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Summary of the questions presented on the April 4th ballot

Under Referendum questions 1 and 2, the Wisconsin constitution as written, does not allow Judges to consider the principle of “protecting the public” when considering release before conviction or the imposition of bail. The purpose of these referendums is to amend the constitution in order to grant this expanded authority for consideration by Judges in their deliberations on these matters.

State of Wisconsin Conditions of Release Before Conviction Referendum –

Question 1 Vote for one

QUESTION 1: “Conditions of release before conviction. Shall section 8 (2) of article I of the constitution be amended to allow a court to impose on an accused person being released before conviction **conditions that are designed to protect the community from serious harm?**”

Explanation: The purpose of this amendment is to give Judges the expanded discretion to hold an accused person as a means of protecting the community from serious harm. This would equip a Judge with the power to protect the public by imposing certain conditions when it is appropriate and meets the requirements further defined in the proposed amendment.

Yes No

State of Wisconsin Cash Bail Before Conviction Referendum - Question 2

Vote for one

QUESTION 2: “Cash bail before conviction. Shall section 8 (2) of article I of the constitution **be amended to allow a court to impose cash bail on a person accused of a violent crime based on the totality of the circumstances, including the accused’s previous convictions for a violent crime, the probability that the accused will fail to appear, the need to protect the community from serious harm and prevent witness intimidation, and potential affirmative defenses?**”

Explanation: Once again the constitution does not allow for the imposition of bail for the areas that are being added with this amendment. This amendment would equip a Judge with the power to protect the public by imposing cash bail when it is appropriate and meets the requirements further defined in the proposed amendment.

Yes No

State of Wisconsin Welfare Benefits Referendum - Question 3

Vote for one

QUESTION 3: “Shall able-bodied, childless adults be required to look for work in order to receive taxpayer-funded welfare benefits?”

Explanation: This proposal would require such persons to be actively seeking employment in order to receive taxpayer-funded welfare benefits

Yes No