

State Initiatives and Referenda 2003-2004

State	Issue	Status	Local/State	Description	Election Year	Contact	Link to Legislation/ Initiative Name	Press Release? Y/N	TT? Y/N
Alaska	Taxes	Unfiled	State	A referendum is being considered (constitutional amendment) to limit state spending to no more than what was spent two years earlier (sponsor –Rep. Bill Stoltze, R-Eagle River). It would take three-quarters vote of the legislature to exceed the spending limit, and then lawmakers could exceed it by only 2 percent. A 2/3 legislative approval is needed to put this measure on the ballot, and then it would go before voters in 2004.	2004	Rep. Bill Stoltze, R-Eagle River			
Alaska	Taxes		State	Proposal that would require voter approval or a 75 percent legislative supermajority to impose new taxes or increase existing ones. This will also apply to license and permit fees and other user fees similar to taxes. This may be the same one as listed above.	2004	Karen E. Bretz (Anchorage)			
Alaska	Taxes		State	Would create a tax on cruise ships and require cruise ships to acquire environmental permits.		Joe Geldhof, Gershon Cohen and Karen Jettmar			
Arizona	Campaign Finance	Circulating	State	If passed, this initiative headed up by Republican State Representative Jeff Flake will repeal Arizona’s “clean” election laws. Arizona campaigns are funded by offering residents a \$5 tax rebate for contributing \$5 to the program. It also levies a \$100 tax on for-profit lobbyists and adds a 10% surcharge on all civil and criminal fines.	2004				
Arizona	Taxes	Circulating	State	Prohibits use of taxpayer’s money or other resources by any public agency or political subdivision for lobbying the legislature. Exceptions: The Governor, The Supreme Court, The Treasurer, and persons elected to public agencies representing the people in a legislative capacity. Strengthens the separation of powers to protect our liberty. Annually each covered public agency shall certify that no unlawful lobbying has knowingly been conducted. On request of the legislature heads of public agencies may meet with a legislator to provide objective and unbiased information that may assist in the legislative process.	2004		I-01-2004		

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Arizona	Taxes	Unfiled	State	Possible referendum for 2004 aimed at cutting state spending failed to pass the House on 3/19/03. The House voted 34-26 against a resolution to ask voters to amend the Arizona Constitution to impose the new cap and repeal a decades-old one that the state has never hit. The proposed cap would have generally prohibited the legislature from approving additional spending, with adjustments allowed only for inflation, population and transfers of government functions to or from state government. Lawmakers could override only with a 2/3 vote of the House and Senate and consent of the governor. It would also have let a simple majority of the legislature trim spending on programs approved by voters if revenues didn't keep pace with spending limits.	2004				
Arizona	Taxes	Circulating	Local	The Tucson transportation initiative is a proposal to increase Tucson's city sales tax 3/10 cent (along with a 4% increase in the construction contracting sales tax) to provide a dedicated funding source for expanded public transit (including light rail), increased pedestrian and bicycle improvements, neighborhood street maintenance and increased traffic enforcement.	2003				
Arkansas	Corporate Bonds	Qualified for ballot	State	A constitutional amendment that will allow the governor to call a special legislative session to approve a general obligation bond issue to finance large private projects. The state would guarantee the bonds, but would only be liable if the private company defaulted on the bonds. Benefits private corporations by allowing them to set a lower interest rate because the bonds are guaranteed. Projects that can trigger the special session are those with an investment over \$500 million that create a minimum of 500 jobs. The revenue bonds cannot exceed 5% of the state's general revenues.	General Election Ballot; November 2004		HJR 1028		
Arkansas	Legalization of Marijuana	Failed to qualify, but is being contested	State	Would decriminalize and regulate Marijuana	2004				

