the presentation of the English version followed by the space for the voter to mark his or her vote. The additional language translation should not be presented in a separate column by itself.

E. Voter Instructions⁶

1. Each ballot must contain instructions advising the voter how to mark the ballot. The instructions should be in upper and lower case of a minimum of 12-point type. Each board must provide clear instructions appropriate for its voting system(s) as follows:
 - **To vote:** completely darken the oval (●) to the left of your choice.
 - Note the permitted number of choices directly below the title of each candidate office. Do not mark the ballot for more choices than allowed.
 - If you mark the ballot for more choices than permitted, that contest or question will not be counted.
 - **To vote for a write-in candidate:** completely darken the oval (●) to the left of the blank line and write in the candidate’s name. Only votes cast for candidates who filed as write-in candidates can be counted.
 - Do not write in a candidate’s name if that person’s name already is printed on the ballot for that same contest.
 - **If you make a mistake or want to change your vote:** return your ballot to an election official and get a new ballot. You may ask for a new ballot up to two times.

⁶ R.C. 3505.12; 3506.08; 3506.09.

2. For DREs, the board must provide DRE-specific instructions, substantially as follows:
 - **To vote for the candidate of your choice:** touch that person's name. A check-mark will appear indicating your selection.
 - **To vote for a write-in candidate:** touch the area labeled "Write-in." Letters will appear on the screen. Spell the name of the candidate of your choice by touching the letters.
 - Do not type in a candidate's name if that person's name already is listed on the ballot for that same contest.
 - **If you make a mistake or want to change your vote:** first touch the choice you no longer want. Then touch the choice you do want.
3. Instructions that are not consecutive steps, such as those listed above, should not be numbered. Differentiate between them by making each an individual paragraph or set them apart with bullets, as shown above.
4. If the system is not capable of printing instructions for paper ballots that differ from those that appear on the DRE screen, the board must do one of the following:
 - a. Program the instructions for an optical scan ballot and post DRE-specific instructions inside each DRE booth, or
 - b. Program the instructions for a DRE and work with the board's optical scan ballot printing vendor to remove the pre-populated DRE instructions and replace them with the optical scan ballot instructions above.

F. Ballot Stubs⁷

Unless the Secretary of State's Office has granted permission for a board to use a one-stub ballot, each optical scan ballot must have attached at the top or bottom two stubs, each the width of the ballot and not less than one-half inch in length. Perforated lines must separate the stubs from the ballot and each other. The top stub shall be known as "Stub B" and must have printed on its face "Stub B." The other stub shall be known as "Stub A" and must have printed on its face "Stub A."

⁷ R.C. 3505.08(A); 3506.08; 3506.09.

Each stub must also have printed on its face “Consecutive Number ____.” Each ballot provided for use in each precinct must be numbered consecutively, beginning with the number 1, and by printing the same ballot number upon both of the stubs attached to the ballot.

G. Page Numbers

Each side of a sheet of paper is considered a page. Every page should be labeled “Page X of Y” so the voter knows both the “order” of the ballot and how many pages remain.

Example: Page 2 of 2 indicates the “back” of a single sheet ballot

Example: Page 3 of 4 indicates the “front” of a two sheet ballot

For DREs, label each screen “Screen X of Y” for the same reason when technologically feasible.

II. CANDIDATE GUIDELINES

The certified ballot forms accompanying this Directive are for offices in statutory cities and villages to which candidates are elected in the November 3, 2015 General Election. These ballot forms contain the correct title of each office as that title should appear on your county’s ballot and the order in which offices must appear on the ballot for all voting systems.

See [Directive 2015-12](#) for the ballot order of offices and positions for the November 3, 2015 General Election.

A. Office Headings⁸

1. Each office title must be printed in 12-point boldface upper and lower case type; a screened (lightly shaded) heading should be used. The office title must be flush left.
2. **Number to be Elected**
 - a. For all offices for which only one person may be nominated or elected, immediately below the office title, print “(Vote for not more than 1)” in a minimum size of 10-point boldface upper and lower case type. The “vote for” wording should be flush left within the shaded title area directly beneath the title of the office or, if applicable, the term commencing date or the unexpired term ending date.

⁸ R.C. 3505.08(A).

- b.** For offices for which more than one person may be nominated or elected, immediately below the office title, print “(Vote for not more than ____)” in a minimum size of 10-point boldface upper and lower case type, the blank space to be filled with the number of persons who may be lawfully elected to the office. For example: “(Vote for not more than 3)”. The “vote for” wording should be flush left within the shaded title area directly beneath the title of the office or, if applicable, the term commencing date or the unexpired term ending date.

