

2021 Statewide Ballot Proposals Summary



On November 2, 2021, New Yorkers will vote on five ballot proposals related to redistricting, elections, clean air and water, and NYC Civil Court Jurisdiction. For detailed information on each proposal, please visit www.elections.ny.gov/2021BallotProposals.html.

Proposal 1	Redistricting	Makes changes to the redistricting process in New York
Proposal 2	Environment	Creates a state constitutional right to clean air and clean water
Proposal 3	Elections	Authorizes the legislature to pass a law for same-day voter registration
Proposal 4	Elections	Authorizes the legislature to pass a law for no-excuse absentee voting
Proposal 5	Judiciary	Increases the Civil Court's jurisdiction from cases involving \$25,000 to \$50,000

Proposal 1: Redistricting

The purpose of this constitutional amendment is to freeze the number of state senators at 63, amend the process for the counting of the state's population, delete certain provisions that violate the United States Constitution, repeal and amend certain requirements for the appointment of the co-executive directors of the redistricting commission and amend the manner of drawing district lines for congressional and state legislative offices.

Proposal 2: Environmental Protections

The purpose of this proposal is to protect public health and the environment by adding the right of each person to clean air and water and a healthful environment to the Bill of Rights in Article I of the New York Constitution.

Proposal 3: Same-day Voter Registration

Section 5 of Article II of the New York Constitution now requires that a citizen be registered to vote at least ten days before an election. The proposed amendment would delete that requirement. If this amendment is adopted, the Legislature will be authorized to enact laws permitting a citizen to register to vote less than ten days before the election.

Proposal 4: Absentee Voting

The purpose of this proposal is to eliminate the requirement that a voter provides a reason for voting by absentee ballot. The proposed amendment would do so by deleting the requirement currently in the Constitution that restricts absentee voting to limited circumstances, making it easier for any voter to use an absentee ballot.

Proposal 5: Judiciary

The purpose of this proposal is to amend Article VI, Section 15 of the New York Constitution to increase the jurisdiction of the New York City Civil Court. The New York City Civil Court is currently limited to hearing and deciding claims for \$25,000 or less. The proposed amendment would allow the New York City Civil Court to hear and decide claims for \$50,000 or less.

For questions, please contact Lena Cohen at lcohen@unhny.org.