GET OUT & VOTE

Powered by the Power Coalition for Equity & Justice

EARLY VOTING
October 20-27
Polls Open 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM CST
(excluding Sundays)

ELECTION DAY
TUESDAY
November 3, 2026
Polls are open 6:00 AM - 8:00 PM CST

Register to Vote

Last day in person or by mail:
Oct. 5

Last day online:
Oct. 13

pcej.org/Vote

Vote by Mail

PowerCoalition.org/Vote

NOTE: If you are planning to vote by mail, we recommend you do so as soon as possible to make sure your vote is counted. ***If you are mailing your ballot, be sure to mail by October 30 in order to have it postmarked by election day.***

REQUEST a Vote by Mail Ballot:
Oct. 30
by 4:30 PM

RETURN a Completed Vote by Mail Ballot:
Nov. 2
by 4:30 PM

This sample ballot displays every election taking place in the Parish. Actual ballots may vary by precinct or district. Scan the QR code to confirm your specific ballot on the Secretary of State's website.

POWER COALITION
For Equity & Justice

DESOTO PARISH SAMPLE BALLOT

U.S. Senate General,
Open U.S. Representative Primary, & Open Primary

U.S. Senate General

The Senate is part of the legislative branch of the U.S. Government that makes laws. The Senate votes on bills, resolutions, motions, amendments, nominations, and treaties in a variety of ways. The Senate also tries impeachment cases for federal officials referred to it by the House.

U. S. Senator

- ☐ Jamie Davis – *Democrat, Black, Male*
- ☐ Julia Letlow – *Republican, White, Female*

U.S. Representative Open Primary

The House of Representatives is part of the legislative branch of the U.S. Government that makes laws. Representatives introduce bills and resolutions, offer amendments and serve on committees. The House has several powers assigned exclusively to it, including the power to initiate revenue bills, impeach federal officials, and elect the President in the case of an electoral college tie.

U. S. Representative, 4th Congressional District

- ☐ Conrad Cable – *Democrat, White, Male*
- ☐ Matt Gromlich – *Democrat, White, Male*
- ☐ Gordon Heslop – *Republican, White, Male*
- ☐ Mike Johnson – *Republican, White, Male*
- ☐ Mike Nichols – *Republican, White, Male*

PSC General

The Louisiana Public Service Commission (LPSC) is an independent regulatory agency dedicated to serving the public interest by assuring safe, reliable, and reasonably priced service from public utilities and motor carriers. The LPSC consists of five elected Commissioners who serve overlapping terms of six years.

Responsibilities: The goals of the Commission are to ensure a regulatory balance that enables utilities to provide customers with safe, adequate and reliable service, at rates that are just and reasonable, equitable and economically efficient. The LPSC also takes an active and cautious role in the development of a competitive, market-based approach to utility regulation.

PSC District 5

- ☐ John E. Atkins – *Republican, White, Male*
- ☐ James Edward Green – *Democrat, Black, Male*

Open Primary

The school board sets policy for the parish or city school system, hires and oversees the superintendent, and adopts the district's budget. Boards make decisions on school staffing formulas and salaries, facilities and construction, school boundaries and closures, and disciplinary policy, and they provide financial oversight for the entire district. Because school boards control local education budgets and policy, school board elections have a direct, immediate impact on the classroom experience of students in a parish.

Member of School Board District 1

- ☐ Kennie W. Barkley – *Republican, White, Female*
- ☐ Brent Gibson – *Republican, White, Male*
- ☐ Zebbulon 'Zebb' Rogers – *Republican, White, Male*

Member of School Board District 4

- ☐ Janice Lingle – *Republican, White, Female*
- ☐ Melissa Dodson Rutherford – *Republican, White, Female*

Member of School Board District 5

- ☐ Rekeisha Fuller – *Democrat, Black, Female*
- ☐ Bubba Patterson – *No Party, White, Male*

Member of School Board District 8

- ☐ Jason L. Lee – *No Party, White, Male*
- ☐ William 'Bill' Parker – *Republican, White, Male*
- ☐ Megan Wedgeworth – *No Party, White, Female*

Member of School Board District 9

- ☐ Ronnie L. Morris Sr. – *Democrat, Black, Male*
- ☐ Latoya Washington Perry – *Democrat, Black, Female*

Member of School Board District 10

- ☐ Roddrick 'Mr. No No' Davis – *Democrat, Black, Male*
- ☐ Clinton Fuller – *Democrat, Black, Male*
- ☐ Marty Williams – *No Party, White, Male*

Member of School Board District 11

- ☐ Joseph Hall Jr. – *Democrat, Black, Male*
- ☐ Daniel 'Danny' Lowery – *Democrat, White, Male*
- ☐ Rosie Mae Mayweather – *Democrat, Black, Female*

Justices of the peace have no criminal jurisdiction, except as committing magistrates and for the issuance of peace bonds. They have original civil jurisdiction in cases up to $5,000, but are NOT allowed to decide lawsuits involving title to real estate, the right to public office, divorce proceedings, suits against public bodies, and executory proceedings.

