

Ballot Questions Tally

11-07-2007

For November 2007 General Election

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 1**DEDICATES ANNUAL REVENUE OF AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO A TAX RATE OF 1% UNDER THE STATE SALES TAX FOR PROPERTY TAX REFORM**

Do you approve the amendment of Article VIII, Section I of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, to provide for the annual dedication and annual appropriation of an amount equal to the annual revenue derived from a tax rate of 1% imposed under the New Jersey Sales and Use Tax, exclusively for the purpose of property tax reform, through a special Property Tax Reform Account established in the constitutionally dedicated Property Tax Relief Fund?

Interpretive Statement

This constitutional amendment provides that an amount equal to the annual revenue derived from a tax rate of 1% imposed under the New Jersey Sales and Use Tax Act shall be annually dedicated in a special account in the Property Tax Relief Fund and annually appropriated for property tax reform.

County	Yes Count	No Count
Atlantic	17,270	27,779
Bergen	63,661	67,550
Burlington	43,412	35,393
Camden	42,506	28,595
Cape May	10,476	15,337
Cumberland	8,664	12,320
Essex	33,501	28,782
Gloucester	30,355	20,353
Hudson	15,999	12,274
Hunterdon	11,333	17,880
Mercer	34,125	28,380
Middlesex	48,643	55,554
Monmouth	52,256	70,757
Morris	35,070	54,348
Ocean	43,557	69,966
Passaic	21,654	23,629
Salem	10,071	7,103
Somerset	23,580	34,571
Sussex	13,308	18,968
Union	24,926	29,702
Warren	8,601	11,564
Total	592,968	670,805

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PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 2**STEM CELL RESEARCH BOND ISSUE**

Shall the "New Jersey Stem Cell Research Bond Act," which authorizes the State to issue bonds in the amount of \$450 million for grants to fund "stem cell research projects," as defined in the act, at institutions of higher education and other entities in the State conducting scientific and medical research, and providing the ways and means to pay the interest on the debt and also to pay and discharge the principal thereof, provided that recurring revenues of the State are certified by the State Treasurer to be available in an amount equal to the sum necessary to satisfy the annual debt service obligations related to such bonds, be approved?

Interpretive Statement

Approval of this act would authorize the sale of \$450 million in State general obligation bonds to provide grants for stem cell, scientific, and medical research, as defined in the act, at institutions of higher education and other nonprofit and for profit entities in the State conducting scientific and medical research, provided that recurring revenues of the State are certified by the State Treasurer to be available in an amount equal to the sum necessary to satisfy the annual debt service obligations related to such bonds. Grants would be awarded by the Commission on Science and Technology, subject to evaluation by an independent research review panel composed of experts in stem cell and related research and by an independent ethics review panel. If a grant recipient realizes a financial gain or benefit directly associated with the research funded by its grant, the act requires the recipient to make payments to the State in an amount representing a reasonable return on the State's investment, as determined by the State Treasurer. The purpose of providing these funds is to promote research that could benefit State residents afflicted with diseases and severe injuries such as Alzheimer's disease, cancer, diabetes, Lou Gehrig's disease, Parkinson's disease, sickle cell anemia and spinal cord injuries.

County	Yes Count	No Count
Atlantic	17,314	28,719
Bergen	74,242	62,308
Burlington	38,811	39,825
Camden	38,658	33,896
Cape May	10,008	16,118
Cumberland	7,365	13,878
Essex	39,827	25,922
Gloucester	23,178	26,619
Hudson	20,288	10,413
Hunterdon	11,481	18,230
Mercer	34,380	30,074
Middlesex	51,268	55,287
Monmouth	55,158	70,341
Morris	40,353	50,882
Ocean	39,751	72,555
Passaic	22,979	23,606
Salem	7,235	9,913
Somerset	25,877	33,333
Sussex	12,115	20,393
Union	28,785	28,623
Warren	7,198	12,926
Total	606,271	683,861

