

Ballot Questions Tally

Dec. 1, 1998

For November 1998 General Election

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 1**ANNUAL DEDICATION OF UP TO \$98 MILLION OF STATE SALES AND USE TAX REVENUE FOR OPEN SPACE, FARMLAND, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Shall the amendment to Article VIII, Section II, of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, agreed to by the Legislature, to (1) dedicate \$98,000,000 in each fiscal year, for the next 10 years, of State revenue from the State tax imposed under the "Sales and Use Tax Act" for the acquisition and development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes, for the preservation of farmland for agricultural or horticultural use and production, and for historic preservation, and to satisfy any payments relating to bonds, notes, or other obligations issued for those purposes, and (2) dedicate up to \$98,000,000 in each fiscal year, for up to 20 years thereafter, of State revenue from the State tax imposed under the "Sales and Use Tax Act" to satisfy any payments relating to bonds, notes, or other obligations issued for those same purposes, be approved?

Interpretive Statement

Approval of this constitutional amendment would dedicate \$98 million annually in State sales and use tax revenue for the years 1999 to 2009 to finance open space, farmland, and historic preservation. From 2009 to 2029, this measure would provide for the payment of debt on any bonds issued by an authority to finance these same purposes by dedicating an amount sufficient to pay the debt, up to \$98 million annually. This measure also would provide that any bonds issued by an authority relying on the State sales and use tax revenue provided in this dedication must be issued by 2009. This constitutional amendment does not raise any existing tax or authorize a new tax but would dedicate annually a portion of future revenues from an existing tax.

County	Yes Count	No Count
Atlantic	24,797	18,452
Bergen	130,607	52,873
Burlington	61,200	29,357
Camden	59,657	27,434
Cape May	15,894	9,430
Cumberland	11,365	9,028
Essex	58,428	26,574
Gloucester	37,632	20,267
Hudson	31,172	16,628
Hunterdon	22,171	8,233
Mercer	48,434	22,389
Middlesex	79,518	43,032
Monmouth	88,332	48,456
Morris	67,474	26,529
Ocean	60,333	45,392
Passaic	40,260	20,622
Salem	11,012	6,416
Somerset	43,640	20,147
Sussex	19,382	8,013
Union	52,891	28,617
Warren	14,487	10,121
Total	978,686	498,010

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PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 2**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ALLOWING THE LEGISLATURE TO AUTHORIZE, BY LAW, THE SPECIFIC KIND, RESTRICTIONS AND CONTROL OF WAGERING ON HORSE RACES**

Shall the amendment to Article IV, Section VII, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, agreed to by the Legislature, providing that the Legislature may authorize, by law, the specific kind, restrictions and control of wagering on live or simulcast running and harness horse races conducted within or outside of this State, and providing that the State's share of revenues derived therefrom will be used for such purposes as shall be provided by law, be adopted?

Interpretive Statement

The purpose of this amendment is to give the Legislature the authority to respond promptly to the changing needs of New Jersey's horse racing industry which faces strong competition from New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware racetracks. Adoption of this amendment would give the Legislature the power to enact laws authorizing the specific kind, restrictions and control of wagering on horse races. This power would apply to live or simulcast running and harness horse races conducted in this State or outside of this State. At present, the Constitution permits only parimutuel wagering on races and any law to change this must be placed on the ballot and approved by the voters at a general election. State revenue from these activities would be used for purposes to be provided by law. A "Yes" vote on this question would allow the Legislature to enact laws benefiting the horse racing industry which contributes a billion dollars each year to the State's economy, employs tens of thousands of individuals and helps to preserve open space.

<u>County</u>	<u>Yes Count</u>	<u>No Count</u>
Atlantic	25,473	17,080
Bergen	113,982	64,710
Burlington	53,757	34,886
Camden	52,255	32,435
Cape May	14,496	10,276
Cumberland	8,750	11,311
Essex	46,889	33,751
Gloucester	31,309	25,899
Hudson	28,021	17,424
Hunterdon	16,786	12,483
Mercer	40,772	27,174
Middlesex	64,392	51,765
Monmouth	85,052	48,114
Morris	54,805	36,184
Ocean	62,681	41,217
Passaic	36,328	22,972
Salem	9,850	7,890
Somerset	34,550	27,858
Sussex	16,196	10,659
Union	44,692	34,602
Warren	12,595	11,480
Total	853,631	580,170

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PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 3**ALLOWS USE OF 1980 NATURAL RESOURCES BOND MONEYS AND 1985 RESOURCE RECOVERY AND SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY BOND MONEYS FOR PAYMENT OF SOLID WASTE FACILITY DEBT AND FORGIVENESS OF LOANS MADE WITH BOND FUND MONEYS**

Shall the revisions to the "Natural Resources Bond Act of 1980" and the "Resource Recovery and Solid Waste Disposal Facility Bond Act of 1985", which authorize the use of bond moneys for grants to assist local government units with the payment of costs, and the payment of or security for the payment of debt service costs, incurred for solid waste facilities, including completed, abandoned or canceled facilities, and provides for the forgiveness of loans made pursuant to the bond acts, be approved?

Interpretive Statement

This measure would permit changes in existing bond acts previously approved by voter referendum. Approval of this measure would not involve any new State bonded indebtedness. These changes to the "Natural Resources Bond Act of 1980" and the "Resource Recovery and Solid Waste Disposal Facility Bond Act of 1985" would allow funds made available by those bond acts to be used to make grants to counties and public authorities to pay for costs incurred prior to November 10, 1997 for completed, abandoned or canceled solid waste facilities, to pay for or provide security for debt obligations issued prior to November 10, 1997 which were issued to finance the costs of solid waste facilities, and would allow the State Treasurer to forgive the repayment of loans which previously had been made pursuant to these bond acts to finance solid waste facilities. The construction of solid waste facilities resulted in significant public investment and debt. When the United States Supreme Court ruled that state and local governments cannot require the use of in-state facilities to dispose of local solid waste, the public investment in these solid waste facilities was put at risk. This measure would help counties and public authorities in improving the financial situation of these facilities while protecting the public funds already invested in them.

County	Yes Count	No Count
Atlantic	22,053	20,160
Bergen	103,723	70,587
Burlington	49,848	37,857
Camden	45,496	36,194
Cape May	13,876	10,298
Cumberland	6,765	12,856
Essex	46,164	32,170
Gloucester	28,874	27,665
Hudson	24,287	18,390
Hunterdon	13,773	15,183
Mercer	36,485	30,121
Middlesex	51,622	62,187
Monmouth	63,110	67,283
Morris	51,579	38,174
Ocean	48,355	52,461
Passaic	33,322	24,515
Salem	7,087	10,499
Somerset	30,539	31,114
Sussex	17,749	10,765
Union	42,287	35,147
Warren	12,706	11,226
Total	749,700	654,852