Justice of the Peace, District 2

- ☐ Angelia Granger – *Republican, White, Female*
- ☐ Vikki Parker – *Republican, White, Female*

Justice of the Peace, District 6

- ☐ Jana Suzanne Barber – *Republican, White, Female*
- ☐ Jere Guillotte – *Republican, White, Female*

The role of the constable is to preserve the public peace, execute the process in City Courts and Justice of Peace Courts, and discharge other functions assigned by law. They serve warrants and summonses, collect garnishments, and process evictions and other matters pertaining to the court.

Constable, Justice of the Peace District 2

- ☐ Stephen D. Holder – *Republican, White, Male*
- ☐ Todd Wedgeworth – *No Party, White, Male*

An alderman is a member of a municipal assembly or council that represents a specific area of a municipality. The alderman board (by ordinance) sets the salaries of the mayor, aldermen, clerk, chief of police and all other municipal officers. The board approves or disapproves the annual operating and capital improvements budgets submitted by the mayor.

Aldermen, Village of Grand Cane, 3 to be elected

- ☐ Donna G. Basco – *No Party, White, Female*
- ☐ Sammy Chism – *Republican, White, Male*
- ☐ Clayton Davis Jr. – *Republican, White, Male*
- ☐ Bailey Holder – *Republican, White, Female*
- ☐ Rhonda H. Meek – *Republican, White, Female*
- ☐ John G. Russell – *Republican, White, Male*

Fire Protection District 5 Proposition (Millage Renewal)

Shall Fire Protection District 5 of the Parish of DeSoto, State of Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy a special tax of 10 mills (the "Tax") on property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated $484,400 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2028 and ending with the year 2037, for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining and operating fire protection and emergency medical equipment and facilities in the District, including purchasing fire trucks and other fire fighting and emergency equipment and paying the cost of obtaining water for fire protection purposes, provided that a portion of the Tax proceeds is required to be contributed to state and statewide retirement systems as provided in R.S. 11:82?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Unopposed Races

Associate Justice, Supreme Court, 3rd Supreme Court District
Cade R. Cole – *Republican, White, Male*

District Judge, 42nd Judicial District Court, Division A
Amy Burford McCartney – *No Party,,*

District Judge, 42nd Judicial District Court, Division B
Nick Gasper – *Republican, White, Male*

District Attorney, 42nd Judicial District Court
Charles B. Adams – *Republican, White, Male*

Member of School Board, District 2
Christina Wentz – *No Party, White, Female*

Member of School Board, District 3
Christopher 'Chris' Chadwick – *Republican, White, Male*

Member of School Board, District 6
Phillip Palmer – *Republican, White, Male*

Member of School Board, District 7
Melanie M. Woods – *Republican, White, Female*

Justice of the Peace, Justice of the Peace District 1
Helen Y. Holmes – *Republican, White, Female*

Justice of the Peace, Justice of the Peace District 3
John A. Neilson – *No Party, White, Male*

Justice of the Peace, Justice of the Peace District 4
Jimmy L. Hogan Jr. – *Democrat, Black, Male*

Justice of the Peace, Justice of the Peace District 5
Jo Ann B. Weaver – *Democrat, White, Female*

Constable, Justice of the Peace District 1
Charles 'C.D.' Holmes – *Republican, White, Male*

Constable, Justice of the Peace District 3
Cody Robbins – No Party, White, Male

Constable, Justice of the Peace District 4
Travis 'Bubba' English Jr. – *No Party, White, Male*

Constable, Justice of the Peace District 5
Jordon Jones – *Republican, White, Male*

Constable, Justice of the Peace District 6
William 'Billy' Spears – *Republican, White, Male*

Mayor, Town of Keachi
Jeffrey Zeigler – *Republican, White, Male*

Mayor, Village of Grand Cane
Marsha Richardson – *No Party, White, Female*

Constitutional Amendments

U.S. Senate General, Open U.S. Representative Primary, & Open Primary

Proposed Amendment 1
Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exemption

Do you support an amendment to allow the surviving spouse of a deceased veteran with a service-connected disability, who receives the additional property tax exemption, to make a one-time transfer of the additional property tax exemption to a subsequent qualifying property? (Effective January 1, 2027) (Amends Article VII, Section 21(K)(1))

☐ Yes ☒ NO

What a YES Vote Means

- A surviving spouse of a disabled veteran can transfer an existing additional property tax exemption to one new qualifying home after moving.

