# BLACK WOMEN VOTERS GUIDE





#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Linda Goler Blount, MPH President Black Women's Health Imperative

#### PREPARED BY

Ifeoma C. Udoh, PhD Executive Vice President Policy, Advocacy, and Science Black Women's Health Imperative

Zsanai Epps, DrPH, MPH, CHES Senior Director Reproductive Justice Initiatives Black Women's Health Imperative

Lisa Cunningham Executive Vice President

Marketing & Communications Black Women's Health Imperative

### CONTRIBUTORS

WRITER/RESEARCHER Monaye Johnson, MA

PROOFREADER Laura J. Nadel DESIGN/LAYOUT

Dana Magsumbol

# Contents

Letter From Our President
Election Overview4
Connecting Our Issues and Our lives: The Five Pillars Explained 5
Where Does Your Candidate Stand on the Issues?6
2024 State Ballot Measures by Pillar
2024 General Ballot Measures by States13
US Abortion Policies and Access After Roe



Dear Community:

For many Black women, 2024 has been a year of profound challenges and impacts on our health and livelihoods. The stakes of this election season are incredibly high. In the first half of this year alone, we've seen harmful federal and state policies and Supreme Court decisions which impact our health, autonomy, safety, and our democracy. Rising inflation, housing insecurity, and the persistent impacts of climate change

disproportionately affect our communities, underscoring the urgency of our participation in the upcoming elections. Be clear: Black women and the power of our vote have always been at the forefront of keeping the US democracy intact. This year, we must vote like our lives depend on it.

The Black Women's Health Imperative (BWHI) remains dedicated to addressing these pressing issues through innovative programs, research, policy and advocacy that promote health and wellness for Black women and girls. In alignment with our mission, BWHI is proud to release *Black Women Vote 2024 Health Policy Voters Guide*. The goal of the guide is to provide a checklist framework of pressing issues in this year's election which have the ability to impact the health and wellness of our communities. The guide is organized by **"Five Pillars"**, where each pillar names a theme central to the health and whole being of Black women and our communities:



On November 5th, we must elect leaders "down the ballot"- from our local and state representatives, to the highest office of the land – who will prioritize our health, safety, and rights. It is not lost on us that since the 2020 election, more than 400 bills in nearly every state were introduced aimed at restricting access to voting primarily in communities of color. Our fundamental rights to health, to vote, to caring for our families are at dire risk. We must see November 5th as the opportunity to elect leaders and vote on policies that support us – our reproductive rights and freedoms, our healthcare access, and our economic stability.

This election is one of the most important in our lifetime. The intersectional issues impacting our collective communities greatly highlight the urgent need for transformative leadership in our democracy. The most recent targeting of reproductive freedoms, including decisions across many states that deeply limit access to healthcare for abortion, limit access to family planning services such as *in vitro* fertilization (IVF), maternal care support, and those that harm the safety of healthcare workers – have significantly impacted Black women, exacerbating existing health disparities. These changes – bluntly put – present grave danger to our ability to live whole and full lives. It is our voices being heard at the ballot box that can elect leaders who navigate these complex issues on our behalf.

We urge you to use this guide as part of your research to understand policies and issues that impact us deeply – and to vote like we are in the fight of our lives. Join us in achieving our vision for all Black women to enjoy optimal health in a society that promotes health equity and social justice. Your vote can make all the difference – it does indeed matter.

Sincerely

Linda Goler Blount, MPH President



# **Election Overview**

**Presidential Election:** The 2024 United States Presidential election will be held on November 5, 2024. This will be the 60th presidential election held in the US. The electoral college is used for the sole purpose of voting for the president and vice president, and it is directly proportional to votes at the state level. To understand more about how the total 538 votes are assigned to the electoral college and how your vote matters, please see this interactive map: <u>https://www.270towin.com/</u>

# **Congressional Elections:**

- House of Representatives: All 435 seats are up for election.
- Senate: 34 of the 100 seats are up for election (33 regular elections, 1 special election in Nebraska).

# **Governorships:**

• Total Seats: 11 of the 50 state governorships are up for election.

# **Current Composition:**

- House of Representatives: Republicans currently hold a 218-213 majority, with four vacancies.
- Senate: Democrats hold a slim majority, including three independents who caucus with them.
- Governorships: Republicans hold 27 governorships; Democrats hold 23.



# Connecting Our Issues and Our lives: The Five Pillars Explained



# **Pillar I:** Access to Quality and Affordable Healthcare

**Overview:** Access to quality and affordable healthcare is essential for improving overall health outcomes and reducing health disparities. This pillar addresses various aspects, including reproductive rights, Medicaid and Medicare expansion, maternal health, HIV prevention, mental health services, women's health research, drug pricing, and chronic disease management. Ensuring equitable access to healthcare services is fundamental to improving health outcomes and reducing disparities.

# **Pillar II: Healthy Families and Children First**

**Overview:** Healthy families and children are the foundation of a thriving society. This pillar emphasizes the importance of comprehensive policies that support financial stability, education, housing, and nutrition for families and children. By prioritizing these areas, we can ensure that all children have the opportunity to succeed and that families have the resources they need to thrive.





