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**Slavery: from pg 9**

votes in the gubernatorial election. This longstanding process Tennessee uses to determine the result for proposed Constitutional amendments was confirmed by a court decision following the 2014 general election.

To determine the number of votes needed to adopt a proposed Constitutional amendment, votes for all candidates for governor are added together and then divided by two. If there are more yes votes than no votes on the proposed amendment and the number of yes votes exceeds 50% +1 of the total votes for governor, the amendment passes and becomes part of the Constitution.

The Constitutional amendment fails if the number of yes votes does not meet or exceed the threshold, or if there are more no votes than yes votes.

Three other proposed amendments to the Tennessee Constitution, which were approved to appear on the Nov. 8 ballot by the 111th and 112th General Assemblies, are: An amendment to Article XI, of the Constitution of Tennessee, relative to the right to work; an amendment to Article II and Article III of the Constitution of Tennessee, relative to the exercise of the powers and duties of the Governor during disability; and an amendment to Article IX, of the Constitution of Tennessee, relative to disqualifications.

On the ballot, voters will see the candidates for governor, followed by the four proposed amendments, the United States House of Representatives and the county's remaining offices on the general election ballot.

Organizers of the "Vote Yes on 3" campaign say it is long overdue to commemorate the promise of abolition in Tennessee's foundational legal document.

"We rejected slavery in 1865. Why are we still holding onto the vestiges of a time whose values we no longer hold?" said Theeda Murphy, a chief organizer of the Yes on 3 campaign. "Words matter."

Members of the Vote Yes on 3 Advisory Board include Chattanooga Mayor Tim Kelly, former state Sen.

Bob Corker and Tennessee Democratic Party Chair Hendrell Remus, among others.

Nine other state constitutions contain language that prohibit slavery with exceptions for criminal punishments. Six states, including Tennessee, have measures on their ballots this year that would eliminate that language,

Murphy said. The others are Vermont, California, Oregon, Alabama and Louisiana.

For more information about the proposed Tennessee Constitutional amendments, visit [sos.tn.gov/amendments](http://sos.tn.gov/amendments) or call the Division of Elections at 877-850-4959.

To download and view a Hamilton County generic sample ballot, which has the proposed Tennessee Constitutional amendments and the contests for the entire election, click the link below:

<https://elect.hamiltontn.gov/Portals/12/Archives/2022/2211StateGeneral/2211%20Sample%20Ballot.pdf>



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**Taylor: from front**

extend over to the next administration.

"I'm not gonna go down there and prevent him from walking in the county attorney's office, I've got other things to do," Mayor Wamp said during a news conference about Attorney Taylor held Wednesday before the commissioners met. "But he doesn't have access to email. He doesn't have a county phone, and he's not on the payroll."

According to a news release from his office last Friday, "Mayor Wamp came to this decision based on concerns about private legal work Mr. Taylor conducts during business hours, concerns about breach of attorney-client privilege with our office, and previous admissions from Mr. Taylor that his office had systematically destroyed thousands of documents

related to open records requests."

Attorney Taylor, 73, a native of Chattanooga, has a long record of service to the community. When he returned to Chattanooga in 1973, he was the first African American licensed attorney in the city. In 1978, he and the Rev. Paul McDaniel became the first Black Hamilton County Commissioners. Taylor also became the first Black Hamilton County attorney.

Attorney Taylor has continued to work at the courthouse and was present for Wednesday's commission meeting.

Commissioner Greg Martin indicated the matter could go to court, but chairman Baker hopes that's not the case.

"We did a number of things, to restate the fact that we control the buildings, that he's our attorney, that we have a contract with him, and that all the contracts



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