What a NO Vote Means

- The additional tax exemption stays with the original property and cannot be transferred to a new home.
- **Why NO:** We support veterans and their families, but we do not need another special tax exception written into the state constitution.

Who is Affected?

- Surviving spouses of disabled veterans
- Local governments.

Potential Impact

Eligible surviving spouses would have **greater flexibility to move** without losing their property tax benefit. Local governments may collect slightly less property tax revenue from qualifying properties.

Proposed Amendment 2
Local Property Tax Rates (Millages)

Do you support an amendment to allow a local taxing authority to continue to levy a lower millage rate without losing its ability to adjust to the maximum authorized millage rate from a prior year's reassessment? (Effective January 1, 2027) (Amends Article VII, Section 23(C))

☐ Yes ☒ NO

What a YES Vote Means

- Local governments can temporarily lower property tax rates and later restore them to their previously authorized maximum without voter approval.

What a NO Vote Means

- Current law remains. A government that lowers its millage may lose some ability to return to the previous maximum rate.
- **Why NO:** It ***would*** make it easier for property tax rates to go back up. Keep the current rules in place.

Who is Affected?

- Homeowners
- Businesses
- Local governments
- Taxpayers

Potential Impact

Gives local governments **more flexibility in managing tax rates.** Supporters say it allows temporary tax relief without permanently reducing future revenue options. Critics say it could make future property tax increases easier.

Constitutional Amendments

Proposed Amendment 3
Post-Conviction Bail for Crimes Against Children

Do you support an amendment to prohibit a defendant from being released on any post-conviction bail if the defendant is convicted of an aggravated offense against a minor child? (Adds Article I, Section 18(C))

☐ Yes ☒ NO

What a YES Vote Means

- A person convicted of certain aggravated crimes against a minor cannot be released on bail while appealing the conviction.

What a NO Vote Means

- Judges continue to follow existing laws when deciding whether someone may be released on bail after conviction.
- **Why NO:** Judges should be able to look at each case. Our justice system makes mistakes, and appeals are an important part of due process.

Who is Affected?

- Defendants
- Crime victims
- Courts
- Law enforcement

Potential Impact

People convicted of these offenses would remain in custody during the appeals process. Supporters say this increases public safety. Critics may argue it limits judicial discretion before appeals are complete.

Proposed Amendment 4
Governor Term Limits

Do you support an amendment to prohibit a person who has served more than one and one-half terms as governor from being elected as governor for any future term? (Amends Article IV, Section 3(B))

☐ Yes ☒ NO

What a YES Vote Means

- Anyone who has served more than one and one-half terms as governor could never run for governor again.

What a NO Vote Means

- Current constitutional term-limit rules stay in place–two terms consecutively, but can serve an unlimited amount of terms as long as they are not consectutive.
- **Why NO:** Let the voters decide who they want to elect.

Who is Affected?

- Future Governors
- Voters

Potential Impact

Creates a lifetime limit for governors who exceed one and one-half terms, increasing leadership turnover while limiting future voter choices.

Constitutional Amendments

Proposed Amendment 5
State Retirement Debt

Do you support an amendment to authorize a state retirement system to apply any nonrecurring state monies it receives to any of its unfunded accrued liability rather than requiring application to its oldest unfunded accrued liability? (Amends Article VII, Section 10(D)(2)(b)(iii))

☐ Yes ☒ NO

What a YES Vote Means

- State retirement systems can decide which unfunded pension debt to pay first when receiving extra one-time state money.

What a NO Vote Means

- Retirement systems must continue paying their oldest debt first.
- **Why NO:** Keep a clear and predictable rule for paying retirement debt.

Who is Affected?

- State retirement systems
- Retirees
- Taxpayers

Potential Impact

Gives retirement systems more flexibility in managing pension debt. Supporters say it allows smarter financial planning; critics may prefer keeping the current repayment rules.

