



Ballot Initiative STRATEGY CENTER

Ballot Initiative Overview

2008 Election

Maryland

Maryland is a non-initiative state.

Both measures that were on the ballot were legislative referenda (both passed).

2 Constitutional Amendments Were Referred

Question 1: Election Reform

Early Voting; Polling Places; Absentee Ballots: Authorizes the General Assembly to enact legislation to allow qualified voters to vote at polling places inside or outside of their election districts or wards and to vote up to two weeks before an election. This amendment also authorizes the General Assembly to enact legislation to allow absentee voting by qualified voters who choose to vote by absentee ballot, in addition to voters who are absent at the time of the election or who are unable to vote personally.

PASSED 71% - 29%

Question 2: Gaming

Authorizing Video Lottery Terminals (Slot Machines) to Fund Education: Authorizes the State to issue up to five video lottery licenses for the purpose of raising revenue for education of children in public schools, prekindergarten through grade 12, public school construction and improvements, and construction of capital projects at community colleges and higher education institutions. No more than a total number of 15,000 video lottery terminals may be authorized in the State, and only one license may be issued for each specified location in Anne Arundel, Cecil, Worcester, and Allegany Counties, and Baltimore City. Any additional forms or expansion of commercial gaming in Maryland is prohibited, unless approved by a voter referendum.

Proponents: For Maryland For Our Future, <http://www.formaryland.org/>

Opponents: Marylanders United to Stop Slots, <http://www.marylandersunited.com/>

PASSED 59% - 41%

For additional information please check with the Maryland Secretary of State:

<http://www.elections.state.md.us/>