3. Full or Unexpired Term⁹

- a. For judicial offices, the designation of “Full term commencing,” followed by the appropriate date, must appear on the ballot. If for an unexpired term, the designation “Unexpired term ending,” followed by the date of the end of the term of the office, must appear on the ballot.

The judicial offices for that court should appear in chronological order by the date the terms commence, followed by unexpired terms in descending order based on the ending date of the term.

- b.** For all other offices, the designation of term is necessary only when there is an unexpired term to elect (e.g., if a mayor is running for an unexpired term) and where two or more full terms for the office are to appear on the ballot (e.g., municipal court judge), in which case the offices should appear in chronological order by the date the terms commence.

- B.** A 2-point rule must separate the title of the office from the names of the candidates for that office.¹⁰

C. Candidate Names¹¹

1. Names of candidates must be printed in a minimum of 12-point boldface upper and lower case type. The name of each candidate must be flush left, but the name should not extend into the voting channel or column.

In the event that no valid declaration of candidacy was filed (including a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate) for an office, the board shall print “No Valid Petition Filed” in the space where a candidate’s name would otherwise appear.

2. A 4-point rule must separate the name of a candidate or a group of candidates for the same office from the title of the office next appearing on the ballot.

⁹ R.C. 3505.04.

¹⁰ R.C. 3505.08(A).¹¹ R.C. 3505.08(A).

3. A 1-point rule must separate names of candidates.
4. A write-in space must be provided on the ballot for every office for which the board of elections has received a valid declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate.¹² If more than one person can be elected to an office, and more than one person filed a valid declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, the board must provide a sufficient number of write-in spaces on the ballot for that office, but the number of write-in spaces cannot exceed the number of persons to be elected to that office.

5. Restrictions

- a. Nicknames: A candidate's nickname may be printed on the ballot if the nickname is a natural derivative of the candidate's legal name. However, quotation marks or parentheses cannot be printed on the ballot. For example, a candidate named William Smith may request that his name appear on the ballot as William Smith, Will Smith, Bill Smith, Billy Smith, but not William "Bill" Smith.
- b. Former names: Any former names that have been declared or submitted by a candidate must be printed on the ballot in parenthesis directly below the candidate's current name.¹³ This requirement does not apply to a name change resulting from a marriage or divorce.
- c. Titles: Printing words, designations, or emblems descriptive of a candidate or the candidate's political affiliation on the ballot, including titles such as "Dr.," "Judge," "Rev.," etc., is prohibited.¹⁴
- d. Same names: When two or more candidates for the same office have the same first and last names,¹⁵ contact the Secretary of State's elections attorney assigned to your county for assistance.

D. Candidate's Political Party

1. For all partisan contests, the name of the political party having nominated the candidate shall be printed in 10-point upper and lower case type and shall be separated from the name of the candidate by a 2-point blank space.
2. The name of the political party shall be flush with the name of the candidate.
3. No party designation shall appear under the name of an independent candidate except when the independent candidate makes a request at the time of filing his or

¹² R.C. 3505.23.

¹³ R.C. 3505.02.

¹⁴ R.C. 3505.03.

¹⁵ R.C. 3505.021.

her nominating petition to have the ballot designation “nonparty candidate” or “other-party candidate,” in which case the designation shall be printed as described above.¹⁶

4. The designation “independent” shall not appear on the ballot.¹⁷
5. No political party designation shall appear under the name of a candidate for nonpartisan office (e.g., judge, board of education member, etc.).

E. Rotation of Candidates’ Names

The names of all candidates for an office must be arranged in alphabetical order in a group under the title of that office and must be rotated from one precinct to another, except when the number of candidates for a particular office is the same as the number of candidates to be elected to that office (uncontested races).

The least common multiple of the number of names in each of the several groups of candidates determines the number of series to be printed. For example: Four of the seven offices on the ballot have uncontested races. The remaining three offices (only one candidate to be elected to each particular office) have the following number of candidates printed on the ballot:

Office One – two candidates
Office Two – three candidates
Office Three – four candidates

The least common multiple of this series of candidates is 12 (the smallest number possible that 2, 3 and 4 divide into evenly). Therefore, this series of candidates must rotate 12 times.

The board of elections must number all precincts in regular, serial sequence. In the first precinct, the names of the candidates in each group must be listed in alphabetical order based on the candidates’ last names. In each succeeding precinct, the name in each group which is listed first in the preceding precinct must be listed last, and the name of each candidate must be moved up one place.

