

STATEMENTS OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

March 29, 2025

In compliance with R.S. 18:431 and R.S. 18:552, statements of the Proposed Constitutional Amendments for the March 29, 2025 election are provided as follows:

1. Do you support an amendment granting the Louisiana Supreme Court jurisdiction to discipline out-of-state lawyers for unethical legal practices in the state of Louisiana, and to grant the legislature the authority to establish trial courts of limited and specialized jurisdiction? (Amends Article V, Sections 5(B), 15(A) and 16(A))

Act 2 (2024 Third Extraordinary Session)

Present Constitution provides the Louisiana Supreme Court exclusive original jurisdiction of disciplinary proceedings against a member of the bar.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment retains present Constitution and further provides that the Louisiana Supreme Court shall have exclusive original jurisdiction of disciplinary proceedings against any lawyer specially admitted by a court of this state for a particular proceeding and any lawyer not admitted in this state who practices law or renders or offers to render any legal services in this state.

Present Constitution authorizes the legislature to establish throughout the state trial courts of limited jurisdiction having parish-wide territorial jurisdiction and subject matter jurisdiction which shall be uniform throughout the state.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment authorizes establishment of trial courts of limited or specialized jurisdiction by law enacted by two-thirds of the elected members of each house of the legislature. Proposed amendment removes that the courts shall be uniform throughout the state.

Present Constitution provides that district courts have exclusive original jurisdiction of felony cases and cases involving title to immovable property, except family courts, where provided by law, have jurisdiction of cases involving title to movable and immovable property when those cases relate to the partition of community property and the settlement of claims arising from matrimonial regimes in divorce or annulment proceedings.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment retains present Constitution but specifically provides that except as otherwise authorized under the constitution, the district court has exclusive original jurisdiction involving felony cases and cases involving immovable property.

2. Do you support an amendment to revise Article VII of the Constitution of Louisiana including revisions to lower the maximum rate of income tax, increase income tax deductions for citizens over sixty-five, provide for a government growth limit, modify operation of certain constitutional funds, provide for property tax exemptions retaining the homestead exemption and exemption for religious organizations, provide a permanent teacher salary increase by requiring a surplus payment to teacher retirement debt, and make other modifications? (Amends Article VII, Sections 1 through 28; Adds Article VII, Sections 29 through 42)

Act 1 (2024 Third Extraordinary Session)

Present Constitution provides for matters related to revenue and finance in Article VII of the Constitution.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment proposes to lower the maximum rate of income tax, increase income tax deductions for citizens over sixty-five, provide for a government growth limit, modify operation of cer-

tain constitutional funds, provide for property tax exemptions retaining the homestead exemption and exemption for religious organizations, provide a permanent teacher salary increase by requiring a surplus payment to teacher retirement debt, and make other modifications.

3. Do you support an amendment to provide the legislature the authority to determine which felony crimes, when committed by a person under the age of seventeen, may be transferred for criminal prosecution as an adult? (Amends Article V, Section 19)

Act 3 (2024 Third Extraordinary Session)

Present Constitution provides that the determination of guilt or innocence, the detention, and the custody of a person who is alleged to have committed a crime prior to his seventeenth birthday shall be pursuant to special juvenile procedures which shall be provided by law. However, the legislature may by a two-thirds vote of the elected members of each house of the legislature provide that special juvenile procedures shall not apply to juveniles arrested for having committed first or second degree murder, manslaughter, aggravated rape, armed robbery, aggravated burglary, aggravated kidnapping, attempted first degree murder, attempted second degree murder, forcible rape, simple rape, second degree kidnapping, a second or subsequent aggravated battery, a second or subsequent aggravated burglary, a second or subsequent offense of burglary of an inhabited dwelling, or a second or subsequent felony-grade violation of Part X or X-B of Chapter 4 of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, involving the manufacture, distribution, or possession with intent to distribute controlled dangerous substances.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment provides for the removal of the specific list of felony offenses contained in present constitution and provides that special juvenile procedures shall not apply to juveniles arrested for certain felony offenses which may be provided by law enacted by a two-thirds vote of the elected members of each house of the legislature.

4. Do you support an amendment to provide for the use of the earliest election date to fill judicial vacancies? (Amends Article V, Section 22(B))

Act 4 (2024 Third Extraordinary Session)

Present Constitution provides that a newly-created judgeship or a vacancy in the office of a judge shall be filled by special election called by the governor and held within twelve months after the day on which the vacancy occurs or the judgeship is established, except when the vacancy occurs in the last twelve months of an existing term.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment provides that a newly-created judgeship or a vacancy in the office of a judge shall be filled by special election called by the governor and held on the election date first available pursuant to applicable law after the day on which the vacancy occurs or the judgeship is established, except when the vacancy occurs in the last twelve months of an existing term.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment provides that if the date of the next gubernatorial or congressional election is within twelve months of the date when the vacancy occurred, then the special election shall be held at the next available gubernatorial or congressional election date, if the special election can be held on that date in accordance with applicable law.