

**FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION**  
**STATEWIDE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT**  
**NOVEMBER 5, 2024 GENERAL ELECTION**  
**BALLOT STATEMENT**  
**Approved Pursuant to Alabama Code Section 17-6-81**

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**BALLOT STATEMENT FOR STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 1:**

**(1) The text of the statewide ballot measure, including sponsors, cosponsors, and the text of the question that will appear on the statewide ballot:**

Proposed by Act No. 2024-301 (House Bill 302, 2024 Regular Legislative Session)

Bill Sponsor: Representative Kiel

*“Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, to grant certain sixteenth section and indemnity school lands that are owned in fee simple by the Franklin County School System, are located in Fayette County and Walker County, and are for the exclusive use of schools in the Franklin County School System to the Franklin County Board of Education; and to provide for the distribution of any proceeds and interest generated by this land.”*

*Proposed by Act 2024-301.”*

*This description shall be followed by the following language: “Yes ( ) No ( ).”*

**(2) A summary of and the text of any implementing legislation directly related to the statewide ballot measure:**

There is no implementing legislation directly related to this statewide ballot measure.

**(3) The placement of the statewide ballot measure on the statewide ballot:**

This proposed Constitutional Amendment will appear on the Ballot after election of federal, statewide, and local offices, and will be the first constitutional amendment for voter consideration. The proposed Constitutional Amendment will be listed as “Statewide Amendment 1.”

**(4) A plain language summary of the statewide ballot measure, which shall include, at a minimum, the legal or constitutional authority for its passage, the effect of the statewide ballot measure if it is passed, including its cost and source of funding, and the effect of the statewide ballot measure if it is defeated.**

In the 1800's, Congress granted each township in the state certain land designated as "sixteenth section lands" and "indemnity lands" for the benefit of schools. Money earned from these lands is dedicated to the support and maintenance of the public schools in the state.

Currently, the Franklin County School System owns some sixteenth section lands and indemnity lands that are located in Fayette County and Walker County.

This amendment will transfer ownership rights of those lands to the Franklin County Board of Education. Upon approval, the amendment will provide that any money earned from the lease or sale of the lands or its natural resources will be paid to the Franklin County Board of Education.

Money currently held in trust by the State of Alabama prior to the approval of this amendment will continue to be held in trust and any money earned from those transactions will continue to be paid to the Franklin County Board of Education.

If the majority of voters vote "yes" on Amendment 1, the Alabama Constitution will be changed.

If the majority of voters vote "no" on Amendment 1, the Alabama Constitution will not be changed.

There are no costs or taxes related to Amendment 1.

The Constitutional authority for passage of Amendment 1 is set forth in accordance with Sections 284, 285 and 287 of the Constitution of Alabama. These sections outline the method a constitutional amendment may be put to the people of the State for a vote.