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PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 3**GREEN ACRES, FARMLAND, BLUE ACRES, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOND ACT OF 2007**

Shall the "Green Acres, Farmland, Blue Acres, and Historic Preservation Bond Act of 2007," which authorizes the State to issue bonds in the amount of \$200 million to provide moneys for (1) the acquisition and development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, (2) the preservation of farmland for agricultural or horticultural use and production, (3) the acquisition, for recreation and conservation purposes, of properties in the floodways of the Delaware River, Passaic River, and Raritan River, and their tributaries, that are prone to or have incurred flood or storm damage, and (4) funding historic preservation projects; and providing the ways and means to pay the interest on the debt and also to pay and discharge the principal thereof, be approved?

Interpretive Statement

Approval of this act would authorize \$200 million in funding for Green Acres, farmland, Blue Acres, and historic preservation projects through the sale of State general obligation bonds. The Green Acres program preserves open space, including parks, fish and wildlife habitat, flood prone or affected areas, and lands that protect water supplies. It also funds park improvements and facilities. Of the total sum authorized: (1) \$109 million will be used for Green Acres; (2) \$73 million will be used for farmland preservation purposes; (3) \$12 million will be used to fund a new "Blue Acres" program by which the State may purchase from willing sellers, for open space preservation purposes, properties in the Delaware River, Passaic River, and Raritan River basin floodways that are prone to or have incurred flood or storm damage; and (4) \$6 million will be used for historic preservation purposes.

County	Yes Count	No Count
Atlantic	20,147	25,110
Bergen	74,161	57,576
Burlington	47,314	31,409
Camden	45,571	26,093
Cape May	12,669	13,206
Cumberland	10,493	10,544
Essex	38,322	24,685
Gloucester	32,465	18,357
Hudson	18,465	10,057
Hunterdon	14,529	15,136
Mercer	37,998	25,496
Middlesex	55,120	49,281
Monmouth	64,643	59,292
Morris	44,335	45,821
Ocean	49,799	63,089
Passaic	24,626	21,044
Salem	10,808	6,424
Somerset	29,360	29,197
Sussex	15,040	17,356
Union	29,341	26,252
Warren	9,388	10,634
Total	684,594	586,059

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PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 4**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO VOTE FOR CERTAIN PERSONS**

Shall the amendment of Article II, Section I, paragraph 6 of the Constitution, agreed to by the Legislature, revising the current constitutional language concerning denial of the right to vote by deleting the phrase "idiot or insane person" and providing instead that a "person who has been adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting" shall not enjoy the right of suffrage, be adopted?

Interpretive Statement

Approval of this amendment concerning the denial of the right to vote would delete the phrase "idiot or insane person" and replace that phrase with "person who has been adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting" in describing those persons who shall be denied the right to vote. The phrase "idiot or insane person" is outdated, vague, offensive to many, and may be subject to misinterpretation. This constitutional amendment acknowledges that individuals with cognitive or emotional disabilities may otherwise be capable of making decisions in the voting booth and that their right of self-determination should be respected and protected in this regard. The amendment only denies the right of suffrage to those individuals determined by a court, on a case-by-case basis, to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting.

County	Yes Count	No Count
Atlantic	22,925	21,644
Bergen	79,616	49,778
Burlington	48,878	28,656
Camden	47,293	23,539
Cape May	14,127	10,914
Cumberland	10,010	10,539
Essex	42,310	19,901
Gloucester	31,425	18,039
Hudson	17,566	9,714
Hunterdon	15,614	13,515
Mercer	41,085	21,339
Middlesex	59,653	43,427
Monmouth	71,943	50,551
Morris	53,035	36,095
Ocean	57,686	52,998
Passaic	26,837	18,061
Salem	10,728	6,381
Somerset	33,828	24,130
Sussex	19,143	13,134
Union	32,274	21,928
Warren	10,562	9,112
Total	746,538	503,395