

# CADDO PARISH SAMPLE BALLOT



## EARLY VOTING Oct. 30 - Nov. 6

Polls Open 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM CST  
(Except Sunday, Oct 31)

## ELECTION DAY Nov. 13, 2021

Polls are open 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM CST



### Vote by Mail

[PowerCoalition.org/Vote](https://PowerCoalition.org/Vote)

If you are planning to vote by mail, we recommend you do so as soon as possible to make sure your vote is counted.

**REQUEST**  
a Vote by Mail  
Ballot:

**Nov. 9**

**RETURN**  
a Completed  
Vote by Mail Ballot:

**Nov. 12**

**Your VOICE matters.  
Your VOTE is  
POWERFUL.**

### Having Problems Voting?

Report a voting incident or get assistance from trained volunteers by calling

**504-766-9289**



### Member of School Board District 7

- #3 Darrin Dixon -- Democrat, Male, Black
- #4 Linda Rasberry Smith -- Democrat, Black

### Constitutional Amendments

**Power Coalition believes that every election is a critical election.** Constitutional amendments alter the guiding document for our state and it is critical that we pay attention and engage. Please read Power Coalition's explainers for this year's amendments. We have decided to take a stance and vote NO on amendments 1 and 2.

#### Proposed Constitutional Amendment 1

Do you support an amendment to authorize the legislature to provide for the streamlined electronic filing, electronic remittance, and the collection of sales and use taxes levied within the state by the State and Local Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Commission and to provide for the funding, duties, and responsibilities of the commission? (Adds Article VII, Section 3.1)

- Yes
- No

This amendment tries to centralize the collection of local sales taxes by creating a new state commission to oversee the collection of local sales taxes that fund public services in New Orleans and other parishes. It shifts accountability from local elected officials to an unelected state panel, with the rules to be determined at a later date. State commissions do not always act in the best interest of cities and towns, such as when the state Bond Commission denied funding to New Orleans in retaliation for the city's decision to institute stricter COVID-19 rules.

A yes vote means that a new statewide commission, that is untested and unelected, will create an electronic filing and remittance system for all sales and use taxes.

A no vote means local municipalities retain the power to collect sales tax revenue in their jurisdiction. Additionally, the current Parish E-File system can be updated and adjusted to be more streamlined.

**Make your voice heard and your power felt in EVERY election, up and down the ballot.**

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment 2**

Do you support an amendment to lower the maximum allowable rate of individual income tax and to authorize the legislature to provide by law for a deduction for federal income taxes paid? (Amends Article VII, Section 4(A))

Yes  No

This amendment would cut income tax rates for individuals and corporations, cut the state corporate franchise tax, and eliminate a tax break which mostly benefits wealthy individuals and corporations. It also would cap the state individual income tax rate at 4.75%, meaning income tax rates could not be raised above that level without amending the state's constitution.

A yes vote means that Louisiana would have less revenue available to pay for public schools, hospitals, and other vital programs, and would make it harder to reform our tax structure so that it adequately funds our public services and reduces the tax burden on low-income households.

A no vote preserves the current income tax rate structure and the franchise tax, and allows citizens to continue deducting their federal income taxes on their state returns.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment 4**

Do you support an amendment to increase the amount of allowable deficit reductions to statutory dedications and constitutionally protected funds from five percent to ten percent? (Amends Article VII, Section 10(F)(2)(a) and (b))

Yes  No

There are many budget items that are constitutionally protected, except for higher education and healthcare. Currently, during projected budget deficits, cutting protected budget items can not exceed 5%, this amendment would allow them to be cut by up to 10%.

A yes vote means that during times of projected budget deficits, protected budget items can be cut an additional 10% instead of the current 5%.

A no vote means that during times of projected budget deficits, budget items can be cut only 5% the current rate, often meaning unprotected items, such as healthcare and higher education may have their budget reduced.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendment 3**

Do you support an amendment to allow levee districts created after January 1, 2006, and before October 9, 2021, whose electors approve the amendment to levy an annual tax not to exceed five mills for the purpose of constructing and maintaining levees, levee drainage, flood protection, and hurricane flood protection? (Amends Article VI, Section 39)

Yes  No

This amendment would allow some levee districts to raise property taxes by \$5 per \$1,000 of assessed value for levee maintenance and construction. A no vote means that these districts may choose to add mills if voters in the district approve it through ballot measures.

A yes vote removes control from the local area to control their levee district.

A no vote requires additional mills to pay for levee districts to go to a vote of the people in the levee district.