

Issue 1

To Reduce Penalties for Crimes of Obtaining, Possessing, and Using Illegal Drugs

Proposed Constitutional Amendment

Proposed by Initiative Petition

To add a new Section 12 to Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio

A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass.

If adopted, the amendment would:

- Require sentence reductions of incarcerated individuals, except individuals incarcerated for murder, rape, or child molestation, by up to 25% if the individual participates in rehabilitative, work, or educational programming.
- Mandate that criminal offenses of obtaining, possessing, or using any drug such as fentanyl, heroin, methamphetamine, cocaine, LSD, and other controlled substances cannot be classified as a felony, but only a misdemeanor.
- Prohibit jail time as a sentence for obtaining, possessing, or using such drugs until an individual's third offense within 24 months.
- Allow an individual convicted of obtaining, possessing, or using any such drug prior to the effective date of the amendment to ask a court to reduce the conviction to a misdemeanor, regardless of whether the individual has completed the sentence.
- Require any available funding, based on projected savings, to be applied to state-administered rehabilitation programs and crime victim funds.
- Require a graduated series of responses, such as community service, drug treatment, or jail time, for minor, non-criminal probation violations.

	YES	SHALL THE AMENDMENT BE APPROVED?
	NO	

CERTIFICATION

Acting in my capacity as the secretary of the Ohio Ballot Board, I hereby certify to the Secretary of the State of Ohio that the foregoing text is the ballot language prescribed by the Ohio Ballot Board, acting pursuant to Article II, Section 1g of the Ohio Constitution and section 3505.062 of the Revised Code of Ohio, for this constitutional amendment proposed by petition for submission to the Ohio electorate at the election to be held on November 6, 2018.

In testimony whereof, I have subscribed my name in Columbus, Ohio, this 22nd day of August, 2018.


Secretary, Ohio Ballot Board