# **Pillar III: Equitable Governance and Relationships**

**Overview:** Equitable governance and relationships require that the lawmakers of the land hold harness the meaning of this historical quote: "A government that is of the people, by the people, and for the people". This pillar centers on the important work of those who in their service to others – whether military personnel, or our global community – are supported by a government that centers on funding to maintain their overall health.

# **Pillar IV: Employment/Education Justice and Equity**

**Overview:** Employment and education justice and equity are vital for ensuring that all individuals have access to fair opportunities and support systems. This pillar addresses the impacts of climate change on health, police oversight and reform, workplace protections for pregnant women, and funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Ensuring justice and equity in these areas promotes a more inclusive and supportive society.





# **Pillar V:** Technology Access and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

**Overview:** Access to technology and the ethical use of artificial intelligence (AI) are critical for ensuring that all individuals can participate in and benefit from the digital economy. This pillar addresses the need for equitable technology access, the ethical development and deployment of AI, and the promotion of digital literacy and skills.



# Where Does Your Candidate Stand on the Issues?

**Cervical Cancer** 

# Pillar I: Access to Quality and Affordable Healthcare

Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Comprehensive Healthcare Coverage Supports preservation and improvement upon the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to ensure millions of Americans retain access to affordable, quality healthcare. Medicaid and Medicare Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Supports Medicaid expansion in all 50 states and the protection of Medicaid and Medicare as safety net programs with no harmful waivers, such as work requirements, premiums, or time limits. Mandatory Maternity Coverage Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Supports requiring health insurance plans to cover a comprehensive range of maternal health services, including prenatal care, labor and delivery, and postpartum care. **Medicine and Biosimilars** Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Supports access to affordable life-saving drugs, including biosimilars, and policies that allow biosimilars to provide market competition. **Drug Pricing Programs** Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Supports patients' access to affordable medications through the 340B drug pricing program, which allows eligible healthcare providers to purchase drugs at reduced prices. **Over-the-Counter Contraceptives** Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Supports access to affordable and over-the-counter (OTC) contraceptives through the maintenance of the ACA's contraceptive coverage benefit with no religious or moral exemptions, as well as support of the Protect Access to Birth Control Act. Abortion Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Supports enshrining and protecting abortion rights at the state and federal level, removing restrictions on abortion care, and expanding public funding for and increasing the availability of abortion services. HIV Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) to prevent HIV transmission and reduce new HIV infections. Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Supports coverage of obesity care and treatment and supports the Treat and Reduce Obesity Act (TROA) to provide comprehensive care for obesity, including medical, nutritional, and behavioral interventions. Sickle Cell Disease Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Supports coverage of sickle cell disease treatment and expands funding for research on the prevalence, delivery of care, and health outcomes for Black women and girls.

Supports co-testing (combining the Pap and HPV tests) as the preferred screening option. Supports legislation that increases federal funding for early detection programs. Supports studying the efficacy of self-screening HPV tests. Supports including Black women in clinical trials. Breast Cancer Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Supports annual mammograms for women starting at age 40 and provides complete coverage of 3D mammogram screening and diagnostic tests without copays, coinsurance, or deductibles. **Uterine Fibroids** Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Supports legislation improving research and education on uterine fibroids, and screening methods for pelvic pain, and supports investment in innovative technologies to measure pain and provide alternatives to surgical solutions. Mental Health Yes 🗌 No 🗍 Supports increasing the availability of mental health services and insurance coverage for expanded access to counseling, crisis interventions, and telehealth services. **Comprehensive Sex Education** Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports legislation that mandates comprehensive health education curricula and programs inclusive of puberty, bodily autonomy, sexual orientation, gender identity, healthy relationships, contraception, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) prevention.

#### Menstrual Health Education

Supports incorporating menstrual health education into school curricula to ensure students receive comprehensive education on menstrual health.

#### **Menstrual Products**

Supports increasing access to menstrual products, providing free menstrual products in public spaces, particularly in schools and public restrooms, and eliminating the sales tax on menstrual products, often called the "tampon tax".

#### **Telehealth Expansion**

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Yes 🗌

No 🗌

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports policies to expand telemedicine and remote healthcare services, ensuring patients in remote areas can access quality healthcare.

#### **Technological Innovations**

Supports advancing research and technologies to improve women's health, ensuring better diagnostics and treatments.

#### Clinical Trials

Yes 🔲 No 🗌

Supports increasing the engagement of Black women in clinical trials to ensure equity in the findings of new therapies and treatments and ensure that they work effectively for Black women.

#### **Rural Health**

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports policies to increase funding for rural health clinics and improve access to medical services in underserved rural areas.

#### Healthcare Workforce

#### Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports addressing the shortage of healthcare professionals by providing incentives for training, recruitment, and retention of healthcare workers in underserved areas.

