## **<u>4 Ballot Questions with 3 Proposed Constitutional Amendments:</u>**

Remember the two ballot questions concerning emergency declarations have been deceptively worded by the Wolf Administration.

#### **Ballot Question #1**

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law and increase the power of the General Assembly to unilaterally terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration – and the powers of Commonwealth agencies to address the disaster regardless of its severity pursuant to that declaration – through passing a concurrent resolution by simple majority, thereby removing the existing check and balance of presenting a resolution to the Governor for approval or disapproval?

(NOTE: Currently every bill or resolution that passes the General Assembly must go the Governor for his signature. Governor Wolf has vetoed every bill and resolution that the General Assembly has passed as they have tried to rein in his drastic responses to COVID i.e. closure of businesses that Wolf deemed "non-life sustaining," stay-at-home orders, etc.

## **Ballot Question #2**

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law so that: a disaster emergency declaration will expire automatically after 21 days, regardless of the severity of the emergency, unless the General Assembly takes action to extend the disaster emergency; the Governor may not declare a new disaster emergency to respond to the dangers facing the Commonwealth unless the General Assembly passes a concurrent resolution; the General Assembly enacts new laws for disaster management?

(NOTE: Pennsylvanians are currently living under Governor Wolf's fourth 90day emergency declaration. There is nothing in the PA Constitution or the law that limits the number of times a Governor can renew an emergency declaration. This amendment would limit such an emergency declaration to 21 days and can only be renewed with the approval of the General Assembly)

American Family Association of PA P.O.Box 1048 Franklin PA 16323 https://afaofpa.org

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#### **Ballot Question #3**

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## Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended by adding a new section providing that equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged because of an individual's race or ethnicity?

(NOTE: The AFA of PA totally agrees with THIS language, but the LGBTQ crowd unsuccessfully tried to insert "sexual orientation and gender identity" into the amendment during committee hearings. I fear passage of this amendment will open the door for the addition of more protected classes such as 'sexual orientation and gender identity." Additionally, we already have Section 1 of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment which provides for equal protection under the law.) More : By using the word, "individuals" and not "citizens" in the language, this amendment would make deporting illegal immigrants, including those with ties to terrorism and other crimes, much more difficult. If question 3 passes, the "individuals" could easily sue in court to stop deportation and the liberals on the court could agree in the name of "equality." Is this a back door to making PA a sanctuary state?

#### **Ballot Question 4**

Do you favor expanding the use of the indebtedness authorized under the referendum for loans to volunteer fire companies, volunteer ambulance services and volunteer rescue squads under 35 PA.C.S. §7378.1 (related to referendum for additional indebtedness) to include loans to municipal fire departments or companies that provide services through paid personnel and emergency medical services companies for the purpose of establishing and modernizing facilities to house apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, and for purchasing apparatus equipment and any other accessory equipment necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the fire companies and emergency medical service companies and emergency medical service companies?

(NOTE: This will determine whether the state loan program for volunteer fire companies and emergency services will be expanded to include paid fire departments and emergency services. Paid fire departments and emergency services currently have income from taxes and/or insurance and individual billing. This is different from volunteer fire companies, ambulance services, and rescue squads which raise their own funds and have unpaid staff.)

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