

Missouri Amendment 5

August 4, 2026 Ballot Issue | Issues Brief



QUICK FACTS



Type:
Constitutional
Amendment



On ballot:
August 4, 2026



Tax impact:
Unknown at this time
(per official fair
ballot language)



Important note:

Amendment 5 would require a legislative phase-out of the individual state income tax based on revenue growth. It does not itself set a detailed phase-out schedule or specify which taxes would change.



WHAT IT IS

Amendment 5 would amend Missouri's Constitution to require the legislature to phase out the individual state income tax based on revenue growth and to authorize the expansion of sales and use taxes. It would also curtail certain constitutional limits on taxing goods and services and require local tax rate cuts without reducing school funding if local sales tax revenue increases. Many implementation details would be left to future lawmakers.



WHY SUPPORTERS BACK IT

- Supporters say it would gradually phase out Missouri's individual income tax rather than eliminate it all at once.
- They argue it allows modernization of Missouri's sales tax system while requiring any added state sales tax revenue to be paired with income tax reductions.
- Supporters also say tying reductions to revenue growth avoids a fixed deadline and could improve Missouri's long-term economic competitiveness.



WHY OPPONENTS ARE AGAINST IT

- Opponents say the amendment does not spell out exactly how the income tax would be phased out or which goods, services, or other taxes could be affected.
- They argue future lawmakers could broaden sales and use taxes, shifting more of the tax burden to consumers.
- Opponents also say loosening constitutional tax limits creates uncertainty for families, businesses, and local governments.



ORGANIZATIONS PUBLICLY SUPPORTING

Examples of organizations that have publicly supported Amendment 5 include:

- Americans for Prosperity–Missouri
- MO Tax Relief Now
- Freedom Principle MO / MO First PAC



ORGANIZATIONS PUBLICLY OPPOSING

Examples of organizations or campaigns publicly opposing Amendment 5 include:

- Missouri REALTORS® / Protect MO Taxpayers
- AARP Missouri
- Missouri Budget Project
- Missouri AFL-CIO