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California	Tort Reform	Unfiled	State	Four main elements of this initiative: 1) Extend state government protections against frivolous lawsuits to private individuals and businesses 2) Allow individuals to collect their legal expenses from those who file unsuccessful lawsuits against them – not to exceed \$15,000 3) Require that personal injury lawyers fully disclose, in writing, the potential that unsuccessful plaintiffs could reimburse the costs of defense up to \$15,000 4) Require that before an attorney can file any 17200 Business and Professional Code lawsuit in California, they have a client who can show they were harmed by the violation.	2004	David Houston Coalition to Reform Frivolous Lawsuits david@dhho uston.com		Y	
California	Government Spending	Qualified for ballot	State	This bill establishes the California Twenty-First Century Infrastructure Investment Fund in the State Treasury. Beginning in the 2006-2007 fiscal year, the measure requires a transfer of a specified percentage of revenues to the fund from the state's General Fund: 1% in 2006-2007, rising incrementally to 3% in 2013-14, as long as specified standards for growth in state revenues are met. Of the funds, 50% would be available for acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, modernization or renovation of infrastructure that is owned or is acquired by the state, and 50% for infrastructure projects owned or to be acquired by a city, county, or special district, including streets, roads, highways, transportation, water, parks and open space.	Primary Election Ballot; March 2, 2004		Legislative Constitutional Amendment; ACA 11		
California	Bond Measure	Qualified for ballot	State	The legislature and the Governor approved the Kindergarten to University Education Facilities Bond Act to be placed before the California voters. The Bond measure will authorize the sale of two statewide general obligation (GO) bonds, one in 2002 (this measure passed) and one in 2004, in the amounts of \$13.05 billion and \$12.3 billion respectively-for a total of \$25.3 billion, the largest education bond bill package in the history of the state.	Primary Election Ballot; March 2, 2004		Bond Measure; AB 16		

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California	Privacy	Qualified for ballot	State	The so-called "Racial Privacy Act", or CRENO (Classification of Race, Ethnicity, and National Origin) prohibits state, local governments from using race, ethnicity, color or national origin to classify current or prospective students, contractors, or employees in public education, contracting or employment operations. It does not prohibit classification by sex. This measure has qualified for the 2004 primary ballot. The Republican Party of California has endorsed the initiative.	Primary Election Ballot; March 2, 2004		SA01RF0027		
California	Bond Measure	Qualified for ballot	State	\$10 billion in bonds for a high-speed rail system and other public transportation work.	General Election; November 2004		SB 1856		
California	Recall of Governor Gray Davis	Circulating	State	Proposed initiative to recall California Gov, Gray Davis. Joining the campaign is chairman of the Republican Party, Shawn Steel, and a former Republican Assemblyman, Howard Kaloogian, also has a separate recall website at www.recallgraydavis.com . The Republican Party of California has endorsed the initiative. The group needs to collect 800,000 signatures by July.	2003				
California	Election Fines	Circulating	State	Would charge a \$50 fine to eligible voters who either fail to register or fail to vote in state elections. Would help raise badly needed revenue for the state government, but would most likely have a high administrative cost.	2004		SA03RF0001		
California	Property value	Circulating	State	This measure would define "damaged for public use" as unreasonable, arbitrary, dilatory, discriminatory, or oppressive government action causing economic damage to the owner of an interest of the property. It would define "taken for public use" to include government restriction or condition that advances no legitimate public purpose or disproportionately or unfairly burdens property owner and substantially causes decrease in affected property's market value. Compensation may include collection costs.	2004		SA03RF0007		
California	Gambling	Circulating	State	Amends Constitution to legalize Las Vegas and Atlantic City casino-type gambling (sports wagering, roulette, slot machines and banking and percentage games played with cards or dice) for the next 28 years in the City of Adelanto on experimental basis.	2004		SA03RF0003 (Part A) (Part B)		

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California	Financial Privacy	Circulating	State	CALPIRG, ACLU, E-Loan, the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse, AARP, Consumers Union and other groups have submitted an initiative that would give Californians the strongest financial privacy protection in the nation by requiring financial institutions to obtain a consumer's explicit consent before selling or sharing their personal information with affiliates or third party companies for any purpose other than to complete a transaction initiated by the consumer.	2004		SA03RF0006, Amdt #2-NS		
California	Taxes	Circulating	State	Makes changes to personal income tax law including the following: Permits child support deduction. Before tax lien or levy ordered, court must find taxpayer was provided complete information and Franchise Tax Board cooperated to resolve dispute.	2004		SA02RF0023		
California	Taxes	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Amends California's income tax law to provide an alternative standard deduction and tax rate for taxpayers with adjusted gross income for the taxable year of \$50,000.00 or less for individuals, and \$100,000.00 or less for married couples filing jointly. Qualifying taxpayers may choose to take deduction equal to California's minimum wage effective for the taxable year, multiplied by 1,040 for individuals, or multiplied by 2,080 for married couples filing jointly, and pay 2.5% tax on the adjusted amount. Directs the Franchise Tax Board to prepare a form for use by taxpayers. Would Reduce state income tax revenues by approximately \$900 million in 2004-05 and \$700 million annually thereafter.	2004	Roland Boucher rolandfly@earthlink.net	SA03RF0010		

