

AMENDMENT 4: WHAT EVERY FLORIDIAN SHOULD KNOW

What are the facts?

On November 2nd, you will be asked to vote yes or no on a plan to alter Florida's Constitution called [Amendment 4](#). Special interest lawyers, adult entertainment interests and population control groups have designed, funded and proposed this amendment to our Constitution. Take a moment to learn more about who's backing [Amendment 4](#) and why.

What is the issue?

Amendment 4 will prolong the recession and put recovery out of reach for thousands of working Floridians. As a result, leading business, labor, and civic groups oppose Amendment 4

What will the measure do?

This proposed change to Florida's Constitution would require a taxpayer-funded referendum for every single change to a local government comprehensive plan. Simply stated, Amendment 4 would force Floridians, not the representatives they elect, to decide hundreds of minor, technical comprehensive plan changes each year on issues like drainage, traffic circulation, and intergovernmental coordination.

What does that mean for you?

Here is what [Amendment 4](#) means for you: (1) a Florida with drastically fewer jobs, (2) a significantly weaker economy, and (3) unbearably higher taxes to feed the Amendment 4 "litigation" bureaucracy.

The Florida Chamber of Commerce asked leading economists to study the impact of [Amendment 4](#). The study indicates that Amendment 4 would likely put more than 267,000 Floridians out of work, shrink Florida's economic output by more than \$34 billion annually, and take nearly \$12 billion out of the pockets of working families.

With Florida's jobless rate reaching well into double digits, our state's top business and labor groups have put politics aside to oppose Amendment 4. Mark Wilson, president of the Florida Chamber of Commerce wrote: "If you like the recession, you'll love Amendment 4." Frank Ortis, executive board member with Florida's AFL-CIO noted that "Amendment 4 will devastate Florida's economy by costing hundreds of thousands of jobs and driving the unemployment rate even higher."

According to *the Orlando Sentinel*, "The cost to local governments of [Amendment 4] would soar into the millions." Those costs would be shouldered by Florida's taxpayers who could expect to see not only more government waste, but also nonstop lawsuits as special interests wage war in court over the technical wording of endless ballot summaries. Referencing a failed experiment in Amendment 4-style rule in the small Florida town of St. Pete Beach, the St. Petersburg Times wrote that Amendment 4 leads to "short-term thinking" and "invites lawsuits..."

What is the conclusion?

Florida's jobless rate is high—but it could get much, much worse with the passage of Amendment 4. At a time when many families and small businesses are struggling to make ends meet, that's the last thing we need. Please take the time to learn more about [Amendment 4](#) by visiting www.Florida2010.org.