Proposed Amendment 6
Additional Property Tax Exemption for Seniors

Do you support an amendment to authorize parishes and municipalities to extend an additional property tax exemption for property subject to the homestead exemption that is owned and occupied by a person who is at least sixty-five years of age and who qualifies for the special assessment level? (Effective January 1, 2028) (Adds Article VII, Section 21(P))

☐ Yes ☒ NO

What a YES Vote Means

- Local governments may choose to offer an additional property tax exemption to qualifying homeowners age 65 and older.

What a NO Vote Means

- Local governments cannot offer this new exemption.
- **Why NO:** More property tax exemptions will mean ***less*** money for our schools and local services.

Who is Affected?

- Senior homeowners
- Local governments
- Taxpayers

Potential Impact

Eligible seniors could pay less in property taxes if their parish or municipality adopts the exemption. Local governments choosing to offer it may collect less tax revenue.

Constitutional Amendments

U.S. Senate General, Open U.S. Representative Primary, & Open Primary

Proposed Amendment 7
Drinking Water Service Lines

Do you support an amendment to allow for the use of public funds by a political subdivision for the purpose of identifying, inventorying, removing or replacing drinking water utility service lines made of or affected by materials as specified or prescribed by the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, promulgated October 30, 2024, or subsequent promulgation, on property owned by utility customers? (Amends Article VII, Section 14)

☑ **YES** ☐ No

What a YES Vote Means

- Public funds can be used to identify, remove, and replace hazardous drinking water service lines—even on private property.
- **Why YES:** Get dangerous pipes out of our communities and protect families from unsafe drinking water. The federal government has over $150 million available to fix dangerous lead pipes, but it can only be used if this amendment passes.

What a NO Vote Means

- Public funds can continue to be used on public water infrastructure, but cannot be used to remove or replace hazardous service lines on private property.

Who is Affected?

- Homeowners
- Renters
- Water Utilities
- Local Governments

Potential Impact

Could speed up the replacement of lead and other hazardous water pipes, improving drinking water safety. May require additional public spending for infrastructure improvements.

Proposed Amendment 8
Property and Foreign Adversaries

Do you support an amendment to prohibit expropriation of property by a foreign adversary or an agent of a foreign adversary? (Amends Article I, Section 4(B)(4))

☐ Yes ☒ **NO**

What a YES Vote Means

- A company owned, controlled, or directed by a foreign adversary, (even partially, or without majority ownership)could not use Louisiana's private expropriation laws to force the sale of someone's property.

What a NO Vote Means

- No new constitutional prohibition would be added.
- **Why NO:** We don't need to change the constitution for something that can be handled through regular state law.

Who is Affected?

- Property owners
- Government Entities

Potential Impact

Adds a constitutional restriction related to property rights and foreign adversaries. Because expropriation by foreign adversaries is uncommon, the practical impact may be limited unless such situations arise.

Constitutional Amendments

Proposed Amendment 9
Income Limit for Senior Property Tax Assessment Freeze

Do you support an amendment to increase the maximum amount of income a person may receive and still qualify for the special assessment level for residential property receiving the homestead exemption? (Effective January 1, 2027) (Amends Article VII, Section 18(G)(1)(a)(ii))

☐ Yes ☒ NO

What a YES Vote Means

- Raises the income limit from $100,000 to $150,000 for seniors to qualify for Louisiana's special assessment level, which keeps property taxes from increasing because of higher property values.

What a NO Vote Means

- The current income limit stays at $100,000.
- **Why NO:** Expanding property tax breaks will mean less money for schools and local services.

Who is Affected?

- Senior homeowners
- Local Governments

Potential Impact

More older homeowners may qualify for property tax protection, making it easier to remain in their homes as property values rise. Local governments could collect less property tax revenue from eligible properties.

Proposed Amendment 10
Tax Exemptions for Rehabilitated Blighted Properties

Do you support an amendment to allow property tax exemptions for blighted or derelict properties that have been rehabilitated, and to require the legislature to enact laws providing for administration of these exemptions? (Effective January 1, 2027) (Adds Article VII, Section 21(P))

☐ Yes ☒ NO

What a YES Vote Means

- Creates an optional property tax exemption for rehabilitated blighted or derelict property, with the Legislature required to define eligible property, set the exemption's length, and establish rules for local governments to administer it

What a NO Vote Means

- The Legislature would not be constitutionally required to do this
- **Why NO:** Voters should know who gets the tax break, how it works, and how long it lasts before putting it in the constitution.

Who is Affected?

- Property owners
- Developers
- Neighborhoods
- Local Governments

Potential Impact

May encourage investment in abandoned or deteriorating properties, helping revitalize neighborhoods. Local governments could receive less property tax revenue from qualifying properties during the exemption period.