Section 1: What is Issue 1?

Will appear on the August 8th, 2023 ballot.

Issue 1 is a constitutional amendment to permanently end majority rule in Ohio. Politicians and special interests deliberately wrote Issue 1 to be confusing. If an issue needs 60% to pass, what that really means is that 40% of voters can veto the will of the majority on any issue. In summary, a small number of people can overrule the majority of citizens on any issue.

On August 8, the only thing on your ballot will be Issue 1 to permanently end majority rule in Ohio.

A yes vote is a vote to end majority rule. A no vote defends majority rule and the sacred principle of ‘one person, one vote.’

Majority rule has been the law in Ohio for more than 100 years. Issue 1 restricts your freedom and takes away our rights. It permanently shreds our Constitution, ends majority rule in Ohio and takes away your right to decide what happens in Ohio by undermining the sacred principle of ‘one person, one vote.’

Issue 1 was written to trick you. The politicians and special interests pushing Issue 1 have admitted that their proposal has errors and mistakes — but they say that doesn’t matter. They know that you do not want to give away your rights, so they are trying to trick voters into supporting their radical proposal.

Special interests bought the August 8 Special Election. Nearly $2 million in special interest lobbying and $20 million in taxpayer money: That’s what it cost special interests to buy their own special election on August 8. They wanted a low turnout special election to control the result. And on August 8, the only thing on your ballot will be Issue 1 to permanently end majority rule in Ohio. They’ve spent millions to buy the election — and are still spending — to take away your rights.

If passed future citizen-initiated and General Assembly passed constitutional amendments would be subject to the following rules:

• Require that any proposed amendment to the Ohio Constitution receive the approval of at least 60 percent of eligible voters voting on the proposal. Current law only requires a simple majority.
• Requires that any initiative petition filed on or after January 1, 2024, with the Secretary of State that proposes to amend the constitution be signed by at least 5 percent of the previous gubernatorial election in all 88 counties. Current law only requires this threshold in 44 of the 88 counties.
• For initiatives filed on or after January 1, 2024, proposing to amend the constitution no additional signatures may be added once the signatures have been submitted to the Secretary of State. Current law provides a ten-day period after submission for signature gatherers to submit additional signatures.

POSITION: OEA is opposed to Issue 1 and asks that all members vote NO on Issue 1 on August 8, 2023.

OEA has joined up with the One Person, One Vote Coalition to help defeat Issue 1 this August. To find out other organizations that have joined the coalition, please click here or go to: https://votenoinaugust.org/

Early in-person and absentee voting begins on July 11 Election Day is Tuesday, August 8. Polls will be open from 6:30am until 7:30pm.
Section 2: The Ask

To defeat Issue 1 on the August 8, 2023, special election, OEA members, leadership, and staff must do all they can to ensure members know why we are asking them to vote NO on Issue 1 this August and how to get involved in OEA our coalition partners’ efforts.

OEA members and staff will be asked to participate in OEA’s Member-to-member NO on Issue 1 program in the following ways:

- Canvassing
  - Dates for organized OEA canvasses: June 24/25, July 8/9, August 5/6/7
- Phone banking
- Hustle Text Messaging
- Testimonial Submissions via Soapboxx
- Submitting Letters to the Editor

To sign-up for OEA’s No on Issue 1 campaign, please click here or go to: https://www.ohea.org/actions/vote-no-august/

To record a video testimonial about why you are voting No in August, please click here or go to: https://ohea.soapboxx.us/category/647b38007ef2ed5cb7de53a6

SOAPBOXX QR CODE:

For information about the One Person, One Vote campaign, which OEA has endorsed and is actively a part of, please click here or go to: https://votenoinaugust.org/

Section 3: Sample Messaging

Educators are the backbone of Ohio’s communities. This August, the future of public education is on the line, and it’s time for educators to lead the fight to protect our freedom and rights by VOTING NO ON ISSUE 1 ON AUGUST 8TH.

