

Ballot Questions Tally

12-02-2003

For November 2003 General Election

PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 1**INCREASE IN BONDING AUTHORITY
FOR STATE'S OPEN SPACE,
FARMLAND, AND HISTORIC
PRESERVATION PROGRAMS**

Shall the amendment to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 7 of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, agreed to by the Legislature, increasing, from an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000,000 to an amount not to exceed \$1,150,000,000, to aggregate principal amount of bonds, notes, or other obligations which may be issued by the Garden State Preservation Trust for open space, farmland, and historic preservation purposes and which are payable from the constitutional dedication through State fiscal year 2029 of up to \$ 98 million annually in State revenue from the State tax imposed under the "Sales and Use Tax Act," be approved?

Interpretive Statement

Approval of this constitutional amendment would increase the cap on the total amount of bonds that may be issued by the Garden State Preservation Trust to raise revenue for open space, farmland, and historic preservation efforts in the State. The cap currently is \$1 billion, and this measure, if approved, would increase it by \$150 million, so that the new cap would be \$1.15 billion. The Constitution dedicates for State fiscal years 2000 through 2009 the sum of \$98 million annually, and for State fiscal years 2010 through 2029 the sum of up to \$98 million annually, in State sales and use tax revenue to finance open space, farmland, and historic preservation, including the payment of any debt that may be incurred from the issuance of bonds for those purposes. This measure would make available \$150 million more in bond funding for open space, farmland, and historic preservation but would not increase the amount of the constitutional dedication of up to \$98 million annually in State sales and use tax revenue to be used for such purposes.

County	Yes Count	No Count
Atlantic	23,897	15,123
Bergen	86,902	45,666
Burlington	47,714	25,123
Camden	43,761	24,667
Cape May	12,325	7,769
Cumberland	9,948	6,590
Essex	31,374	13,165
Gloucester	33,035	17,750
Hudson	19,936	11,624
Hunterdon	15,964	6,805
Mercer	36,811	16,239
Middlesex	62,857	37,181
Monmouth	66,659	38,257
Morris	49,319	23,736
Ocean	60,945	38,401
Passaic	28,351	16,239
Salem	11,784	6,494
Somerset	32,478	15,851
Sussex	16,374	8,367
Union	32,434	17,261
Warren	13,004	6,935
Total	735,872	399,243

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PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 2

**CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO EXPAND
USES OF DEDICATED TAX REVENUE TO FUND
HAZARDOUS DISCHARGE CLEANUPS**

Shall the amendment to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, expanding the authorized uses of the constitutionally dedicated Corporation Business Tax revenue, to include funding the costs of the remediation of hazardous discharges, and funding the costs of a State underground storage tank inspection program, be approved?

Interpretive Statement

Approval of this constitutional amendment would expand the authorized uses of the constitutionally dedicated portion of the Corporation Business Tax revenues to allow funding, including the provision of loans or grants, for the costs of remediation of discharges of hazardous substances. Since 1996, 4% of the annual revenue from the Corporation Business Tax has been constitutionally dedicated, with a minimum of one-half allocated for hazardous discharge cleanup performed by the State, a minimum of one sixth or a minimum of \$5 million allocated for water quality projects and, until December 31, 2008, a minimum of one third allocated for funding loans or grants for underground storage tank upgrades, replacements, closures and remediations. This constitutional amendment would, without increasing taxes, expand the authorized uses of the one third dedicated to underground storage tank projects, to allow that portion to be used also for funding loans or grants to remediate hazardous substance discharges, and for the use of up to \$2 million per year for an underground storage tank inspection program, and, by removing the December 31, 2008 expiration date, would continue its allocation for those purposes.

County	Yes Count	No Count
Atlantic	22,927	15,853
Bergen	83,353	47,409
Burlington	44,420	27,594
Camden	41,028	25,528
Cape May	11,781	8,065
Cumberland	8,923	7,247
Essex	29,207	13,578
Gloucester	30,028	20,382
Hudson	18,643	11,643
Hunterdon	13,452	8,924
Mercer	34,644	17,124
Middlesex	59,076	39,799
Monmouth	61,720	41,714
Morris	45,129	26,771
Ocean	57,182	40,870
Passaic	26,424	17,308
Salem	10,170	7,987
Somerset	29,803	18,168
Sussex	15,099	9,475
Union	30,444	18,525
Warren	11,160	8,479
Total	684,613	432,443

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PUBLIC QUESTION NO. 3**DAM, LAKE, STREAM, FLOOD CONTROL, WATER RESOURCES, AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT BOND ISSUE**

Shall the "Dam, Lake, Stream, Flood Control, Water Resources, and Wastewater Treatment Project Bond Act of 2003," which authorizes the State to issue bonds in the amount of \$200,000,000 for the purposes of providing financing for the restoration and repair of dams, the dredging and restoration of lakes, the cleaning and desnagging of streams to diminish flooding and property damage therefrom, and providing financing for flood control projects, water resources projects and wastewater treatment system projects, and providing the ways and means to pay the interest on the debt and also to pay and discharge the principal thereof, be approved?

Interpretive Statement

Approval of this act would authorize the sale of \$200,000,000 in State general obligation bonds to be used for the purposes of providing \$15,000,000 to restore and repair State-owned dams, \$95,000,000 in low-interest loans to owners of dams for dam restoration and repair projects, and \$15,000,000 in low-interest loans to owners of lakes and streams and private lake associations, with local governments as co-applicants, for lake dredging and restoration, or stream cleaning and desnagging projects, necessary to diminish severe flooding in the State; \$25,000,000 to finance State flood control projects, and \$50,000,000 for water resources projects and wastewater treatment system projects.

County	Yes Count	No Count
Atlantic	19,304	19,376
Bergen	81,772	48,886
Burlington	43,535	27,366
Camden	37,455	27,853
Cape May	9,592	10,061
Cumberland	9,368	6,732
Essex	24,645	17,216
Gloucester	31,772	18,689
Hudson	18,267	11,123
Hunterdon	12,500	9,858
Mercer	33,584	17,273
Middlesex	53,147	44,920
Monmouth	60,725	41,508
Morris	41,133	30,842
Ocean	55,565	37,295
Passaic	26,771	16,742
Salem	11,355	6,856
Somerset	28,342	19,567
Sussex	16,301	8,399
Union	28,192	20,649
Warren	11,305	8,247
Total	654,630	449,458