

Constitutional Amendment A

Ballot Title

Shall the Utah Constitution be amended to change how proposed constitutional amendments are published, requiring publication for 60 days immediately before the general election in a manner established by state law instead of in newspapers?

If voters approve Constitutional Amendment A, state statute would change to require the Lieutenant Governor to publish the full text of all proposed constitutional amendments and other ballot questions from the Legislature, on the Utah Public Notice Website and on the Lieutenant Governor's website for 60 days immediately before the general election.

Legislative Votes

Utah Senate:

29 Yes 0 No 0 Not Present

Utah House:

70 Yes 0 No 5 Not Present

Bill Title & Session

2025 Legislative General Session

House Joint Resolution ([H.J.R.](#)) [10](#)

Proposal to Amend Utah Constitution - Publication Amendments

Impartial Analysis

Current Provisions of the Utah Constitution

Under the Utah Constitution, the Legislature may propose a constitutional amendment with a two-thirds vote in each house. The proposed amendment is then submitted to voters at a general election for approval or rejection.

Before the election, the Constitution requires the Legislature to publish the proposed amendment in a newspaper in each county for two months.

Effect of Constitutional Amendment A

Constitutional Amendment A would require publication of a proposed constitutional amendment for 60 calendar days immediately before the general election in a manner set by state law rather than requiring publication in newspapers for two months immediately before the general election.

Constitutional Amendment A would not change how constitutional amendments are proposed or approved by voters.

Implementing Legislation

If voters approve Constitutional Amendment A, H.B. 481, Ballot Proposition Requirements, enacted during the 2025 General Session, will take effect. H.B. 481 requires the Lieutenant Governor to publish the full text of all proposed constitutional amendments and other ballot questions from the Legislature, on the Utah Public Notice Website and on the Lieutenant Governor's website for 60 calendar days immediately before the general election.

Fiscal Effects

If approved, Constitutional Amendment A, together with H.B. 481, could reduce state costs by up to \$1.4 million every two years, based on recent estimates. The savings from changing the publication requirement for proposed constitutional amendments from newspapers to publicly operated websites would vary depending on the length of each proposed constitutional amendment and newspaper publication rates.

Argument in Favor

The Utah Constitution currently requires public notices about constitutional amendments and statewide initiatives to be published in print newspapers in all 29 counties. While that made sense when newspapers were the primary source of information, most Utahns now rely on digital sources, mobile devices, and online platforms to stay informed.

Amendment A updates Utah's public notice requirements to reflect how people access information today while preserving transparency and public awareness. Utah taxpayers currently spend approximately \$800,000 to publish these notices in newspapers statewide. Despite that expense, print notices are increasingly unlikely to reach the broad audience they once did. Amendment A allows Utah to use modern publication methods that can better connect voters with important election information while reducing unnecessary costs.

What Amendment A Does:

- Modernizes Utah's public notices to utilize the most up-to-date and effective communication methods.
- Maintains the Constitution's 60-day public notice period before general elections.
- Improves accessibility for voters throughout Utah.
- Allows publication methods to adapt as technology evolves.
- Saves taxpayers approximately \$800,000 in publication costs.
- Keeps voters informed while maintaining transparency.

Public notice is only effective if people can easily find and review it. Amendment A ensures information about proposed constitutional amendments remains widely available while allowing state law to use communication methods that reflect how Utahns receive information today. Amendment A does not eliminate public notice. It updates how public notice is delivered. By modernizing an outdated constitutional requirement, Utah can maintain transparency, improve accessibility and save taxpayer dollars.

A FOR vote on Amendment A supports a public notice process designed for today's Utah voters while preserving the Constitution's requirement that voters receive notice before a general election.

Join us in voting **FOR** Amendment A.

Rep. Anthony Loubet
Sen. Daniel McCay

Rebuttal to Argument in Favor

Because Amendment A was adopted unanimously by the Legislature, no rebuttal to the argument in favor of Amendment A was submitted.

Argument Against

Because Amendment A was adopted unanimously by the Legislature, no argument against Amendment A was submitted.

Full Text of Constitutional Amendment A

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2025 General Session

Utah Constitution Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

ARTICLE XXIII, SECTION 1

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, two-thirds of all members elected to each of the two houses voting in favor thereof:

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Utah Constitution, Article XXIII, Section 1 to read

Article XXIII, Section 1. [Amendments: proposal, election.]

Any amendment or amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in either house of the Legislature, and if two-thirds of all the members elected to each of the two houses, shall vote in favor thereof, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered on their respective journals with the yeas and nays taken thereon; and the Legislature shall cause the same to be published ~~in at least one newspaper in every county of the state, where a newspaper is published, for two months, in a manner provided by statute, for 60 calendar days~~ immediately preceding the next general election, at which time the said amendment or amendments shall be submitted to the electors of the state for their approval or rejection, and if a majority of the electors voting thereon shall approve the same, such amendment or amendments shall become part of this Constitution.

The revision or amendment of an entire article or the addition of a new article to this Constitution may be proposed as a single amendment and may be submitted to the electors as a single question or proposition. Such amendment may relate to one subject, or any number of subjects, and may modify, or repeal provisions contained in other articles of the Constitution, if such provisions are germane to the subject matter of the article being revised, amended or being proposed as a new article.

Section 2. **Submittal to voters.**

The lieutenant governor is directed to submit this proposed amendment to the voters of the state at the next regular general election in the manner provided by law.

Section 3. **Contingent effective date.**

If the amendment proposed by this joint resolution is approved by a majority of those voting on it at the next regular general election, the amendment shall take effect on January 1, 2027.