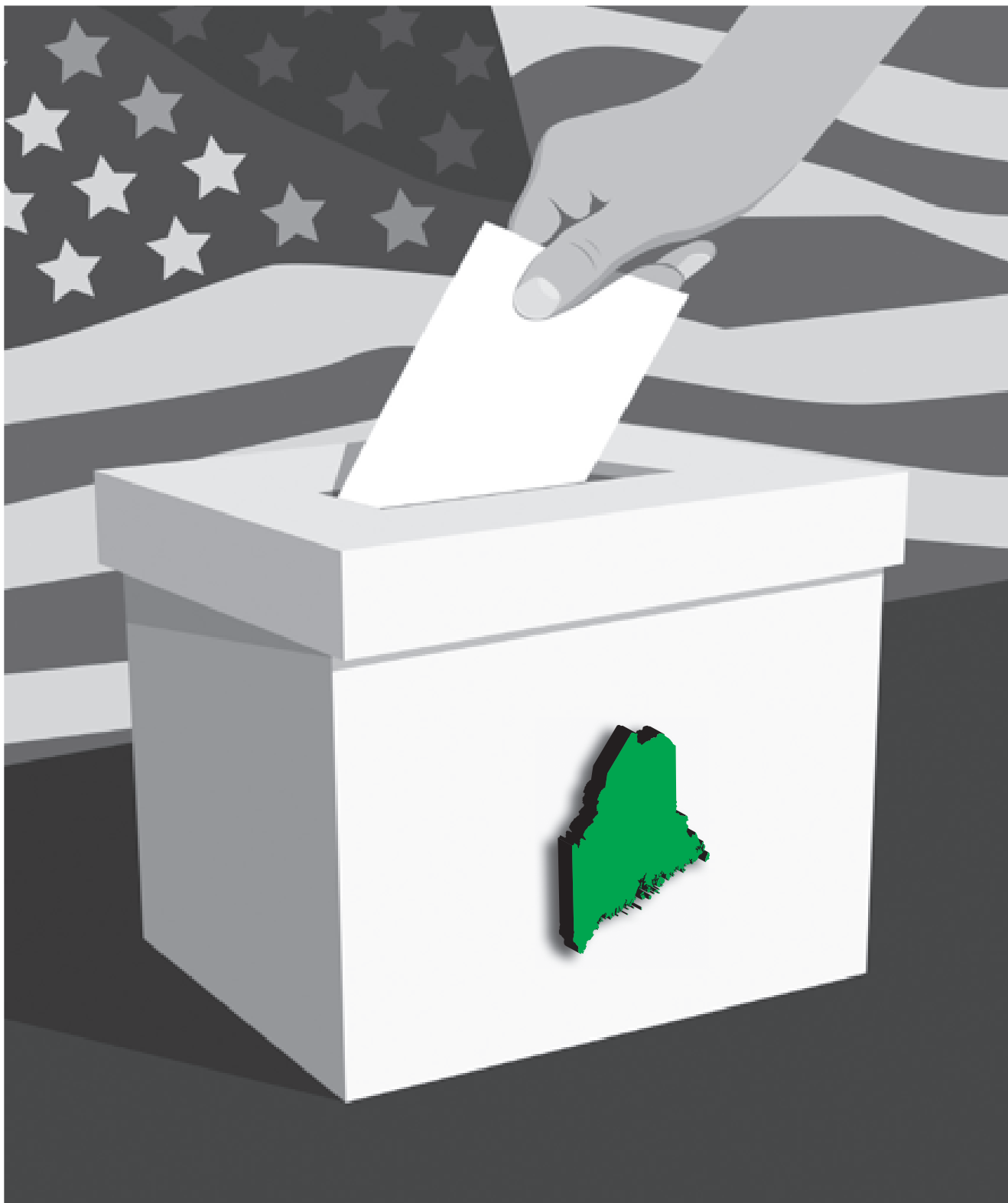


Easy-to-Read Voter Guide

Maine Referendum Election: November 8, 2011



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1

Ballot question 1:

“Do you want to reject the section of Chapter 399 of the Public Laws of 2011 that requires new voters to register to vote at least two business days prior to an election?”

What this question means:

Do you want to continue to allow voters to register at any time including on Election Day?



Argument for **YES**:

- Continues the tradition of registering on and before Election Day.
- Same-day registration helps bring voters to the polls.
- More than 18,000 voters registered on Election Day during the last election. In 2008, more than 49,000 voters registered on Election Day.
- If you move the week before the election, you can still vote at your new polling place.



Argument for **NO**:

- Gives the town and city clerks more time to process the registration forms.
- Fewer poll workers may be needed on Election Day.
- You may not have to wait so long to vote.

2

Ballot question 2:

Do you want to allow a slot machine facility at a harness racing track in Biddeford or another community within 25 miles of Scarborough Downs, subject to local approval, and at a harness racing track in Washington County, with part of the profits from these facilities going to support specific state and local programs?

What this question means:

Do you want to allow gambling on slot machines at harness racing tracks in the Biddeford area and Washington County?



Argument for **YES**:

- There may be more jobs and economic growth in the Biddeford area and Washington County.
- The new businesses will pay taxes to Biddeford, Calais and the State of Maine
- The State of Maine will receive income from the slot machines to benefit harness racing, the Fund for a Healthy Maine and for other programs.



Argument for **NO**:

- The cost of town services like fire fighters and police officers may go up.
- The problem of crime may increase.
- The problem of domestic violence may increase.
- The problem of gambling addiction may increase.
- Casinos in Biddeford and Calais may compete with gambling facilities in other areas of the state such as Bangor and Oxford County.

3

Ballot question 3:

Do you want to allow a casino with table games and slot machines in Lewiston, with part of the profits going to support specific state and local programs?

What this question means:

Do you want to allow a new place in Lewiston for the public to gamble that could have slot machines and table games like blackjack?



Argument for **YES**:

- There may be more jobs and economic growth in the Lewiston area.
- The new business will pay taxes to the City of Lewiston and the State of Maine.
- The State of Maine will receive income from the slot machines to restore the Androscoggin River, revitalize downtowns throughout the state, provide grants and loans to homes and businesses to convert to clean, renewable energy, and for other programs.



Argument for **NO**:

- The cost of town services like fire fighters and police officers may go up.
- The problem of crime may increase.
- The problem of domestic violence may increase.
- The problem of gambling addiction may increase.
- A casino in Lewiston may compete with gambling facilities in other areas of the state, such as Bangor and Oxford County.

4

Ballot question 4:

Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to change the years of redistricting the Maine Legislature, congressional districts and county commissioner districts after 2013 from 2023 and every 10th year thereafter to 2021 and every 10th year thereafter?

What this question means:

Do you want the Legislature to draw new districts for the Legislature, Congress and County Commissioner in 2021 instead of 2023 and every ten years after 2021?



Argument for **YES**:

- The Legislature will draw new voting districts in the same year that new Census data becomes available, instead of two years later. This means that districts will become more equal in population sooner.
- The Maine Constitution will require all redistricting plans to pass the Legislature by a 2/3 majority. This will almost always require support from both major parties.



Argument for **NO**:

- Constitutional amendments are hard to change because they require a 2/3 vote of the Legislature and a majority vote of the people.