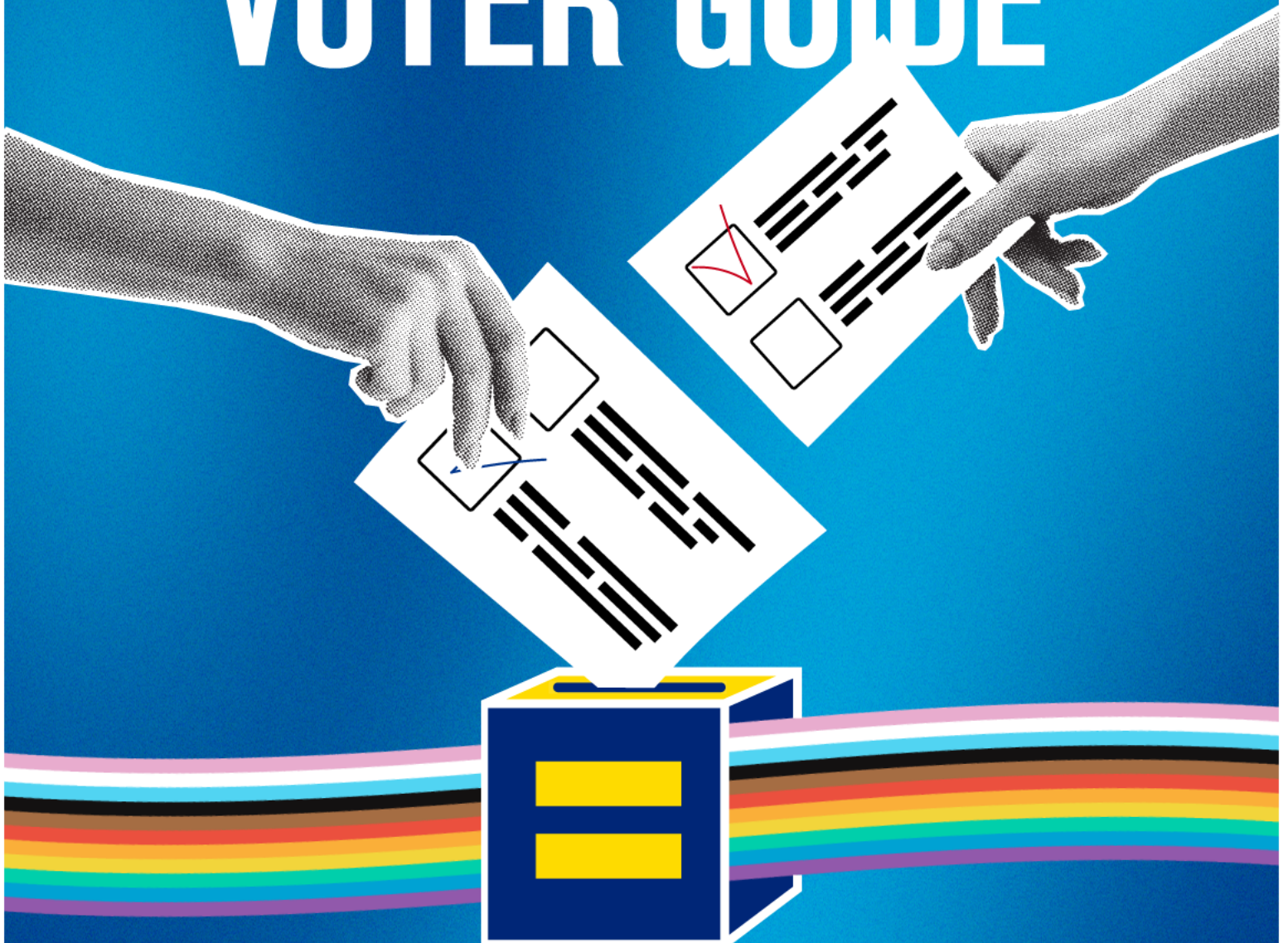




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# 2026 LGBTQ+ BALLOT REFERENDUM VOTER GUIDE





