

## THE GIST

State Question 834 would amend the Oklahoma Constitution to clarify that only citizens of the United States are qualified to vote in the state.

**Current language reads:**

"Subject to such exceptions as the Legislature may prescribe, all citizens of the United States, over the age of eighteen (18) years, who are bona fide residents of this state, are qualified electors of this state."

**Suggested constitutional amendment:**

"Subject to such exceptions as the Legislature may prescribe, only citizens of the United States who are over the age of eighteen (18) years and who are bona fide residents of this state, are qualified electors of this state."

**State Question 834**  
would amend the  
Oklahoma Constitution  
to clarify that only citizens  
of the United States are  
qualified to vote in the state.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Oklahoma has reserved the right to vote for citizens [ever since the Oklahoma Constitution was ratified in 1907](#) and modernized its language as recently as 1978 with the citizen-approved [State Question 531](#). This year, a legislator-initiated ballot initiative seeks to amend the state constitution to clarify that only citizens of the United States are qualified to vote in Oklahoma.

This follows a national trend in other states, including [Alabama](#), [Louisiana](#), [Colorado](#), and [Florida](#), which have made changes to the state constitutions to specify that only citizens, and not non-citizens, can vote. Practically, SQ 834 would not change any existing law or practice in Oklahoma; it would preempt municipalities from allowing non-citizen residents to vote in local elections.

To be clear, there are no municipalities in Oklahoma that allow non-citizens to vote.

## BALLOT LANGUAGE

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"This measure amends Section 1 of Article 3 of the Oklahoma Constitution. It clarifies that only citizens of the United States are qualified to vote in this state."

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For the proposal -YES Against the proposal -NO

## SUPPORTERS SAY...

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- ➔ It will clearly state who is eligible to vote in Oklahoma and avoid possible confusion.
- ➔ It would prohibit any municipalities from expanding voter eligibility for local elections to non-citizens.
- ➔ It will protect against possible voter fraud.

## OPPONENTS SAY...

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- ➔ The Oklahoma constitution already makes clear that only citizens can vote in Oklahoma.
- ➔ It is already a felony for non-citizens to register to vote in Oklahoma.
- ➔ Studies have found no evidence of widespread non-citizen voting in either Oklahoma or the United States.

## DEADLINES

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### REGISTRATION DEADLINE

- Online registrations submitted by October 11, 2024
- Paper registrations postmarked or Delivered by October 11, 2024

### ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST DEADLINE

- Received by October 21, 2024 at 5 p.m.

### ABSENTEE BALLOT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

- Received or Hand Delivered by November 5, 2024 at 7 p.m.

### EARLY VOTING

- Thursday, October 31, 2024: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Friday, November 1, 2024: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Saturday, November 2, 2024: 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

### DAY OF ELECTION

- Tuesday, November 5, 2024: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Visit the Oklahoma Voter Portal at [okvoterportal.okelections.us](https://okvoterportal.okelections.us) for your voting information, including polling location.