Supports increased access to preventive care, affordable cardiovascular medicines, medical devices, and funding for culturally tailored campaigns and programs that educate and assist Black women in reducing their risk of heart disease.

Supports expanding access to PrEP and continued funding and protection of the National AIDS Strategy and President's

**Cardiovascular Health** 

#### Obesity

# Where Does Your Candidate Stand on the Issues?

# **Pillar II:** Healthy Families and Children First

Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) Yes 🗌 No 🗌 Supports adjustments to housing and childcare subsidies based on the cost of living and raising wages based on inflation or the cost of living. Housing Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports policies to increase the availability of affordable housing and prevent homelessness.

#### Title X Family Planning Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports preserving women's preventive services coverage, increasing funds allocated to Title X programs, and increasing availability of services.

Safety	Net	Programs	
Jaiety	INCL	FIUgrains	

Supports expanding the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program to provide nutritional support to low-income families.

Parental Leave Policies	Yes 🗌 No 🗌				
Supports expanding and improving paid parental leave to ensure all parents have time to bond with their new children and attend to family health needs.					
Child Tax Credit	Yes 🗌 No 🗌				
Support policies to increase the child tax credit, provide financial relief to families, and reduce child poverty.					

Early Childhood Education and Care

Supports expanding access to quality early childhood

Yes 🗖

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

No 🗌

education programs. Supports initiatives to make childcare more affordable and accessible for all families, ensuring that children receive quality care while parents work.

School Nutrition Programs

Supports enhancements to school meal programs to ensure children receive healthy, nutritious food that supports their growth and learning.

# Pillar III: Equitable Governance and Relationships

Voting	Diahts
voung	RIGHTS

Supports federal and state legislation that protects voting rights, prevents discriminatory practices, and supports measures to restore voting rights to individuals affected by past convictions and other disenfranchisement practices.

#### **Government Funding Opportunities**

Supports equitable access to federal funding opportunities for Black-led and -serving organizations and promotes collaboration and coordination among federal agencies, state and local governments, and organizations.

#### Capacity Building in Black-Led Organizations Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports investments in capacity building for Black-led organizations to participate effectively and benefit from federal programs and include Black communities in the decision-making process for federal programs and funding.

Anti-Discrimination and Equity Training Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports mandating anti-discrimination and equity training for public and private sector organizations.

#### **Emergency Preparedness**

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports comprehensive emergency response plans, funding, and protection plans for disproportionately impacted communities, such as direct payments to individuals and paycheck protection-type programs.

Cybersecurity

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports strengthening national cybersecurity measures and international cooperation to counter cyber threats and protect critical infrastructure.

**Diplomatic Relations** 

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports strategies for managing relationships with key global players, including diplomatic engagement and conflict resolution.

**Refugee and Immigration Policies** Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports comprehensive policies on refugee resettlement and immigration reform to provide safe havens and integrate immigrants into society.

#### **Climate Diplomacy**

Supports international efforts to address climate change and environmental protection through collaborative global agreements and initiatives. Also, supports legislation that fights to mitigate climate change and highlights the direct effect this crisis has on women of color.

#### Environmental Health

Supports access to safe and clean water through policies that increase funding for our nation's water infrastructure needs; prioritize nature-based solutions; uphold environmental, health, and safety standards; and make water affordable for evervone.

#### Commercial Tobacco Control

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports legislation that limits or bans the sale of flavored tobacco products such as menthol, restricts advertising, prevents tobacco companies from targeting youth, and allocates funds for tobacco prevention and cessation programs.

#### **Opioid Crisis**

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports increased funding for public health initiatives and programs and continued coverage of substance abuse prevention and treatment.

# Where Does Your Candidate Stand on the Issues?

# Pillar IV: Employment/Education Justice and Equity

Pay Equity	Yes 🗌	No 🗌			
Supports legal protections that prohibit sex-based discrimination in compensation, including the Equal Pay Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Executive Order 11246.					
Workplace Protections	Yes 🗌	No 🗌			
Supports workplace protections for worker expanding Family and Medical Leave Act (I such as bills that increase the amount of pa broaden eligibility criteria.	FMLA) pro	visions,			
Historically Black Colleges and University (HBCU) Investments	Yes 🗌	No 🗌			
Supports increased federal and state funding prevent closures and promote educational	0	CUs to			
Clinical Trials	Yes 🗌	No 🗌			
Supports inclusion of Black women in clinical trials to better					

Supports inclusion of Black women in clinical trials to better inform research and understand health disparities including higher incidence and mortality rates from chronic conditions.

#### Healthcare Workforce

**Tech Workforce** 

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports education, training, and retention of minority health professionals and culturally competent training, licensure, and accreditation.

#### Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports enhanced access to 3D technology, programs, and initiatives to increase the number of Black women in tech and startups with investment funding.

#### Gender-Based Violence

Supports and recommends policy solutions to protect victims of sexual assault such as the reauthorization of funding for the Violence Against Women Act, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, and the Victims of Crimes Act.

#### Police Violence

Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Yes 🗌 No 🗍

Supports policy solutions to police violence, including redistributing excessive police funding to social services programming.

