

# BALLOT QUESTION INFORMATION FOR ALL MA VOTERS

In addition to the Presidential and other elected officials races, there are FIVE ballot questions on our Massachusetts ballots to be considered. Here is a brief summary of the questions and some places you can get more information to make your choices. The information is from the Guide for Voters compiled and distributed by the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

## QUESTION 1

**State Auditor's Authority to Audit the Legislature:** This proposed law would specify that the State Auditor has the authority to audit the Legislature. (The State Auditor is an elected official)

A **YES** vote would allow the State Auditor to perform audits.

A **NO** vote would make no change in the law relative to the State Auditor's authority.

## QUESTION 2

**Elimination of MCAS (Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System) as a High School Graduation Requirement**

The proposed law would eliminate the requirement that a student pass the MCAS tests (or other statewide or district wide assessments in math, science and technology, and in English in order to receive a high school diploma. Instead, in order for a student to receive a high school diploma, the student would need to complete coursework certified by the student's district as demonstrating mastery of the competencies in state academic standards in these subject areas, as well as any additional areas determined by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

A **YES** vote would eliminate the need to pass the MCAS but still require students to complete coursework that meets state standards.

A **NO** vote would make no change in the requirement to pass the MCAS to graduate.

## QUESTION 3

**Unionization for transportation network drivers (for example UBER and LYFT drivers)**

The proposed law would provide Transportation Network Drivers with the right to form unions and collectively bargain with Transportation Network Companies which use a digital network to connect riders to drivers to create negotiated recommendations concerning wages, benefits, and terms and conditions of work. Drivers would not be required to engage in any union activities.

A **YES** vote would provide transportation network drivers the option to collectively bargain with transportation network companies.

A **NO** voter would make no changes.

#### **QUESTION 4**

##### Limited Legalization and Regulation of Certain Natural Psychedelic Substances

The proposed law would allow persons aged 21 and older to grow, possess, and use certain psychedelic substances in certain circumstances. The substances would be 2 substances found in mushrooms (psilocybin and psilocybin) and three substances found in plants (dimethyltryptamine, mescaline, and ibogaine). This law would also provide for the regulation and taxation of these substances.

A **YES** vote would allow persons aged 21 and older to use certain these substances and to grow limited quantities of them in their homes. It would create a commission to regulate those substances.

A **NO** vote would make no change in the law.

#### **QUESTION 5**

##### Minimum Wage for Tipped Workers

The proposed law would gradually increase the minimum hourly wage an employer must pay a tipped worker over the course of 5 yrs (from the present rate of \$6.75 to 100% of the prevailing state minimum wage on Jan 1, 2029. 2024 minimum wage in Mass is \$15)

A **YES** vote would incrementally increase the minimum wage for tipped workers over 5 yrs and allow tip pooling to all non-management employees.

A **NO** vote would make no change to the law governing tip minimum wage or tip pooling.

There is a basic summary only. There is considerably more information about each ballot question on the website for the Secretary of State at [www.sec.state.ma.us](http://www.sec.state.ma.us)