

2018 Mid-Term Election Public Health Ballot Initiatives

In the 2018 midterm election several states had ballot measures related to public health and health outcomes. Below is a list of public health ballot measures that were passed or rejected.

Alabama

- Voters [approved](#) a ballot measure granting fetuses full “personhood” rights under the state Constitution.

Arizona

- Voters [rejected](#) a measure to accelerate shift toward generating electricity from renewables like solar.

California

- Voters [rejected](#) Proposition 8 which would have limited clinics from charging more than 115 percent of their costs of providing direct patient care.

Colorado

- Voters [rejected](#) a measure to limit drilling on state-owned land.

Idaho

- Voters [approved](#) Medicaid expansion for 60,000 low-income residents.

Michigan

- Voters [approved](#) the legalization of recreational cannabis.

Missouri

- Voters [approved](#) medical cannabis.

Montana

- Voters [rejected](#) to expansion of Medicaid by adding a \$2/pack cigarette tax.

Nebraska

- Voters [approved](#) Medicaid expansion for 90,000 low income residents.

North Dakota

- Voters [rejected](#) a ballot initiative to legalize recreational cannabis.

Ohio

- Voters [rejected](#) a ballot initiative aimed at relaxing the state’s law enforcement response to the opioid epidemic.
 - The initiative would have permanently amended Ohio’s constitution to downgrade all drug possession crimes to misdemeanors and prohibit jail time.

Oregon

- Voters **rejected** Measure 106, which would have blocked abortion access, with limited exceptions, for public employees and women covered by Medicaid.
- Voters **rejected** Measure 103, which would have prevented the enactment or increase of any state or local tax, fee, or assessment on the sale of groceries. Measure 103 would have prevented local governments from taxing soda and sugary beverages.

Utah

- Voters **approved** Medicaid expansion through a sales tax increase, affecting 150,000 low-income residents.
- Voters **approved** medical cannabis.

Washington

- Voters **rejected** a measure that would establish a “carbon fee” to fund environmental programs.
- Voters **approved** an initiative that prohibits local governments from enacting taxes on groceries.

West Virginia

- Voters **approved** a ballot initiative stripping the state Constitution any protections of the right to an abortion, as well as any right to state Medicaid funding for abortions.