# Pillar V: Technology Access and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

#### Technology

Supports policies that ensure equitable access to technology for all individuals, including broadband internet access and digital literacy programs.

#### **Broadband and Internet**



Yes 🗌 No 🗌

Supports policies to ensure affordable and accessible high-speed internet access to underserved communities and access to digital literacy programs specifically targeting communities with limited tech access.

#### Artificial Intelligence (AI)



Supports the ethical development and deployment of Al technologies, ensuring they are used responsibly and do not perpetuate biases. Also, supports the establishment of transparency requirements for Al systems used in healthcare to disclose decision-making around data use.

#### **Privacy Protections**

Yes 🗌 No 🗍

Supports implementing measures to prevent and address the use of AI in perpetrating sexual violence — including deepfake technology and online harassment — as well as implementing privacy and security measures to protect users from harassment and abuse, including measures to prevent doxxing and unauthorized data sharing. Also, supports implementing strong privacy protections for health data used in AI systems to safeguard the personal information of Black women, protect against breaches, and ensure data integrity.



# 2024 State Ballot Measures by Pillar

# **Pillar I:** Access to Quality and Affordable Healthcare

# California 340B Drug Pricing Initiative (2024)

**Yes Vote:** Supports maintaining and expanding the 340B drug pricing program. **No Vote:** Opposes the initiative, potentially reducing the program's scope.

# California Menstrual Equity for All Act (2024)

Yes Vote: Supports providing free menstrual products in schools.No Vote: Opposes the initiative, not requiring schools to provide free menstrual products.

# **Colorado Mental Health Services Expansion Act (2024)**

**Yes Vote:** Supports increasing funding and resources for mental health services. **No Vote:** Opposes the expansion, maintaining current funding levels.

# Florida Obesity Treatment and TROIA Initiative (2024)

**Yes Vote:** Supports implementing TROIA and expanding Medicare coverage for obesity treatments. **No Vote:** Opposes the initiative, maintaining current policies on obesity treatment.

# Maryland Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment (2024)

**Yes Vote:** Supports adding a new article to the Maryland Constitution's Declaration of Rights establishing a right to reproductive freedom, including the ability to make decisions about pregnancy.

No Vote: Opposes amending the state constitution to establish a right to reproductive freedom.

# Massachusetts Women's Health Research and Technology Initiative (2024)

**Yes Vote:** Supports funding for women's health research and technology advancements. **No Vote:** Opposes the initiative, not providing additional funding.

# New York PrEP Access Expansion Initiative (2024)

Yes Vote: Supports expanding access to PrEP statewide.No Vote: Opposes the expansion, maintaining current levels of access.

# **Texas Maternal Health Improvement Act (2024)**

**Yes Vote:** Supports the implementation of comprehensive maternal health programs. **No Vote:** Opposes the implementation, maintaining the current maternal health policies.

# **Pillar II: Healthy Families and Children First**

#### California Affordable Housing Act (2024)

- Yes Vote: Allows local governments to adopt rent control on residential properties.
- No Vote: Maintains current restrictions on rent control.

#### **California School Nutrition Enhancement Measure (2024)**

- Yes Vote: Enhances funding and standards for school meal programs to ensure healthy, nutritious food for all students.
- No Vote: Opposes additional funding, maintaining current standards.

#### Florida Youth Mental Health Services Initiative (2024)

- Yes Vote: Increases access to mental healthcare services for children and adolescents in schools and community centers.
- No Vote: Opposes additional funding, maintaining current levels.

#### Massachusetts Early Childhood Education Funding Initiative (2024)

- Yes Vote: Increases funding for early childhood education programs.
- **No Vote:** Opposes additional funding, maintaining current levels.

#### Nebraska Small Farming Subsidy Expansion Act (2024)

Yes Vote: Increases subsidies for small farmers, supporting sustainable agriculture.

No Vote: Opposes additional subsidies, maintaining current levels.

#### New Jersey Parental Leave Expansion Act (2024)

Yes Vote: Expands and improves paid parental leave policies, providing more time and benefits for new parents.No Vote: Opposes the expansion, maintaining current policies.

#### New York Child Tax Credit Expansion Act (2024)

Yes Vote: Increases the child tax credit, providing more financial support to families.

No Vote: Maintains the current level of child tax credit.

#### New York Family Homelessness Prevention Act (2024)

- **Yes Vote:** Provides funding and support for programs aimed at preventing family homelessness and offering stable housing solutions.
- No Vote: Opposes additional funding, maintaining current levels.

#### **Oregon Affordable Childcare Initiative (2024)**

- Yes Vote: Increases funding for childcare services, making them more affordable and accessible for families.
- No Vote: Opposes additional funding, maintaining current levels.

#### Texas SNAP & WIC Expansion Initiative (2024)

Yes Vote: Expands SNAP and WIC programs to cover more families, ensuring nutritional support.