F. Rotation on Absentee Ballots¹⁸

On absentee ballots, the rotation of names of all candidates for an office must be the same as the rotation of names as they appear on the voter’s Election Day precinct ballot.

¹⁶ R.C. 3505.03.

¹⁷ R.C. 3505.03.

¹⁸ R.C. 3505.03; 3509.01.

Boards of elections may not use the “absentee as a single precinct” method for tabulating and reporting absentee vote totals; the rotation on an absentee ballot must match the rotation on an Election Day ballot for the same precinct/style.

III. QUESTION AND ISSUE GUIDELINES

Offices for which candidates may be nominated or elected are presented on the ballot first, followed by the questions and issues.

The certified form of the ballot must be used for all voting systems. This form contains the exact ballot language that must be used for the three statewide issues on all ballots. Also, the form contains examples of some of the questions and issues that *might* appear on the ballot in your county. Not every category or type of question/issue will appear on every ballot in every county, so please apply as much of the form as is appropriate to the ballots in your county.

See [Directive 2015-12](#) for the ballot order of ballot questions and issues for the November 3, 2015 General Election.

A. Headings¹⁹

Immediately below the heading of each question or issue must be printed a brief title descriptive of each question or issue appearing on the ballot, such as “Proposed Bond Issue” or “Proposed Tax Levy.” Although not required by state law, numbering local questions and issues is a recommended practice. When numbering local issues, the board must number local issues in succession with any statewide ballot issues. Since there are three statewide ballot issues, the board may begin the numbering of its local issues with the number four.

B. Ballot Language²⁰

A minimum type size of 10-point must be used for all questions and issues. The ballot language need not contain the full text of the proposal to be voted upon. The board of elections may prepare a condensed text that properly describes each local question or issue appearing on the ballot. It is preferable for the purpose language be presented in upper and lower case type rather than in all capital letters.

In any case where condensed text is used, the full text of the proposed question or issue, together with the percentage of the affirmative votes necessary for passage as required by law, must be posted in each polling place in a visible location that is easily accessible to the voters.

¹⁹ R.C. 3505.06(D); 3505.08.

²⁰ R.C. 3505.06(E).

Please review the appropriate sections of the Ohio Revised Code, local charter (if applicable), and the [Ohio Ballot Questions and Issues Handbook](#) provided by our office for ballot language and formats that may not appear on the certified ballot format.

C. Percentage of Votes²¹

A brief statement of the percentage of affirmative votes necessary for passage must be on the ballot for each question and issue. The statement should be inserted in the space immediately below the title and name of entity requesting the submission of the question or issue. The percentage should be stated as follows: “A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage” or such other brief statement as will be descriptive of the percentage of affirmative votes required for passage (e.g., “A fifty-five percent affirmative vote is necessary for passage”). Do not use the percent symbol (%).

If you have any questions concerning this Directive, please contact the Secretary of State’s elections counsel assigned to your county at (614) 466-2585.

Sincerely,



Jon Husted

²¹ R.C. 3505.06(D).

NOTE: If your county has partisan and nonpartisan city and village offices, the partisan city or village offices must appear first on the ballot, followed by judge and clerk of municipal court (if applicable) and then the nonpartisan city or village offices.

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

A	_____County	B	General Election	C	November 3, 2015
Instructions to Voter • To vote: completely darken the oval () to the left of your choice. • Note the permitted number of choices directly below the title of each candidate office. Do not mark the ballot for more choices than allowed. • If you mark the ballot for more choices than permitted, that contest or question will not be counted. • To vote for a write-in candidate: completely darken the oval () to the left of the blank line and write in the candidate's name. Only votes cast for candidates who filed as write-in candidates can be counted. • Do not write in a candidate's name if that person's name already is printed on the ballot for that same contest. • If you make a mistake or want to change your vote: return your ballot to an election official and get a new ballot. You may ask for a new ballot up to two times.		CITY OF _____		For Member of Council (_____Ward) (Vote for not more than 1)	
		For Mayor (Vote for not more than 1)		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)	
		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)	
		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)			
		For President of Council (Vote for not more than 1)		VILLAGE OF _____	
		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		For Mayor (Vote for not more than 1)	
		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)	
				☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)	
		For Auditor (Vote for not more than 1)		For Clerk-Treasurer (Vote for not more than 1)	
		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)	
		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)	
		For Treasurer (Vote for not more than 1)		For Clerk (Vote for not more than 1)	
		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)	
		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)	
		For Director of Law (Vote for not more than 1)		For Treasurer (Vote for not more than 1)	
		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)	
		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)	
		For Member of Council at Large (Vote for not more than _____)		For Member of Council (Vote for not more than _____)	
		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)	
		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)	
		Page 1 of 6			
A	001 _____ TWP A	B	0001:1	C	001

NOTE: If your county has partisan and nonpartisan city and village offices, the partisan city or village offices must appear first on the ballot, followed by judge and clerk of municipal court (if applicable) and then the nonpartisan city or village offices.

