

Ballot Questions Tally

11-07-2007

For November 2007 General Election

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 4**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO VOTE FOR CERTAIN PERSONS**

Shall the amendment of Article II, Section I, paragraph 6 of the Constitution, agreed to by the Legislature, revising the current constitutional language concerning denial of the right to vote by deleting the phrase "idiot or insane person" and providing instead that a "person who has been adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting" shall not enjoy the right of suffrage, be adopted?

Interpretive Statement

Approval of this amendment concerning the denial of the right to vote would delete the phrase "idiot or insane person" and replace that phrase with "person who has been adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting" in describing those persons who shall be denied the right to vote. The phrase "idiot or insane person" is outdated, vague, offensive to many, and may be subject to misinterpretation. This constitutional amendment acknowledges that individuals with cognitive or emotional disabilities may otherwise be capable of making decisions in the voting booth and that their right of self-determination should be respected and protected in this regard. The amendment only denies the right of suffrage to those individuals determined by a court, on a case-by-case basis, to lack the capacity to understand the act of voting.

County	Yes Count	No Count
Atlantic	22,925	21,644
Bergen	79,616	49,778
Burlington	48,878	28,656
Camden	47,293	23,539
Cape May	14,127	10,914
Cumberland	10,010	10,539
Essex	42,310	19,901
Gloucester	31,425	18,039
Hudson	17,566	9,714
Hunterdon	15,614	13,515
Mercer	41,085	21,339
Middlesex	59,653	43,427
Monmouth	71,943	50,551
Morris	53,035	36,095
Ocean	57,686	52,998
Passaic	26,837	18,061
Salem	10,728	6,381
Somerset	33,828	24,130
Sussex	19,143	13,134
Union	32,274	21,928
Warren	10,562	9,112
Total	746,538	503,395