**No Vote**: Maintains current program coverage levels.

# **Pillar III: Equitable Governance and Relationships**

### California Ethical Investment Act (2024)

Yes Vote: Requires state universities and businesses to divest from entities involved in human rights violations.No Vote: Opposes the requirement, allowing current investment practices to continue.

#### California Humanitarian Aid Funding Act (2024)

Yes Vote: Increases state funding for international humanitarian aid programs to support global crises.No Vote: Opposes additional funding, maintaining current levels.

#### Florida Defense and Veterans Funding Initiative (2024)

**Yes Vote:** Increases funding for the Department of Defense and veterans' support programs. No Vote: Maintains current funding levels.

#### Florida Global Health Initiative (2024)

Yes Vote: Increases funding and support for global health programs and pandemic preparedness.No Vote: Opposes additional funding, maintaining current support levels.

#### Georgia Military Alliance Support Act (2024)

**Yes Vote:** Supports maintaining and strengthening alliances such as NATO to ensure global security. **No Vote:** Opposes additional support, maintaining current commitments.

#### New York Cybersecurity Cooperation Initiative (2024)

- Yes Vote: Strengthens national cybersecurity measures and promotes international cooperation on cyber threats.
- No Vote: Opposes additional measures, maintaining current policies.

#### New York Student Protest Protection Initiative (2024)

**Yes Vote:** Ensures legal and institutional protections for students and faculty participating in protests. **No Vote:** Opposes additional protections, maintaining current policies.

#### **Oregon Climate Diplomacy Measure (2024)**

Yes Vote: Promotes state involvement in international climate agreements and environmental protection initiatives.No Vote: Opposes additional measures, maintaining current involvement levels.

#### **Texas Refugee and Immigration Reform Act (2024)**

**Yes Vote:** Implements comprehensive policies on refugee resettlement and immigration reform. **No Vote:** Opposes additional policies, maintaining current levels.

#### **Texas Women Veterans Support Act (2024)**

**Yes Vote:** Expands funding and resources for programs specifically supporting women veterans. **No Vote:** Opposes the expansion, maintaining current levels of support.

#### Washington Diplomatic Relations Strategy (2024)

- Yes Vote: Establishes state-level strategies for managing relationships with key global players and promoting diplomatic engagement.
- No Vote: Opposes additional strategies, maintaining current practices.

# **Pillar IV: Employment/Education Justice and Equity**

# California Affordable Higher Education Act (2024)

**Yes Vote:** Reduces tuition and fees for public colleges and universities, and provides student debt relief programs. **No Vote:** Opposes additional measures, maintaining current tuition and fee levels.

#### Florida Public School Funding Enhancement (2024)

- Yes Vote: Increases funding for public schools, prioritizing underserved and low-income areas to improve educational outcomes.
- No Vote: Opposes additional funding, maintaining current levels.

#### Georgia Criminal Justice Reform Act (2024)

- Yes Vote: Introduces reforms to reduce incarceration rates and improve the criminal justice system, with a focus on reducing racial disparities.
- No Vote: Opposes additional measures, maintaining current policies.

#### Massachusetts Gender Pay Equity Measure (2024)

Yes Vote: Implements policies to ensure equal pay for equal work and addresses the gender pay gap.No Vote: Opposes additional measures, maintaining current policies.

#### New York Job Training Investment Initiative (2024)

**Yes Vote:** Increases funding for job training and vocational programs to enhance workforce skills. No Vote: Opposes additional funding, maintaining current support levels.

#### **Texas Workplace Diversity and Inclusion Initiative (2024)**

**Yes Vote:** Promotes diversity and inclusion programs in employment to create equitable workplaces. **No Vote:** Opposes additional measures, maintaining current levels of support.

# **Pillar V:** Technology Access and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

#### California Digital Equity Act (2024)

- Yes Vote: Increases funding for broadband infrastructure and digital literacy programs to ensure equitable access to technology.
- No Vote: Opposes additional funding, maintaining current levels of access.

#### **California Net Neutrality and Broadband Expansion Act (2024)**

- Yes Vote: Ensures net neutrality and provides funding to expand high-speed internet access to rural and underserved areas.
- No Vote: Opposes additional measures, maintaining current levels of support.

#### New York AI Sexual Exploitation Prevention Initiative (2024)

- Yes Vote: Implements measures to prevent the use of AI in sexual exploitation, including regulating deepfake technology and enhancing online harassment protections.
- No Vote: Opposes additional measures, maintaining current levels of protection.

#### New York Ethical AI Initiative (2024)

Yes Vote: Establishes guidelines and oversight for the ethical development and use of AI technologies.No Vote: Opposes the establishment of additional guidelines and oversight, maintaining current practices.



# **2024 General Ballot Measures by States**

#### ALABAMA:

No statewide ballot measures are scheduled for 2024.

#### ALASKA:

#### Minimum Wage Increase Initiative:

- Increase the minimum wage in the state.
- Aimed at ensuring better wages for workers.

#### Repeal of Ranked-Choice Voting Initiative:

- Repeal the current ranked-choice voting system.
- Return to a traditional voting method.

