

# 2024 BALLOT QUESTIONS

## E MALE/FEMALE REFERENCES

An amendment removing certain male references. For example, when referencing the Governor replace “He” with “the Governor.”

**Proponents:** South Dakota has a strong history of female representation in government, and the Constitution should reflect the times by removing default male references.

**Opponents:** It is unnecessary as the reference to “he” in the Constitution is a historically generic term and has not excluded women from holding office.

## G LATE-TERM ABORTION

An amendment removing certain health & safety standards and implementing late-term abortion.

**Proponents:** The Amendment simply re-implements Roe vs. Wade in South Dakota and gives women their freedom of choice back.

**Opponents:** The vague wording of Amendment G goes much further than Roe vs. Wade by allowing for late-term abortion through all nine months of pregnancy. Additionally, it removes parental rights to be informed about their underage daughter’s abortion.

**Important note:** See Family Voice Action guidance at bottom of document

## F MEDICAID WORK REQUIREMENT

An amendment placing a work-requirement on persons eligible for Medicaid services (excluding those with disabilities).

**Proponents:** The Amendment would allow South Dakota to consider a work requirement for able-bodied adults to encourage people to seek work rather than remain in government programs.

**Opponents:** The Amendment would take away health coverage for some residents that it currently supports and would complicate access to care.

## H JUNGLE-PRIMARY ELECTIONS

An amendment eliminating the traditional Republican/Democrat primary election system and implementing a “jungle primary.” A “jungle primary” is a system where all candidates from all parties compete in a single primary election rather than being separated by party.

**Proponents:** The Amendment allows independent and unaffiliated voters, who are currently excluded from republican primaries, to participate in the election process which is a more fair election system.

**Opponents:** The Amendment would implement California-style elections in South Dakota, and eliminate Democrats, Libertarians, Independents and principled conservatives from the ballot.

**Important note:** See Family Voice Action guidance at bottom of document

## 28 REPEAL SALES TAX ON FOOD

An initiated measure to eliminate the sales-tax on anything sold for human consumption.

**Proponents:** The measure would reduce costs for low-income families who spend a much greater percentage of their income on food. South Dakota is one of the only states that taxes groceries at the full state rate.

**Opponents:** The measure is poorly drafted and has unintended consequences as it eliminates sales taxes on many items other than food. This could pose a risk of either deep cuts to vital services or the introduction of a state income tax to make up for the lost revenue.

## 29 RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA

An initiated measure to allow for the recreational use of marijuana.

**Proponents:** The measure would allow law enforcement to focus on more serious crimes, replace the illicit market with regulated businesses, and generate significant tax revenue.

**Opponents:** Legalizing marijuana could lead to greater youth usage, higher addiction rates, and additional community costs due to increased emergency room visits and crime. Research links marijuana use to crime, child abuse, opioid addiction, and mental health problems. There would be no tax revenue from passing IM29.

**Important note:** See Family Voice Action guidance at bottom of document

## 21 PIPELINE/PROPERTY RIGHTS

A measure that would reject a law (passed by the legislature in 2024) which would negate local county/city rules made with regard to property rights and pipelines.

**Proponents:** The measure protects landowners' rights and ensures fair terms for pipeline construction in South Dakota. It offers tax relief to landowners and counties, holds pipelines accountable for leaks, requires them to indemnify landowners, and mandates minimum burial depths that exceed federal regulations.

**Opponents:** The measure favors for-profit pipeline companies and their foreign investors at the expense of the individual property rights of South Dakotans. The law exempts pipelines from property taxation and local zoning regulations, allowing them to bypass safety measures that other businesses must follow.

For more information on the 7 Ballot Questions, state legislative races, church resources, and other voter resources visit [DakotaVoter.com](http://DakotaVoter.com)

### Important Note:

The Family Voice Action has analyzed all seven ballot questions, and has determined that three questions pose a **significant threat** to family values in South Dakota. Family Voice Action is adamantly **opposed** to:

**Amendment G** - which would legalize abortion through all nine months and remove safety standards for women.

**Amendment H** - which would, as evidenced by research of Washington, California, and other states, lead to a more gridlocked legislature, and diminish the ability to pass meaningful legislation.

**Measure 29** - which would legalize the recreational use of marijuana, and lead to increased crime, drug overdoses, and mental health problems in our communities.