Issue 1 is a power grab by corrupt politicians and outside special interests to shred Ohio’s constitution to take away our rights, end majority rule and undermine the sacred principle of one-person one-vote so they can get what they want instead of what we, the people, want for the future of Ohio. Issue 1 is a threat to educators, our families, our communities, and our schools because it eliminates our freedom to decide what happens in our state.

Please use the following messaging guidance for when you speak with friends, family, colleagues, and neighbors about the importance of voting No on Issue 1 this August.
SAMPLE MESSAGING ARCHITECTURE

Lean into the shared value of Freedom: We all want the freedom to make decisions that affect our lives. Ballot issues give citizens the freedom to make laws when politicians fail us.

Hit home that Issue 1 ends majority rule and the principle of one person one vote: This amendment restricts our freedom and takes away our rights. It permanently shreds our Constitution, ends majority rule in Ohio, and takes away our right to decide what happens here by undermining the sacred principle of “one person, one vote.”

Frame the vote as a choice between citizens and corrupt interests: Special interests spent millions lobbying corrupt politicians to call this August special election – just for this one constitutional amendment. They are pushing this amendment to take away our rights and end majority rule so they can get what they want instead of what we, the people, want.

Use a call to action that leans into our rights and the principle of One Person One Vote: Vote NO to protect our rights and one person one vote.

Sample Education Framed Messages:

Educators work tirelessly to protect our freedoms and opportunity both inside the schoolhouse and in our communities. That’s why OEA members are saying loud and clear: VOTE NO on Issue 1 this August! Issue 1 is a brazen attempt by out-of-state special interests and corrupt politicians to undermine majority rule and shred Ohio’s constitution to silence the voice of Ohioans and end the sacred principle of “one person, one vote.”

Educators work to hard improving the lives of their families, students, and their communities to sit back and watch corrupt politicians shred our constitution and undermine the sacred principle of one person, one vote. Join educators across the state to defeat Issue 1 by voting NO this August. A vote No on Issue 1 is a vote to protect majority rule and freedom for all Ohioans.

If we are going to educate our students about the importance of democracy, we must also educate them about how to protect it. Corrupt politicians and greedy special interests are trying to shred the Ohio Constitution and give veto power to a small minority of voters. To protect our rights and freedoms, and the principle of majority rule, we must stand up and vote NO on Issue 1 this August.

When posting messages to social media, please use the following hashtags and graphics:

#VoteNoInAugust #OnePersonOneVote
Section 4: Make Your Plan to Vote No this August.

It is important that you make your plan to vote No on Issue 1 this August. When making a plan to vote, please see the following schedule for the August 8th Special Election:

The voting schedule for the August 8, 2023, Special Election is as follows:

- June 23, 2023: Military & Overseas Absentee Voting Begins
- July 10, 2023: Deadline to Register to Vote for the August 8, 2023, Special Election
- August 8: Election Day, polls open from 6:30 AM to 7:30 PM

Making your plan to vote No on Issue 1 this August is as simple as 1, 2, 3. Follow these easy steps to make your vote plan:

1. **Confirm and Update Your Voter Registration**
   - You must register or update your registration by July 10, 2023, for the August 8th Special Election.
   - To confirm your registration, please click here or go to: https://voterlookup.ohiosos.gov/voterlookup.aspx
   - To register to vote or update your registration, please click here or go to: https://olvr.ohiosos.gov/

2. **To request your mail-in, absentee ballot, you have two options:**
   1. Print your ballot request and mail it to your county’s Board of Elections. Fill out an absentee ballot request application online and download the PDF and print it from your printer.
   2. Have an application mailed to you by your Board of Elections. Call your county Board to request an application.
   
   To find out more on how to vote absentee by mail, please click here or go to: https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/how-to-request-your-absentee-ballot/

OR

2. **Find Your Early, In-Person Voting Location**
   - Registered voters in Ohio may cast an early in-person ballot at their county’s designated early vote location. Click here or go to the below link to find the early voting location in your county.
   
   https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/toolkit/early-voting/

3. **Find Your Polling Location for Election Day Voting**
   - If you choose to vote on in person on Election Day, find where your polling place is located by clicking here or go to: https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/toolkit/polling-location/