#### **ARIZONA:**

#### Property Tax Reforms:

- Adjustments to property tax laws to potentially reduce the tax burden on homeowners.
- Aimed at making property ownership more affordable.

#### Sex Trafficking Penalties Initiative:

- Stricter penalties for sex trafficking of minors.
- Enhances protection for vulnerable populations.

#### **ARKANSAS:**

#### Lottery Proceeds for Vocational Scholarships Amendment:

- Allocation of state lottery proceeds to vocational scholarships.
- Supports vocational and technical education.

#### Repeal of Education Tax Credits Initiative:

- Repeal tax credits provided to donors of education scholarships.
- Adjusts funding and financial incentives for educational support.

#### CALIFORNIA:

#### \$18 Minimum Wage Initiative:

- Raise the state minimum wage to \$18 per hour.
- Aim to improve living standards for low-wage workers.

#### Pandemic Prevention Institute Initiative:

- Create a pandemic early detection and prevention institute.
- Funded by a 0.75% income tax increase for 10 years.

#### Local Rent Control Initiative:

- Allow local jurisdictions to enact rent control measures.
- Aim to manage housing affordability.

#### **COLORADO:**

#### Abortion Rights Amendment:

- Enshrine the right to abortion in the state constitution.
- Protect reproductive rights against legislative changes.

#### Independent Judicial Discipline Board Amendment:

- Establish an independent board to oversee judicial discipline.
- Ensure accountability and integrity within the judiciary.

# **CONNECTICUT:**

No statewide ballot measures are scheduled for 2024.

#### **DELAWARE:**

No statewide ballot measures are scheduled for 2024.

#### FLORIDA:

#### Repeal of Public Campaign Financing Option Amendment:

- Eliminate the option for public campaign financing.
- Aim to reduce state spending on political campaigns.

#### Property Tax Exemption Adjustment for Inflation:

- Adjust property tax exemptions based on inflation.
- Ensure property tax relief keeps pace with economic changes.

# **GEORGIA:**

#### Tax Exemptions Amendment:

- Provide various tax exemptions to reduce the financial burden on residents.
- Include exemptions for certain property and sales taxes.

#### Education Funding Amendment:

- Adjustments to how educational funds are allocated and used.
- Aim to improve the financial management of educational resources.

# HAWAII:

#### *Property Tax Exemptions for Primary Residences Amendment:*

- Amendments to property tax exemptions to provide relief for primary homeowners.
- Aimed at making home ownership more affordable by reducing tax burdens.

# **IDAHO:**

#### Medical Marijuana Legalization Initiative:

- Legalize the use of medical marijuana.
- Allow patients with certain medical conditions to access marijuana for treatment.

#### Top-Four Ranked-Choice Voting Initiative:

- Implement a top-four ranked-choice voting system.
- Aim to increase electoral fairness and representation.

#### **ILLINOIS:**

#### Property Improvement Tax Credits Initiative:

- Provide tax credits for property improvements.
- Encourage investment in property development and maintenance to boost local economies.

#### **INDIANA:**

#### Educational Funding Adjustments Amendment:

- Adjustments to how educational funds are allocated and managed.
- Aim to improve financial support for education and ensure effective use of resources.

#### IOWA:

#### Voter ID Requirements Amendment:

- Introduce stricter voter ID requirements.
- Enhance election security and integrity by ensuring proper identification at polling stations.

#### Abortion Rights Amendment:

- Define and protect the right to abortion within the state constitution.
- Aim to safeguard reproductive rights against future legislative changes.

# KANSAS:

#### Healthcare Access Initiative:

- Measures to ensure broader access to healthcare services.
- Improve public health by increasing availability of medical resources.

#### State Funding Adjustments Amendment:

- Adjustments to state funding allocations to better meet current needs.
- Enhance fiscal management and resource distribution within the state.

# **KENTUCKY:**

#### Voting Rights Amendment:

- Restore voting rights to individuals previously disenfranchised due to criminal convictions.
- Increase democratic participation by expanding voter eligibility.

#### Healthcare Funding Amendment:

- Measures to ensure adequate funding for healthcare services.
- Enhance public health infrastructure and access to medical care.

### LOUISIANA:

#### Criminal Justice Reforms Initiative:

- Implement reforms aimed at improving the criminal justice system.
- Address issues such as sentencing, parole, and rehabilitation programs.

#### State Funding Allocations Amendment:

- Adjust state funding policies to ensure efficient use of resources.
- Focus on improving fiscal responsibility and budget management.

#### MAINE:

#### Reproductive Autonomy Amendment:

- Protect personal reproductive rights, including access to abortion.
- Ensure these rights are enshrined in the state constitution.

#### Environmental Protections Amendment:

- Measures to enhance environmental conservation efforts.
- Address climate change and preserve natural resources through stricter regulations.

#### **MARYLAND:**

#### Reproductive Freedom Amendment:

- Enshrine the right to reproductive healthcare, including abortion, in the state constitution.
- Aim to protect these rights from legislative changes and court challenges.