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California	Taxes	Circulating	State	SEIU is behind a ballot measure targeted for the 2003 primary titled the "Budget Accountability Act," which would reduce from two-thirds to 55 percent the voting threshold California lawmakers need to pass a state budget or raise taxes. The measure would not change Proposition 13's property tax limitations or voting thresholds. Applied to the current makeup of the Legislature, it would allow Democrats to pass budgets and raise taxes at will without Republican support. The measure also would require that in any fiscal year for which general fund revenues exceed the amount needed to fund current service levels, the Legislature deposit at least 25 percent of the surplus in a reserve fund to be used to sustain services during economic downturns. To help voters hold their state representatives more accountable, the measure would require that a two-page summary of how the state is spending its funds be published in the ballot pamphlet mailed to voters before every statewide election.	2003	Ted Greene, Citizens Against Higher Taxes (310) 996- 2678			
California	Taxes	Unfiled	State	Possible tax increase referendum. Democratic leaders and interest groups say they may ask California voters to boost taxes to help fill the state's multibillion-dollar budget hole. Democratic legislators—unhappy with a Davis proposal to cut \$4 billion that the state sends to local governments—are pushing for an increase in the vehicle license fee. They've also proposed a variety of bills that would boost taxes on products from diapers to beer. Options being considered also include: an initiative to change the constitution so that tax-increases only need 50 percent of the legislature's vote, as opposed to the current 2/3 rd majority; reinstate top income tax brackets, and increase corporate property tax rules. Republican lawmakers promise to block any tax-raising plan. Any tax increases would have to be approved by the constitutionally required two-thirds margin.					

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California	Taxes	Unfiled	State	The Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group says that if the Legislature does not pass one of two bills to lower the threshold for new countywide sales taxes to pay for transportation to drop from two thirds to 55 or 50 percent of the vote, they will lead a drive to put an initiative on the statewide ballot as early as next year. State Sen. Tom Torlakson, D-Concord, and Assemblyman John Dutra, D-Fremont, have each introduced bills to lower the vote needed to fund transportation projects at the county level. They need two thirds vote in the legislature to pass.	2004				
Colorado	Gambling	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Would allow for video lottery games at certain approved horse tracks and dog tracks around the state. A portion of the revenue would be allocated to help promote tourism within the state by funding open land space preservation and state parks.	2004		Initiative Measure #18		
Colorado	Public Health Care	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Would allow all Colorado residents who have lived in the state for at least a year to buy into the state Medicaid program at 130% of the average cost. It would also require all practicing physicians within the state to participate in the program.	2004		Initiative Measure #1		
Colorado	Cigarette Tax	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Measure that would impose a two-part cigarette tax in the state. The purchase of cigarettes will be accompanied by a four-cent tax on each cigarette. There will also be a 15% tax on cigarettes in all stages of distribution.	2004		Initiative Measure #11		
Colorado	Bond Measure	Filed and awaiting approval	State	This would allow for up to \$2 billion in bonds to be issued to help finance water infrastructure projects. After passing both houses of the legislature it is up for review by the governor. Most likely it will be voted on in the November election.	General Election; November 2003		SB 236		
Colorado	Taxes	Filed and awaiting approval	State	\$25 tax cut on state and local bills, including television accounts, utilities and sales taxes. This would allow district voters to lower or cancel tax cuts in certain circumstances; allowing districts to let taxpayers reject tax cuts on their tax bills; requiring districts to refund twice the tax cut amount withheld if certain conditions are violated; specifying these tax cuts do no lower the minimum yearly revenue needed to pay bonds issued before 2005; and requiring yearly compliance audits and strict enforcement by the state.	2003		Initiative Measure #57		