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| STATE     | BALLOT<br>REFERENDUM                                  | ISSUE                                                                                             | HRC VOTE<br>RECOMMENDATION |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>AZ</b> | Prop 318                                              | Expanded transgender sports and bathroom ban                                                      | <b>NO</b>                  |
| <b>CO</b> | Measure 110                                           | Prohibiting healthcare for transgender youth                                                      | <b>NO</b>                  |
| <b>CO</b> | Measure 109                                           | Blanket transgender sports ban                                                                    | <b>NO</b>                  |
| <b>MO</b> | Amendment 3                                           | Reimposing state's abortion ban and blocking health care for transgender youth                    | <b>NO</b>                  |
| <b>VA</b> | Remove Constitutional Same-Sex Marriage Ban Amendment | Repeal same sex marriage ban in state constitution                                                | <b>YES</b>                 |
| <b>WA</b> | IL 26-001                                             | Forced outing proposal that allows parents under criminal investigation to access child's records | <b>NO</b>                  |
| <b>WA</b> | L26-638                                               | Requires medical certification of sex for all women and girls to play sports                      | <b>NO</b>                  |



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# ARIZONA



## PROP 318:

This measure extends the state's blanket transgender sports ban to cover all private schools and extracurricular athletic associations and prohibits transgender people from using bathrooms, and other associated spaces, that align with their gender identity.

### HRC POSITION: OPPOSE

- Will of the People is the Arizona coalition of progressive organizations opposing several ballot referrals and initiatives. <https://willofthepeopleaz.com/>

### WHY HRC SUPPORTERS ARE VOTING NO

- Every student should feel free and safe in school and have the same opportunities to succeed; and that includes transgender students.
- Forcing transgender students into bathrooms and other private spaces that don't match their gender identity puts their safety at risk, and can add to bullying and mistreatment.
  - Reports show that transgender people who are forced to use restrooms that do not align with their gender identity face increased instances of harassment.
  - Transgender young people already face high hurdles – increased risk of bullying, harassment, and violence – and they don't need adult bullies making school even less safe for them.
- Everyone, including transgender students, want to feel safe in private spaces like bathrooms. It's already illegal for anyone to enter bathrooms or locker rooms and harass someone.
- This is what far right-wing extremists do to distract from the fact that they have no real solutions to the issues the American people care about. When they have no plans to govern – they sow division, chaos, and hate.
- It is not just transgender people who pay the price. In state after state, cisgender women have been targeted, harassed, assaulted, and even arrested as a result of anti-transgender bathroom policies and debates that naturally result in the policing of gender expression for all. This measure does nothing to prevent or address these occurrences.
- For the small number of transgender athletes in Arizona, participating in sports is about learning the values of teamwork, dedication, and perseverance. And for so many students, sports are about finding somewhere to belong.
  - Transgender youth deserve the same chances as every other student to learn sportsmanship, self-discipline, teamwork, and to build a sense of belonging with their peers. No one should be discriminated against because of who they are, especially kids!
  - Instead of policing bathrooms, Arizona politicians should focus on ensuring its schools have great teachers, robust resources, and opportunities for every kid to learn and grow.

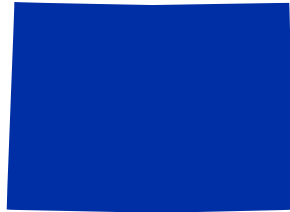
### BALLOT LANGUAGE:

- Ballot language is pending.



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# COLORADO



## MEASURE 110:

- **Prohibiting healthcare for transgender youth**

### HRC POSITION: NO

- Colorado advocates working to ensure families, doctors and patients have the freedom to make their own decisions are a part of the [Families Not Politics](#) campaign

## WHY HRC SUPPORTERS ARE VOTING NO

- Everyone deserves the freedom to make deeply personal health care decisions for themselves and their families.
- This issue is one that many people have questions about and that's OK. But attempts to put politicians between people and their doctors is dangerous.
- No parent should ever be put in the position where they and their doctor agree on one course of action, supported by the overwhelming majority of medical experts, but the government forbids it. This evidence-based care is supported by [every major medical association](#), **including the American Medical Association, American Psychological Association, and many others.**
- Health care for transgender people is just that – health care. In many cases, the care transgender people receive is the same as people who are not transgender – just for a different reason. **Forbidding this kind of health care from someone for no reason other than that they are transgender is discrimination.**
- Accepting someone for who they are can immeasurably make life better for LGBTQ+ people overall.
- Health care for transgender youth is evidence-based, best practice care that should be accessible for families on Medicaid who need it—just like any other form of health care.

## BALLOT LANGUAGE:

Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes modifying existing law by prohibiting surgery on a minor for the purpose of altering the minor's biological sex characteristics, and, in connection therewith, prohibiting any health-care professional or other person from knowingly performing, prescribing, administering, or providing any surgery to a minor for the purpose of altering the minor's biological sex characteristics and prohibiting the use of state or federal funds, Medicaid reimbursement, or insurance coverage to pay for this type of surgery?