#### State Funding Adjustments Initiative:

- Adjust allocations of state funds to better address current priorities.
- Ensure efficient use of financial resources for public services.

#### **MASSACHUSETTS:**

#### Psychedelic Substances Legalization Initiative:

- Legalize the use of certain psychedelic substances for therapeutic purposes.
- Aim to provide alternative treatments for mental health conditions.

#### Tipped Employees Minimum Wage Adjustment:

- Increase the minimum wage for tipped employees.
- Ensure fair compensation and improve living standards for service industry workers.

# **MICHIGAN:**

#### Environmental Protections Amendment:

- Strengthen regulations to protect natural resources and address climate change.
- Focus on sustainability and conservation efforts.

#### Healthcare Funding Adjustments Initiative:

- Adjust funding allocations for healthcare services to improve public health infrastructure.
- Enhance access to medical care and support public health initiatives.

#### **MINNESOTA:**

#### Tax Credits for Property Improvements Amendment:

- Provide tax credits to incentivize property improvements and development.
- Stimulate economic growth through investment in property maintenance.

#### Educational Funding Adjustments:

- Reallocate educational funds to ensure effective use and support for schools.
- Improve educational outcomes by enhancing financial support.

#### **MISSISSIPPI:**

#### Healthcare Funding Initiative:

- Secure funding for healthcare services to improve public health.
- Address healthcare access and infrastructure needs.

#### Educational Reform Initiative:

- Implement changes to the education system to enhance quality and accessibility.
- Focus on improving educational standards and outcomes.

#### **MISSOURI:**

#### Childcare Facilities Tax Exemptions:

- Provide tax exemptions for childcare facilities to reduce operational costs.
- Support early childhood education and care services.

#### State Funding Adjustments Amendment:

- Reallocate state funds to address current priorities and needs.
- Ensure efficient use of financial resources for public services.

#### **MONTANA:**

#### Reproductive Rights Amendment:

- Protect the right to abortion and other reproductive healthcare services.
- Ensure these rights are safeguarded in the state constitution.

#### Veterans Property Tax Exemption Expansion:

- Increase property tax exemptions for veterans.
- Provide financial relief to veterans and support their economic well-being.

### **NEBRASKA:**

#### Abortion Rights Amendment:

- Establish the right to abortion within the state constitution.
- Protect reproductive rights against potential legislative changes.

#### Tax Reform Initiative:

- Implement changes to tax policies to ensure fairness and efficiency.
- Focus on economic stability and growth.

#### **NEVADA:**

#### Abortion Rights Amendment:

- Enshrine the right to abortion in the state constitution.
- Ensure reproductive rights are protected from legislative changes.

#### Educational Funding Adjustments:

- Reallocate funds to support education and improve school resources.
- Enhance educational outcomes through better financial support.

### **NEW HAMPSHIRE:**

#### Presidential Primary Status Amendment:

- Maintain New Hampshire's status as the first primary in the presidential election cycle.
- Preserve the state's significant role in the presidential nomination process.

# **NEW JERSEY:**

#### Property Tax Adjustments Amendment:

- Adjust property tax policies to provide relief and ensure fairness.
- Address issues of affordability and economic stability.

#### Environmental Protections Initiative:

- Enhance regulations to protect natural resources and combat climate change.
- Focus on sustainability and environmental conservation.

#### Key Issues:

- Healthcare and Reproductive Rights: Legalizing psychedelic substances, protecting abortion rights.
- Economic Policies: Property tax adjustments, tax credits for property improvements.
- Environmental Protections: Strengthening conservation efforts and addressing climate change.
- Educational Support: Funding adjustments to improve educational outcomes.

# **NEW MEXICO:**

#### Veterans Property Tax Exemption Increase:

- Increase property tax exemptions for veterans from \$4,000 to \$10,000.
- Provide additional financial relief to veterans.

#### Public Education Funding Bond Issues:

- Secure funding through bonds for public education, public libraries, and senior citizens facilities.
- Aim to enhance educational and community services infrastructure.

# **NEW YORK:**

#### Equal Protection of Law Amendment:

- Amend the state constitution to ensure equality under the law regardless of ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, and sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, and reproductive healthcare.
- Strengthen protections against discrimination.

#### NORTH CAROLINA:

#### Healthcare Funding Initiative:

- Secure funding for healthcare services to improve public health infrastructure.
- Address healthcare access and resource allocation.

#### Tax Reforms Amendment:

- Implement changes to tax policies to ensure fairness and efficiency.
- Focus on economic stability and growth.

#### NORTH DAKOTA:

#### Congressional Age Limits Initiative:

- Set age limits for congressional candidates to ensure eligibility criteria.
- Aim to standardize candidate qualifications.

#### State Funding Adjustments Amendment:

- Adjust state funding allocations to better meet current needs.
- Enhance fiscal management and resource distribution.

#### OHIO:

#### Environmental Protections Amendment:

- Strengthen regulations to protect natural resources and address climate change.
- Focus on sustainability and conservation efforts.