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

D	_____County	E	General Election	F	November 3, 2015
For Member of Board of Trustees of Public Affairs (Vote for not more than ____)		For Member of Council (____Ward) (Vote for not more than 1)		_____COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER	
☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		☐ Print Candidate Name		For Member of Governing Board of Educational Service Center (Vote for not more than ____)	
☐ Print Candidate Name (Insert party affiliation or ballot designation, if any)		☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name	
_____MUNICIPAL COURT		VILLAGE OF _____		☐ Print Candidate Name	
For Judge of Municipal Court (Full term commencing XX-XX-20XX) (Vote for not more than 1)		For Mayor (Vote for not more than 1)		☐ Print Candidate Name	
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name	
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name		_____SCHOOL DISTRICT	
For Clerk of Municipal Court (Vote for not more than 1)		For Clerk-Treasurer (Vote for not more than 1)		For Member of Board of Education (Vote for not more than ____)	
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name	
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name	
For Clerk of Municipal Court (Vote for not more than 1)		For Clerk (Vote for not more than 1)			
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name			
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name			
CITY OF _____		For Treasurer (Vote for not more than 1)			
For Mayor (Vote for not more than 1)		☐ Print Candidate Name			
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name			
☐ Print Candidate Name		For Member of Council (Vote for not more than ____)			
For President of Council (Vote for not more than 1)		☐ Print Candidate Name			
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name			
☐ Print Candidate Name		For Member of Board of Trustees of Public Affairs (Vote for not more than ____)			
For Auditor (Vote for not more than 1)		☐ Print Candidate Name			
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name			
☐ Print Candidate Name		TOWNSHIP OF _____			
For Treasurer (Vote for not more than 1)		For Township Trustee (Vote for not more than 1)			
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name			
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name			
For Director of Law (Vote for not more than 1)		For Township Fiscal Officer (Vote for not more than 1)			
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name			
☐ Print Candidate Name		☐ Print Candidate Name			
For Member of Council at Large (Vote for not more than ____)					
☐ Print Candidate Name					
☐ Print Candidate Name					
D	001 _____TWP A	E	0001:1	F	001

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

G	_____County	H	General Election	I	November 3, 2015
Issue One Creates a bipartisan, public process for drawing legislative districts Proposed Constitutional Amendment Proposed by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly To enact new Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of Article XI and to repeal Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass.		Issue Two Anti-monopoly amendment; protects the initiative process from being used for personal economic benefit Proposed Constitutional Amendment Proposed by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly Proposing to amend Section 1e of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass.			
The proposed amendment would: - End the partisan process for drawing Ohio House and Senate districts, and replace it with a bipartisan process with the goal of having district boundaries that are more compact and politically competitive. - Ensure a transparent process by requiring public meetings, public display of maps, and a public letter explaining any plan the Commission adopts by a simple majority vote. - Establish the bipartisan Ohio Redistricting Commission, composed of 7 members including the Governor, the Auditor of State, the Secretary of State, and 4 members appointed by the majority and minority leaders of the General Assembly. - Require a bipartisan majority vote of 4 members in order to adopt any final district plan, and prevent deadlock by limiting the length of time any plan adopted without bipartisan support is effective. If passed, the amendment will become effective immediately. SHALL THE AMENDMENT BE APPROVED? ☐ YES ☐ NO		The proposed amendment would: - Prohibit any petitioner from using the Ohio Constitution to grant a monopoly, oligopoly, or cartel for their exclusive financial benefit or to establish a preferential tax status. - Prohibit any petitioner from using the Ohio Constitution to grant a commercial interest, right, or license that is not available to similarly situated persons or nonpublic entities. - Require the bipartisan Ohio Ballot Board to determine if a proposed constitutional amendment violates the prohibitions above, and if it does, present two separate ballot questions to voters. Both ballot questions must receive a majority yes vote before the proposed amendment could take effect. - Prohibit from taking effect any proposed constitutional amendment appearing on the November 3, 2015 General Election ballot that creates a monopoly, oligopoly, or cartel for the sale, distribution, or other use of any federal Schedule I controlled substance. - The Ohio Supreme Court has original, exclusive jurisdiction in any action related to the proposal. If passed, the amendment will become effective immediately. SHALL THE AMENDMENT BE APPROVED? ☐ YES ☐ NO			
G	001 _____TWP A	H	0001:1	I	001

This **SAMPLE** ballot provides the **CORRECT** ballot format and ballot language for the state issues that must appear on the November 2015 General Election ballot.