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Colorado	Taxes	Unfiled	State	As a result of the state budget crisis, the legislature is considering placing a referendum on the ballot to limit the impact of TABOR, a 1992 anti-tax initiative (called the Taxpayers Bill of Rights) which places severe restrictions and limits on how much governments can spend each year.					
Colorado	Smoking Ban	Unfiled	Local	Summit County voters might get the chance to ban smoking in bars and restaurants if the county commissioners decide to place a referendum on the November ballot, a possibility they are studying.	2004				
Florida	Genetically Engineered Foods	Circulating	State	Requires Labeling of Foods that are Genetically Engineered for any Foods sold or distributed in or from Florida. Allows Consumers the Right to Know whether Foods are Genetically Engineered. Foods prepared, served or sold in restaurants for immediate human consumption are excluded from labeling requirements.	2004		Labeling of Foods that are Genetically Engineered		
Florida	Gambling	Circulating	State	Authorizes Miami-Dade and Broward Counties to hold a referendum on whether to allow slot machines at racetracks (thoroughbred and harness racing, greyhound racing, and jai alai). Would allow the legislature to tax slot machine revenues, revenues from which must fund state public education. Yari-Professor Fun-Der-Full Lawrence's - Legalization of Marijuana Committee	2004		Authorizes Miami-Dade and Broward County Voters to Approve Slot Machines in Pari-mutuel Facilities		
Florida	Anti-Trust Laws	Circulating	State	Would force insurance companies within the state to abide by state anti-trust laws. Currently they are exempt from these regulations.	2004		Requiring Insurance Companies to be Subject to Florida Antitrust Laws		
Florida	Health Care	Circulating	State	All persons shall have a right to comprehensive health care services from the health care provider of their choice in a single payer health care system.	2004		Single Payer Health Care		
Florida	Health Care	Circulating	State	Would give patients access to information relating to health care facilities' or health care providers' adverse medical incidents, such as medical malpractice. Currently patients do not have access to such information.	2004		Patients' Right to Know About Adverse Medical Incidents		

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Florida	Health Care	Circulating	State	Would allow patients to sue certain “managed care” organizations, such as HMOs for damages and injury or death resulting from certain unfair or deceptive practices. Currently these organizations are exempt from such legal action.	2004		Patients' Right to Sue...		
Florida	Health Care	Circulating	State	Prohibits insurance companies from charging consumers a price for insurance unless the rate is first approved by the state. The rate may not be excessive or unfairly discriminatory, and a lower rate must be proven clearly inadequate. Applies new standards to homeowners', motor vehicle, and workers' compensation insurance, and other types of insurance whose rates are already regulated. Applies to policies issued or renewed after the effective date; provides for a transition.	2004		Requiring New Standards For Insurance Rating		
Florida	Health Insurance	Circulating	State	Guarantees affordable health insurance. Private insurers may establish a plan with premiums equal to the largest, lowest premium, private, group plan in Florida. If they don't, the State shall establish a Trust in 2005 to provide coverage. Each participant will pay premiums. Deficits between the premiums and claims will be paid through a limited sales tax. The Trust shall not hire or contract with any provider owned or controlled by an insurance company.	2004		Right to Affordable Health Insurance		
Florida	Tort Reform	Circulating	State	Amendment provides that all persons entitled to recover damages in a civil action for bodily injuries or death arising from an incident of medical malpractice occurring after effective date of this amendment may not recover in the aggregate more than \$500,000 in punitive damages.	2004		Limitation of Non-economic Damages...		
Florida	Legalization of Marijuana	Circulating	State	A initiative to legalize marijuana	2004		Yari-Professor Fun-Der-Full Lawrence's - Legalization of Marijuana Committee		

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Florida	Legalization of Marijuana	Circulating	State	Establishes a right of individuals to choose to obtain and use marijuana for specific medical purposes when certified as medically appropriate by a licensed physician. Protects third parties who recommend or provide medicinal marijuana and punishes those who defraud the program or use marijuana illegally.	2004				
Florida	School Choice	Circulating	State	Requires the legislature to provide by general law for the provision of a state funded scholarship program to allow the parent of any Florida school district student the option to place his or her child in a private school of the parent's choice.	2004		Parent's Right to Request and Receive A State Funded School Choice Scholarship		
Florida	Labor	Circulating	State	This measure prohibits the state or a local government from entering into any contract, franchise agreement, or other arrangement in which all or any portion of an essential public safety service, including fire, emergency medical, police, sheriff, probation, corrections, or other law enforcement services, would be provided by private means except as specified.	2004		Public Safety and Security Act		
Florida	Transportation	Circulating	State	Proposes an amendment to the State Constitution to repeal a successful citizen initiative that requires the development and operation of a high-speed ground transportation system in the state. This repeal will enable the State Legislature to decide whether this makes sense.	2004		Amendment to Repeal Provision That Requires High-Speed Ground Transport		