#### Healthcare Funding Adjustments Initiative:

- Adjust funding allocations for healthcare services to improve public health infrastructure.
- Enhance access to medical care and support public health initiatives.

#### **OKLAHOMA:**

#### Tax Reforms Initiative:

- Implement changes to tax policies to ensure fairness and efficiency.
- Focus on economic stability and growth.

#### State Funding Adjustments Amendment:

- Reallocate state funds to address current priorities and needs.
- Ensure efficient use of financial resources for public services.

#### **OREGON:**

#### Ranked-Choice Voting Amendment:

- Implement ranked-choice voting for various state and federal elections.
- Aim to increase electoral fairness and representation.

#### Educational Funding Adjustments:

- Reallocate educational funds to ensure effective use and support for schools.
- Improve educational outcomes by enhancing financial support.

#### **PENNSYLVANIA:**

#### Abortion Rights Amendment:

- Establish the right to abortion within the state constitution.
- Protect reproductive rights against potential legislative changes.

#### Tax Reform Initiative:

- Implement changes to tax policies to ensure fairness and efficiency.
- Focus on economic stability and growth.

#### **RHODE ISLAND:**

#### Educational Funding Initiative:

- Secure funding for educational programs to improve school resources.
- Enhance educational outcomes through better financial support.

#### **Environmental Protections Amendment:**

- Strengthen regulations to protect natural resources and address climate change.
- Focus on sustainability and conservation efforts.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA:

#### Healthcare Funding Initiative:

- Secure funding for healthcare services to improve public health infrastructure.
- Address healthcare access and resource allocation.

#### Tax Reforms Amendment:

- Implement changes to tax policies to ensure fairness and efficiency.
- Focus on economic stability and growth.

#### SOUTH DAKOTA:

#### Abortion Rights Amendment:

- Establish the right to abortion within the state constitution.
- Protect reproductive rights against potential legislative changes.

#### State Funding Adjustments Initiative:

- Adjust state funding allocations to better meet current needs.
- Enhance fiscal management and resource distribution.

#### **TENNESSEE:**

#### Tax Reforms Initiative:

- Implement changes to tax policies to ensure fairness and efficiency.
- Focus on economic stability and growth.

#### Educational Funding Adjustments:

- Reallocate educational funds to ensure effective use and support for schools.
- Improve educational outcomes by enhancing financial support.

# TEXAS:

#### Criminal Justice Reforms Amendment:

- Implement reforms aimed at improving the criminal justice system.
- Address issues such as sentencing, parole, and rehabilitation programs.
- State Funding Adjustments Initiative:
- Adjust state funding allocations to better meet current needs.
- Enhance fiscal management and resource distribution.

### UTAH:

#### *Repeal of Educational Funding Requirements Amendment:*

- Remove constitutional requirements for funding allocations for education.
- Allow flexibility in state budget management.
- Increase State School Fund Distributions:
- Increase annual distributions from the State School Fund for public education from 4% to 5%.
- Enhance funding for educational initiatives.

# VERMONT:

#### Environmental Protections Amendment:

- Strengthen regulations to protect natural resources and address climate change.
- Focus on sustainability and conservation efforts.

#### Healthcare Funding Adjustments Initiative:

- Adjust funding allocations for healthcare services to improve public health infrastructure.
- Enhance access to medical care and support public health initiatives.

#### VIRGINIA:

#### Tax Reforms Amendment:

- Implement changes to tax policies to ensure fairness and efficiency.
- Focus on economic stability and growth.

#### Educational Funding Adjustments:

- Reallocate educational funds to ensure effective use and support for schools.
- Improve educational outcomes by enhancing financial support.

# WASHINGTON:

#### Repeal of Capital Gains Tax Initiative:

- Repeal the recently implemented capital gains tax.
- Address fiscal policy and taxpayer concerns.

#### State Funding Adjustments Initiative:

- Adjust state funding allocations to better meet current needs.
- Ensure efficient use of financial resources for public services.

# WEST VIRGINIA:

#### Healthcare Funding Initiative:

- Secure funding for healthcare services to improve public health infrastructure.
- Address healthcare access and resource allocation.

#### Tax Reforms Amendment:

- Implement changes to tax policies to ensure fairness and efficiency.
- Focus on economic stability and growth.

# WISCONSIN:

#### Tax Reforms Initiative:

- Implement changes to tax policies to ensure fairness and efficiency.
- Focus on economic stability and growth.

#### Educational Funding Adjustments:

- Reallocate educational funds to ensure effective use and support for schools.
- Improve educational outcomes by enhancing financial support.

# WYOMING:

#### Tax Reforms Amendment:

- Implement changes to tax policies to ensure fairness and efficiency.
- Focus on economic stability and growth.

#### State Funding Adjustments Initiative:

- Adjust state funding allocations to better meet current needs.
- Enhance fiscal management and resource distribution.

# **US Abortion Policies and Access After Roe**

Policies current as of September 10, 2024









