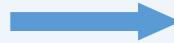


Issue 1 Quiz: How Should You Vote on November 6?

1

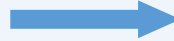
Should possessing illegal drugs like heroin, fentanyl, and date rape drugs be a felony?



If yes, stop and **VOTE NO**.
If no, proceed to Question # 2.

2

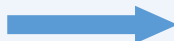
Should someone who has been convicted of buying illegal drugs face jail time if it is their second time doing it?



If yes, stop and **VOTE NO**.
If no, proceed to Question # 3.

3

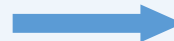
Should someone who has been convicted of having illegal drugs once a year every year for 10 years face jail time if that pattern continues?



If yes, stop and **VOTE NO**.
If no, proceed to Question # 4.

4

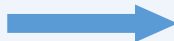
Should judges be able to send convicted felons who violate their terms of probation to prison?



If yes, stop and **VOTE NO**.
If your answer is "it depends," proceed to Question # 5.

5

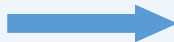
Should judges be able to send convicted felons who repeatedly use drugs, refuse treatment, stop reporting, violate house arrest, and contact victims while on probation to prison?



If yes, stop and **VOTE NO**.
If no, proceed to Question # 6.

6

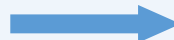
Should people in prison for crimes like kidnapping, robbery, abduction, and human trafficking be given ½ day off of their sentence for every 1 day they participate in classes or job training while in prison?



If no, stop and **VOTE NO**.
If yes, proceed to Question # 7.

7

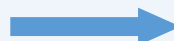
Should prisoners have to successfully complete these training programs in order to receive this credit off of their sentence?



If yes, stop and **VOTE NO**.
If no, proceed to Question # 8.

8

Should we be able to modify drug laws as times change?



If yes, stop and **VOTE NO**.
If no, stop and **VOTE YES**.

Issue 1 Quiz: Explanations

Section 12(D): “With respect to state laws that make possessing, obtaining, or using a drug or drug paraphernalia a criminal offense, in no case shall any offense be classified higher than a misdemeanor. . . . and, for an individual's first or second conviction within a twenty-four month period, the sanctions shall not exceed probation.”

Issue 1 makes the possession of any kind of drug, including cocaine, meth, heroin, fentanyl, and date rape drugs misdemeanor offenses. It also prohibits a judge from sentencing a person to jail until they have been convicted 3 times within 2 years, even if that person continually refuses treatment and violates their probation terms. So in effect, defendants could repeatedly be convicted of drug possession once a year every year for the rest of their lives and never face any jail time.

Section 12(E): “An individual who, on or after the effective date of this Section, is on probation for a felony offense shall not be sent to prison on a probation revocation for non-criminal violations of the terms of their probation.”

Convicted felons on probation for any kind of felony except for murder, rape, and child molestation cannot be sent to prison for violating probation unless they commit a new crime while under supervision. Things like refusing to go to drug treatment, continuing to use drugs, failing to report, violating house arrest, and contacting victims are often not crimes in-and-of-themselves, so no prison time could be imposed upon any (or all) of these violations.

Section 12(C): “The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, or its successor, shall grant to an incarcerated individual one half of one day of credit toward satisfaction of the individual's stated sentence for each day they participate in appropriate rehabilitative, work, or educational programming, up to a maximum of twenty-five percent of the individual's stated sentence.”

This section applies to all felonies except for murder, rape, and child molestation. And there is no requirement in all of Issue 1 that a prisoner successfully complete programming, only that they “participate.”

Section 12(L): “This Section shall supersede any conflicting state and local laws, charters, and regulations or other provisions of this constitution.”

Issue 1 is a constitutional amendment, which means that once it is put in our constitution, it will be extremely difficult to change or undo, even if it ends up being a disaster. To support Issue 1 just to “send a message to our legislators” is actually counterproductive... because by putting these ever changing sentencing laws in our constitution, you are actually making change and reform more difficult down the road.

So, instead of voting for a flawed constitutional amendment, vote no and then immediately go raise hell with your representatives and public officials. Bottom line: you can vote no and still demand meaningful change... by way of *statutory* amendments, which are much easier to fix if they don't work as intended.