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## MEASURE 109:

- A blanket ban for all types of sports, across all ages that would open up girls to invasive gender inspections and prevent transgender young people from playing with their peers

### HRC POSITION: NO

- Colorado advocates who believe these decisions should be left to local schools and athletic associations that can allow trans student athletes to play sports with their friends and peers are a part of the Families Not Politics campaign



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# COLORADO



(CONTINUED)

## WHY HRC SUPPORTERS ARE VOTING NO

- Participating in sports is about learning the values of teamwork, dedication, and perseverance. And for so many students, sports are about finding somewhere to belong.
- Transgender youth deserve the same chances as every other student to learn sportsmanship, self-discipline, teamwork, and to build a sense of belonging with their peers. **We shouldn't discriminate against kids simply because of who they are.**
- We can all understand that rules exist to keep sports fair and they vary depending on age, sport and level of competition. This blanket ban treats a 6-year-old soccer player the same way as an elite NCAA athlete.
- Political attacks on transgender youth generally, and trans student athletes specifically, are fueled by discrimination, not facts.
- This vague, blanket ban on transgender youth participation in sports makes life harder for all kids, emboldening people to question the gender of kids who don't fit a narrow view of how they're supposed to dress or look. They can even expose children to invasive, inappropriate questions and examinations. Because the enforcement mechanism of this measure is unclear, potentially anyone could demand any girl prove her gender.
- Transgender young people already face high hurdles – increased risk of bullying, harassment, and violence – and they don't need adult bullies making school even less safe for them.

## BALLOT LANGUAGE:

Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes creating new law restricting participation in all K-12 and collegiate school sports based on the participant's sex as determined by certain aspects of their biological reproductive system, and, in connection therewith, requiring a school, institution of higher education, or athletic association to designate each school or intramural athletic team or sport as male, female, or coeducational; only allowing participants to compete on the team or sport of their designated sex or to compete on a coeducational team; creating an exception to allow a female to participate on a male-designated team or sport if there is no female team available; prohibiting a government entity, licensing or accrediting organization, or athletic association from entertaining a complaint, opening an investigation, or taking other adverse action against a school for maintaining separate teams or sports for females; and providing the commissioner of education with the authority to enforce the proposed initiative for K-12 school districts?



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# MISSOURI



## AMENDMENT 3:

- Reimposing the state's abortion ban and blocking health care for transgender youth

### HRC POSITION NO:

- A "NO" vote opposes amending the Missouri Constitution, keeping the existing constitutional right to reproductive freedom, and not adding provisions that prohibit abortion and gender transition surgeries and procedures. For more information on how Missouri advocates are fighting back, visit [Stop the Ban](#) and [PROMO](#).

## WHY HRC SUPPORTERS ARE VOTING NO

- Everyone deserves the freedom to make deeply personal health care decisions for themselves and their families. And whether you're talking about access to an abortion or health care for transgender youth, politicians have no place in the doctor's office.
- This amendment is an attempt by Missouri politicians to undermine the will of the people, who less than two years ago made it clear at the polls they wanted to protect the right to an abortion in Missouri. They do not get to try and reverse the decision just because they didn't like the result.
- Attempts to put politicians between people and their doctors is about spreading falsehoods about health care for transgender young people and ignores the fact that this evidence-based care is supported by [every major medical association](#), **including the American Medical Association, American Psychological Association, and many others.**
  - No parent should ever be put in the position where they and their doctor agree on one course of action, supported by the overwhelming majority of medical experts, but the government forbids it.
- Health care for transgender people is just that – health care. In many cases, the care transgender people receive is the same as people who are not transgender – just for a different reason. **Therefore, forbidding this kind of health care from someone for no reason other than that they are transgender is discrimination. Period.**
- Much of the care for transgender youth relates to overall mental health and wellbeing, allowing children and young adults to live as their authentic selves.
- Accepting someone for who they are can immeasurably make life better for LGBTQ+ people overall.

## BALLOT LANGUAGE:

Shall the Missouri Constitution be amended to:

- Repeal the 2024 voter-approved Amendment providing reproductive healthcare rights, including abortion through fetal viability;
- Allow abortions for rape and incest (under twelve-weeks' gestation), emergencies, and fetal anomalies;
- Allow legislation regulating abortion;
- Ensure parental consent for minors' abortions;
- Prohibit gender transition procedures for minors

State governmental entities estimate no costs or savings. Greene County estimates it may experience an unknown increase in tax revenue. Other local governmental entities estimate no costs or savings.