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Florida	Taxes	Unfiled	State	John McKay, Republican former state legislator wants to launch a grass-roots, statewide effort aimed at debating and reforming the sales tax policy. He had hoped to persuade the Legislature to voluntarily tackle those tasks but was stymied by Gov. Jeb Bush, the Republican House leadership and the special interests who benefit from the state laws that exempt more revenue than they collect from taxable transactions. If approved, it would require the Legislature to periodically review the efficacy of sales tax exemptions and justify their existence. Experts in constitutional law are considering how to frame a proposed amendment that would both withstand mandatory judicial scrutiny and political opposition; campaign consultants are discussing possible strategies for generating public support; McKay is thinking about how to gain the business sector's endorsement; and economists are studying the probable economic impacts of eliminating certain exemptions.	2004				
Idaho	Taxes	Circulating	State	This initiative would increase sales tax in certain resort counties, the revenue from which would be used to decrease the property tax burden in the counties.	General Election; November 2004		Initiative Regarding the Resort County Sales Tax		
Idaho	Taxes	Circulating	State	Would exempt certain foods from sales tax; providing that alcoholic beverages, tobacco, hot foods, and hot food products prepared for immediate consumption shall not be exempted.	General Election; November 2004		Proposed Initiative to Create a Sales Tax Exemption for Food		
Maine	Gambling	Qualified for Ballot	State	If passed, this measure would allow slot machines at two state racetracks. Those licensed to run the slot machines would receive 75% of revenues, while the other 25% would be allocated to certain harness racing and state programs. 10% of the 25% will be allocated to the Fund for a Healthy Maine, a program which provides prescription-drug subsidies for the elderly and disabled.	General Election Ballot; November 2003		An Act to Allow Slot Machines at Commercial Horseracing Tracks		
Maine	Gambling	Qualified for ballot	State	Allows the Passamaquoddy Tribe and Penobscot Nation to conduct gambling. If passed, the tribes will build a \$650 million casino that may net over \$125 million in tax revenue for the state annually.	General Election Ballot; November 2003		The Maine Tribal Gaming Act		

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Maine	Property Taxes	Qualified for ballot	State	Would reduce local property taxes while requiring the state government to increase its proportion of funding for K-12 from 43% to 55% of the state budget. This initiative does not state how the state would have to alter its tax policy to pay for this increase.	General Election Ballot; November 2003		School Finance and Tax Reform Act of 2003		Y
Maine	Taxes	Circulating	State	Would limit property taxes to 1% of the assessed cash value of the property.	2004		An Act to Impose Limits on Real and Personal Property Taxes		Y
Maine	Taxes	Circulating	State	Would require a 2/3 legislative majority as well as a referendum to raise state taxes. Would also lower current taxes and provide a homestead property tax credit.	2004		An Act to Provide Tax Relief	Y	Y
Maine	Taxes	Circulating	State	Would require the state to shift more of its own funds towards education funding while lowering property taxes.	2004		School Finance and Tax Reform Act of 2003		
Massachusetts	Taxes	Unfiled	State	House Speaker Thomas M. Finneran may push a state constitutional amendment to limit budget growth in future years, with excess money going to the state's rainy-day fund. Because a state constitutional amendment must be approved in two consecutive legislative terms, the earliest it could reach the voters would be 2006.	2006				
Michigan	Labor	Circulating	State	Allows state employees to elect labor representatives.	N/A				
Michigan	Taxes	Circulating	State	Cuts state income taxes and provides tax credits for college.	N/A				
Michigan	Government Officials' Salaries	Circulating	State	Would abolish the State Officers Compensation Committee (SOCC) and establish the salaries of the legislature, governor, lieutenant governor, and supreme court justices. Any increase in these salaries would require a majority vote of the electors.	2004				
Michigan	Legalization of Marijuana	Circulating	State	Legalizes Marijuana for personal use, reforms asset forfeiture laws, prohibits lawsuits against gun manufacturers and tobacco companies.	2004				
Michigan	School Funding	Circulating	State	Specifics Unclear	2004				