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

J	_____County	K	General Election	L	November 3, 2015
Issue Three Grants a monopoly for the commercial production and sale of marijuana for recreational and medicinal purposes Proposed Constitutional Amendment Proposed by Initiative Petition To add Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio. A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass.		- Permits marijuana growing, cultivation and extraction facilities, product manufacturing facilities, retail marijuana stores and not-for-profit medical marijuana dispensaries to be within 1,000 feet of a house of worship; a publicly owned library; a public or chartered non-public elementary or secondary school; or a child day-care center, or playground that is built after January 1, 2015 or after the date the marijuana operation applies for a license to operate. - Prohibit any local or state law, including zoning laws, from being applied to prohibit the development or operation of marijuana growth, cultivation, and extraction facilities, retail marijuana stores, and medical marijuana dispensaries unless the area is zoned exclusively residential as of January 1, 2015 or as of the date that an application for a license is first filed for a marijuana establishment. - Create a special tax rate limited to 15% on gross revenue of each marijuana growth, cultivation, and extraction facility and marijuana product manufacturing facility and a special tax rate limited to 5% on gross revenue of each retail marijuana store. Revenues from the tax go to a municipal and township government fund, a strong county fund, and the marijuana control commission fund. - Create a marijuana incubator in Cuyahoga County to promote growth and development of the marijuana industry and locate marijuana testing facilities near colleges and universities in Athens, Cuyahoga, Lorain, Mahoning, Scioto and Wood Counties, at a minimum.		Limits the ability of the legislature and local governments from regulating the manufacture, sales, distribution and use of marijuana and marijuana products. Create a new state government agency called the marijuana control commission (with limited authority) to regulate the industry, comprised of seven Ohio residents appointed by the Governor, including a physician, a law enforcement officer, an administrative law attorney, a patient advocate, a resident experienced in owning, developing, managing and operating businesses, a resident with experience in the legal marijuana industry, and a member of the public. SHALL THE AMENDMENT BE APPROVED? ☐ YES ☐ NO	
The proposed amendment would: - Endow exclusive rights for commercial marijuana growth, cultivation, and extraction to self-designated landowners who own ten predetermined parcels of land in Butler, Clermont, Franklin, Hamilton, Licking, Lorain, Lucas, Delaware, Stark, and Summit Counties. One additional location may be allowed for in four years. - Permit retail sale of recreational marijuana at approximately 1,100 locations statewide. - Legalize the production of marijuana-infused products, including edible products, concentrates, sprays, ointments and tinctures by marijuana product manufacturing facilities. - Allow each person, 21 years of age or older, to purchase, grow, possess, use, transport and share over one-half pound of marijuana or its equivalent in marijuana-infused products at a time (a total of 8 ounces of usable, homegrown marijuana for recreational use, plus 1 ounce of purchased marijuana for recreational use), plus 4 homegrown, flowering marijuana plants. Authorize the use of medical marijuana by any person, regardless of age, who has a certification for a debilitating medical condition.					
J	001 _____ TWP A	K	0001:1	L	001

This **SAMPLE** ballot provides the **CORRECT** ballot format and ballot language for the state issues that must appear on the November 2015 General Election ballot.