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# VIRGINIA



## ISSUE:

Repeal Same-Sex Marriage Ban in state constitution

### HRC POSITION: YES

- A YES vote supports amending the state constitution to:
  - remove a provision that states marriage is between one man and one woman;
  - add a provision stating that “marriage is one of the vital personal rights essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness;” and
  - prohibit the state from denying a marriage license to two adults based on their sex, gender, or race.
- For more information, visit [Virginians for Marriage Equality](#)

### WHY HRC SUPPORTERS ARE VOTING YES

- Love is love, and every family deserves equal protection under the law. Due to the U.S. Supreme Court’s historic decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges* and President Biden’s signing of the Respect for Marriage Act, marriage equality has transformed thousands of lives in Virginia over the past 11 years.
- The Marriage Equality Amendment ensures that every Virginia family has the same rights, protections, and dignity, no matter who they are or who they love.
- But despite the protections guaranteed through the courts and federal legislation, attacks on marriage equality continue to come, and Virginia’s constitution, which prohibits same-sex marriages, means couples in the state could be at risk should federal protections one day be eroded.
- In his concurring opinion in the *Dobbs v. Jackson* Supreme Court case – which overturned almost 50 years of federal abortion protections in the United States – Justice Clarence Thomas signaled that he would support a repeal of *Obergefell*. While none of the other justices signed on to this opinion, the Supreme Court has recently rolled back many rights, including voting rights and the right to an abortion, that many thought were settled. Updating Virginia’s constitution means that same-sex marriages are protected in Virginia, no matter what happens at the Supreme Court.

### BALLOT LANGUAGE:

Question: Should the Constitution of Virginia be amended to (i) remove the ban on same-sex marriage; (ii) affirm that two adults may marry regardless of sex, gender, or race; and (iii) require all legally valid marriages to be treated equally under the law?



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# WASHINGTON



## ISSUE:

- IL 26-001: A measure that would require educators to forcibly out students to their parents and allow parents who are under criminal investigation for child abuse to access their child's full social work, counseling, and disciplinary records.

### HRC POSITION: NO

- A "NO" vote opposes re-enacting Initiative 2081, known as the Washington Declaration of Parental and Legal Guardian Rights, and would keep current policies in place that protect the rights of students and parents. It is supported in state by **No Hate in WA State** (a coalition of Utopia WA, Pro-Choice Washington, Greater Seattle Business Association, UFCW 3000, SEIU 775, Washington Education Association)

## WHY HRC SUPPORTERS ARE VOTING NO

- Like every student, LGBTQ+ kids deserve an education that is inclusive, safe, and enables them to succeed.
- Outing minors without their consent can put children at greater risk of abuse, mental health issues, and even homelessness, as well as prevent them from finding needed support from a trusted adult.
- Allowing parents who are under criminal investigation for child abuse, rape, assault, or otherwise harming their child to access their child's full social work, counseling, and disciplinary records only puts that child under more risk of danger.

## BALLOT LANGUAGE:

[Link to IL 26-001](#)

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## ISSUE:

- L26-638: Requires medical certification of sex for all women and girls prior to joining an athletic team

### HRC POSITION: NO

- A "NO" vote opposes the initiative, thereby keeping the current state law requiring that recreational and athletic activities "be offered to all students without regard for sex" and prohibiting public schools from discriminating based on sexual orientation including gender expression or identity.



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# WASHINGTON



(CONTINUED)

## WHY HRC SUPPORTERS ARE VOTING NO

- Participating in sports is about learning the values of teamwork, dedication, and perseverance. And for so many students, sports are about finding somewhere to belong.
- Transgender youth deserve the same chances as every other student to learn sportsmanship, self-discipline, teamwork, and to build a sense of belonging with their peers. We shouldn't discriminate against kids simply because of who they are.
- This specific language discriminates against all girls, as it specifically requires girls who want to participate in school sports (but not boys) to prove their body is "Female enough." Beyond exposing young girls to potentially invasive, inappropriate questions and examinations, it will also embolden people to question the gender of young girls who don't fit a narrow view of how they're supposed to dress or look. Transgender young people already face high hurdles – increased risk of bullying, harassment, and violence – and they don't need adult bullies making school even less safe for them.

## BALLOT LANGUAGE:

[Link to IL 26-638](#)