

League of Women Voters Says Vote 'No!'

To the Editor:

Wisconsinites will see three proposed amendments to the state constitution on the Nov. 3 ballot. The League of Women Voters recommends a "No" Vote on each referendum question. These amendments are unnecessary and do not belong in our state constitution.

The Partial Veto Referendum would prohibit a governor from using the partial veto to increase, but not to decrease, any tax or fee. It could prevent a governor from correcting legislative underfunding for needs, such as education. It is intended to give more power to the legislature and limit the power of the governor.

The Freedom to Gather in Places of Worship During an Emergency Referendum would prohibit governmental regulation of attendance at places of worship in any emergency, including a public health emergency. It could increase the risk of spreading disease in the community. Worshipers can continue to gather virtually as they did during the pandemic.

The Governmental Entity Discrimination Prohibited Referendum would prohibit "preferential treatment" of anyone based on race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin. Since discrimination is already illegal under both state and federal law, this misleading proposal would not add any protection from discrimination. Rather, it would only add a prohibition on programs for affirmative action or Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. This proposed amendment could limit the ability of state and local governments to use policies and programs designed to address longstanding disparities and expand access to opportunity.

The League has fliers and speakers available to explain more about these amendments. Or visit our website: lwvdanecounty.org.

Sue Jennik

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