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

M	County	N	General Election	O	November 3, 2015
Proposed Tax Levy (Additional) (Name of subdivision, district, college, library or board) A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.		Proposed Tax Levy (Name of school district) A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage. Shall a levy be imposed by the (Name of school district) for the purpose of in (Purpose shall be boldface type of at least twice the size of the type immediately surrounding it) the sum of (Annual amount the levy is to produce) and a levy of taxes to be made outside of the ten-mill limitation estimated by the county auditor to average mills for each one (Number of mills) dollar of valuation, which amounts to (Rate expressed in dollars and cents) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for a period of (Life of indebtedness or number of years levy is to be imposed) years, commencing in, (First year the tax will be levied) first due in calendar year? (First calendar year which the tax shall be due) FOR THE TAX LEVY AGAINST THE TAX LEVY		Proposed Bond Issue (Name of subdivision, district, college, library or board) A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage. Shall bonds be issued by the (Name of subdivision) for the purpose of (Purpose of the bond issue printed in boldface type) in the principle amount of (Principle amount of the bond issue) to be repaid annually over a maximum period of (The maximum number of years over which the principle of the bonds may be paid) years, and an annual levy of property taxes be made outside the (As applied, "ten-mill", or "... charter tax") limitation, estimated by the county auditor to average over the repayment period of the bond issue mills (Number of mills) for each one dollar of tax valuation, which amounts to (Rate expressed in cents or dollars and cents, such as "36 cents" or "\$1.41") for each one hundred dollars of tax valuation, commencing in , first due (First year the tax will be levied) in calendar year, (First calendar year which the tax will be levied) to pay the annual debt charges on the bonds, and to pay debt charges on any notes in anticipation of those bonds? For the bond issue Against the bond issue	
Proposed Tax Levy (Renewal) (Name of subdivision, district, college, library or board) A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage. A renewal of a tax for the benefit of (Name of subdivision submitting resolution or public library) for the purpose of at a rate not exceeding mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to (Rate expressed in dollars and cents) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for, (Life of indebtedness or number of years the levy is to run) commencing in, (First year the tax will be levied) first due in calendar year. (First calendar year which the tax shall be due) For the Tax Levy Against the Tax Levy					
M	001 TWP A	N	0001:1	O	001

This **SAMPLE** ballot provides the **CORRECT** ballot format for various questions or issues that may appear on your local ballot.

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

P	_____County	Q	General Election	R	November 3, 2015		
Proposed Municipal Income Tax (Name of subdivision) A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.		Special Election By Petition Local Liquor Option for Particular Location A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.		Insert board member signatures			
Shall the Ordinance providing for a _____ percent levy on income for _____ (Brief description of purpose of the levy) be passed? ☐ FOR THE INCOME TAX ☐ AGAINST THE INCOME TAX		Shall the sale of _____ (Insert above one or more of the following three choices: "beer"; "wine and mixed beverages"; or "spirituous liquor") be permitted for sale on Sunday between the hours of _____ by _____ (Insert one of the following: "ten a.m. and midnight" or "eleven a.m. and midnight") [Insert name (as submitted to Division of Liquor Control) of liquor permit holder or applicant, or liquor agency store, including, if applicable, trade or fictitious name under which applicant for, or holder of, liquor permit or liquor agency store either does, or intends to do, business at the particular location] a(n) _____ [Insert all that applies: "an applicant for a D-6 liquor permit, holder of a D-6 liquor permit," or "liquor agency store," "an applicant for or holder of an A-1-A, A-2, A-3a, C-1, C-2x, D-1, D-2x, D-3, D-3x, D-4, D-5, D-5b, D-5c, D-5e, D-5f, D-5g, D-5h, D-5i, D-5j, D-5k, D-5l, D-5m, D-5n, D-5o or D-7 liquor permit," (if only the approval of beer sales is sought), or "liquor agency store"] who is engaged in the business of _____ (Insert general nature of the business in which liquor permit holder or applicant is engaged, or will be engaged, at the particular location) at _____ (Insert address of the particular location within the precinct) in this precinct? ☐ YES ☐ NO					
Special Election By Petition Local Liquor Option for Particular Location A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.		Shall the sale of _____ (Insert above one or more of the following three choices: "beer"; "wine and mixed beverages"; or "spirituous liquor") be permitted by _____ [Insert name (as submitted to Division of Liquor Control) of liquor permit holder or applicant, or liquor agency store, including, if applicable, trade or fictitious name under which applicant for, or holder of, liquor permit or liquor agency store either does, or intends to do, business at the particular location] a(n) _____ (Insert "an applicant for" or "a holder of" or "an operator of") a _____ (Insert class name of liquor permit or permits followed by the words "liquor permit(s)" or, if appropriate, the words "liquor agency store for the State of Ohio") who is engaged in the business of _____ (Insert general nature of the business in which liquor permit holder or applicant is engaged, or will be engaged, at the particular location) at _____ (Insert address of the particular location within the precinct) in this precinct? ☐ YES ☐ NO					
P	001 _____ TWP A	Q	0001:1	R	001		

This **SAMPLE** ballot provides the **CORRECT** ballot format for various questions or issues that may appear on your local ballot.