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Missouri	Stadium Proposal	Unfiled	Local	Fred Lindecke, spokesman for the Coalition Against Public Funding for Stadiums, is pushing for a yearly initiative asking voters to approve whether money should go to financing a new baseball stadium for the Cardinals. St. Louis County officials are intending to give \$45 million to the \$402 million Cardinals Stadium proposal.	N/A				
Montana	Taxes	Unfiled	State	Rep. Dan Fuchs, R, is considering introducing a referendum that would require voters to approve the reintroduction of property and/or income taxes, if either tax is eliminated as a result of the introduction of a sales tax. Constitution says sales tax can't exceed four percent. Fuchs is also introducing a bill through the legislature which would replace state income tax with a sales tax.	N/A				
Nebraska	Taxes	Circulating	State	This Amendment will require that all tax increases and new taxes, both local and state, be approved by the voters before they can take effect.	2004				
Nevada	City Council Meetings	Circulating	Local	North Las Vegas initiative that would give residents more power to express their opinion in city council meetings. It asks that residents also be allowed to place things on the council's agenda.	2004				
New Mexico	Education	Qualified for ballot	State	Create a public education department, which will be held by one cabinet level secretary appointed by the Governor. This would replace the current State Board of Education, which has 10 elected members and 5 governor-appointed members.	Special Election Ballot; September 23, 2003		Constitutional Amendment 1		
New Mexico	Education Spending	Qualified for ballot	State	Increase the amount of money that is distributed from the State Permanent Fund to the education system in the State from 4.7% to 5.0% to 5.8%.	Special Election; September 23, 2003		Constitutional Amendment 2		
New York	Property Taxes	Unfiled	Local	Would require the city council of New York City to conduct public hearings in the five boroughs 120 days before passing any future property tax increase.					

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Ohio	Labor	Qualified for ballot	State	The Ohio General Assembly has approved Governor Bob Taft's Third Frontier Bonding Proposal which would allow a \$500 million bond issue to be placed before Ohio voters in November 2003. If approved by voters, The Third Frontier Project Operating Bond Program will provide the resources to recruit academics, attract additional research dollars, and help researchers move their products from the laboratory to the marketplace. The bond issue is a part of the \$1.6 billion Third Frontier Project, which aims to expand Ohio's high-tech research capabilities and promote start-up companies to create high-paying jobs.					
Oregon	Liquor Laws	Circulating	State	Through a constitutional amendment this initiative looks to Prohibit the sale distribution, warehousing, or pricing of alcoholic beverages by the state government. It also would require the state to license private stores.	2004		Initiative 2		
Oregon	Campaign Finance	Circulating	State	Limits individual expenditures and contributions to candidates, political committees, political parties; restricts organizational contributions and expenditures.	2004		Initiative 55		
Oregon	Legalization of Marijuana	Circulating	State	Decriminalizes marijuana by allowing adults to possess, exchange and grow limited amounts of the drug. This measure also looks to legalize hemp.	2004		Initiative 4		
Oregon	Property value	Circulating	State	Private Property Protection Act. Requires private property owners to compensate nearby property owners for any development or land use that impacts upon the value of their neighbors' property.	2004		Initiative 41		
Oregon	Constitutional Amendment	Circulating	State	Amends Constitution: Repeals separate vote requirement for constitutional amendments proposed by initiative petition.	2004		Initiative 26		
Oregon	Medical Marijuana	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Amends Oregon Medical Marijuana Act; Increases marijuana amount patients may possess; allows sales; Creates Dispensaries.	2004		Initiative 31		
Oregon	Property value	Filed and awaiting approval	State	"Takings" Initiative. Requires governments to either compensate owners for restrictions that reduce property value by more than 5%, or repeal restrictions.	2004		Initiative 30		
Oregon	Term Limits	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Limits state legislators terms in office to six years as a Representative, eight years as a Senator and twelve years overall in both houses	2004		Initiative 39		

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Oregon	Labor	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Paycheck Deception. Anti-labor activist, Bill Sizemore, has filed two initiatives: one prohibits unions from collecting public employee payroll deductions for political purposes without authorization, and the other prohibits unions from collecting payroll deductions for political purposes for all employees. Both initiatives seek to alienate the working class from participating in the political process. Labor union, including AFL-CIO are opposed to the campaign. A judge in April 2003 shut down Bill Sizemore's petition-gathering organization, calling it a "sham" and ruling that Bill Sizemore had manipulated it for his own personal use and benefit.	2004		Initiative 24		
Oregon	Taxes	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Federal Income Taxes Fully Deductible On Oregon Income-Tax Returns Filed By Individuals.	2004	Tom Sizemore, Oregon Taxpayers Union (OTU)	Initiative 11		
Oregon	Taxes	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Makes Deductible On Oregon Personal Income Tax Returns All Taxes Calculated as Percentage of Income.	2004	Tom Sizemore, OTU	Initiative 9		
Oregon	Taxes	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Limits Property Tax Increases to Two Percent Annually.	2004	Tom Sizemore, OTU	Initiative 7		
Oregon	Taxes	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Lowers Capital Gains state tax rate to four percent.	2004		Initiative 1		
Oregon	Taxes	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Prohibits Residential Property Taxes; Reduces Income Tax Rates, Nonresidential Property Tax Rates; Creates Sales Tax (4%) (Sponsored by anti-tax activist, Bill Sizemore)	2004		Initiative 19		
Oregon	Property Taxes	Unfiled	State	Would raise property taxes to help fund education	2004				
Oregon	Urban Renewal Projects	Filed and awaiting approval	Local	Wilsonville. Would require the city government to hold a vote to approve any urban renewal projects that exceed \$3 million a year.					
Rhode Island	Term Limits	Qualified for ballot	State	Would ask voters to impose eight year term limits on the state's House Speaker and Senate President.	2004				

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South Carolina	Taxes	Qualified	Local	Fort Mill Township will ask voters whether they want to continue the one-cent sales tax for another seven years to pay for additional roadwork around the area.					
South Carolina	Property Taxes	Unfiled	State	Would allow school districts to levy a penny sales tax to help fund schools. Must pass legislature before there will be a vote of the people					
Utah	Education tax-credits	Qualified for ballot	State	Non-binding referendum will be used to gauge the public's view of a proposed tuition tax credit bill that the governor opposes. The bill, if passed, would offer an income tax credit of up to \$2,132 for parents whose children attend private schools or for those who donate to organizations that provide scholarships.	General Election; November 2004		HCR 003		
Utah	Term Limits	Circulating	State	Would restrict the term limits of state legislators and executive officers to eight years in any fifteen year time period. The offices affected are Governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, state auditor, state treasurer, state representatives and state senators.	2004		Term Limits Act		
Utah	Medical Marijuana	Circulating	State	Utah Compassionate Use Act. Allows citizens to obtain marijuana for the treatment of cancer, anorexia, AIDS, chronic pain, glaucoma, arthritis, migraines, or otherwise as recommended by a physician.	2004		Utah Compassionate Use Act		
Utah	Environmental Preservation	Circulating	State	Open Lands Act. Would provide funds for protecting lands located on school and institutional trust lands. Will be funded through a \$150 million bond measure.	2004		Utah Open Lands Act		
Utah	Affirmative Action	Circulating	State	Anti-affirmative action measure run by pro-white groups: Prohibits the state, local governments, districts, public universities, colleges, schools, and other government instrumentalities from discriminating against or giving preferential treatment to any individual or group in public employment, public education, or public contracting on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin.	2004		Proposed Changes in Utah's Discrimination Code		
Utah	Taxes	Circulating	State	Stop Targeted Taxes Act.	2004		Stop Targeted Taxes Act		
Washington	Government Contracts	Circulating	State	Says that the state must offer preferential treatment to economically disadvantaged businesses when awarding contracts.	2003		Initiative 845		

State Initiatives and Referenda 2003-2004

State	Issue	Status	Local/State	Description	Election Year	Contact	Link to Legislation/ Initiative Name	Press Release? Y/N	TT? Y/N
Washington	Campaign Finance	Circulating	State	This measure would prohibit campaign contributions by persons not entitled to vote for the candidate or ballot proposition; except for a token amount of one cent. Also prohibits contributions by corporations; and prohibit use of non-voter contributions for advertising.	2003		Initiative 813		
Washington	Legalization of Marijuana	Circulating	State	Would remove Marijuana from the list of unlawful substances, as well as amend the definition of drug paraphernalia.	2003		Initiative 840		
Washington	Education Spending	Circulating	State	Would establish a system of funding where money would be directly allocated to schools to cut down on administration expenses. School principle would be responsible for managing school budgets. These budgets would then require school board approval.	2003		Initiative 808		
Washington	Ergonomics Regulations	Circulating	State	Would repeal current ergonomics regulations that require businesses to create a workplace that reduces needless injury to humans.	2003		Initiative 841		
Washington	Health Care	Circulating	State	This measure would create a Washington health security trust to develop a health care plan for all state residents, funded by co-payments, employer and employee assessments, and shifting tax revenues from other uses.	2003		Initiative 842		
Washington	Initiative Reform	Circulating	State	Makes it illegal to pay or receive money based on signatures obtained on an initiative or referendum per signature. Signature collection will require payment by the hour.	2003		Initiative 802		
Washington	Initiative Reform	Circulating	State	This measure would require any initiative requiring new programs or services to specify their sources of revenue, and require any initiative reducing revenue to specify programs or services to be reduced or eliminated.	2003		Initiative 801		
Washington	Taxes	Circulating	State	A repeal of the business and occupation tax	2003		Initiative 839		Y
Washington	Taxes	Circulating	State	Initiative 807 requires a two-thirds legislative majority or voter approval to raise state revenues, and links state-spending growth to inflation and population increases. Sponsored by anti-tax activist Tim Eyman. The initiative is an attempt to reinstate the similarly-designed Initiative 601, which passed in 1993, but has since been altered by the legislature. The State Republican Party endorses initiative 807.	2003		Initiative 807		Y

State Initiatives and Referenda 2003-2004

State	Issue	Status	Local/State	Description	Election Year	Contact	Link to Legislation/ Initiative Name	Press Release? Y/N	TT? Y/N
Washington	Taxes	Circulating	State	This measure would define “true and fair value” of real property to be the “fair market value of the last purchase price paid.” Assessors would revalue all property to this value before levying taxes to be collected in 2005. The measure would eliminate requirements that property be revalued between sales. The legislature would be directed to propose appropriate changes in the state constitution to assure stability of the property valuation system established in this measure.	2003				
Washington	Taxes	Circulating	State	Would increase state income tax for individuals with an income higher than \$100,000	2003		Initiative 846		Y
Washington	Transportation	Circulating	State	Citizens Initiative: repeal compulsory seat belt law	2003		Initiative 836		
Washington	Transportation	Circulating	State	This measure would require that the state portions of sales tax revenue from the retail sale of motor vehicles, and also the state portions of use tax revenue based on the use of motor vehicles, be shifted from the general fund to the motor vehicle fund. The measure directs that this revenue be used exclusively for road, street, and highway construction and maintenance at the state and local level.	2003		Initiative 843		
Washington	Transportation	Circulating	State	Initiative Measure No. 852 concerns prohibiting the implementation of the Link Light Rail system. This measure would prohibit the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (Sound Transit) and nearby counties and cities from implementing the Link Light Rail system between SeaTac and Seattle, beyond existing contractual obligations.	2003		Initiative 852		
Washington	Taxes	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Would lower property taxes by 25%, and would require voter approval for any raise in property taxes.	2003		Initiative 855		
Washington	Transportation	Filed and awaiting approval	State	Citizens for King County Monorail (ph: 206-860-4366 are filing an initiative asking voters to design a monorail system around and across Lake Washington. Conceptually, the possibly \$5 billion, 59-mile monorail plan will pick up where Seattle’s Green Line monorail and Sound Transit’s light rail leave off.	2003				

State Initiatives and Referenda 2003-2004

State	Issue	Status	Local/State	Description	Election Year	Contact	Link to Legislation/ Initiative Name	Press Release? Y/N	TT? Y/N
Washington	Transportation	Filed and awaiting approval	State	The Regional Transportation Accountability Board has filed an initiative that would merge Sound Transit, the Puget Sound Regional Council and the Regional Transportation Investment District under a seven-person elected board.	2003		Initiative 854		
Washington	Education	Unfiled	State	Would put the teacher's living wage increase and the class-size reduction measure back on the ballot after the legislature was unable to find the adequate funds to support these programs. When voted on again, a method of funding must be proposed.					
Washington	Espresso Tax	Qualified for ballot	Local	This measure would place a ten-cent tax on all espresso drinks sold in Seattle. The revenue from this tax (\$7-\$10 million annually) will be used to increase the availability of childcare and early learning programs in the city by offering subsidies to low-income families and increasing wages of childcare teachers.	September 2003		Initiative 77		Y
Washington	Environmental Protection	Qualified for ballot	Local	Designed to help protect Seattle's creeks. It will protect the fish and wildlife, increase open space and reduce pollution entering Seattle's waterways.	September 2003		Initiative 80		
Wyoming	Education Spending	Qualified for ballot	State	Referendum will eliminate the cap placed on the transfer of public school funds from one district to another. Currently school districts are funded through local property taxes and the legislature has control over distributing some of the funds from higher revenue districts to lower revenue districts. If enacted this amendment will eliminate the currently existing cap on what percentage of these funds the legislature is allowed to move.	General Election; November 2004		Constitutional Amendment A		