

## Diana Hsieh's 2008 Voting Recommendations

<http://www.dianahsieh.com/blog/2008ElectionGuide.pdf>

Due the grave danger of the religious right, I recommend voting for **Obama** in the presidential election (or perhaps abstaining). I strongly recommend against voting for McCain, as he's far more likely to be able to implement his statist agenda and to further entrench fundamentalist Christianity into the American political system, particularly the judiciary.

I recommend voting for **Udall** over Schaffer for US Senate. Udall is a socialist and environmentalist, but he is a strong advocate of abortion rights and the separation of church and state. Schaffer seeks a "refereed private sector" of nominal private property with paternalistic regulations, he is opposed to all abortion, and he views rights as gifts from God.

The two most important measures on the ballot this year are **Amendment 48** and **59**. A 48 would grant full legal rights to fertilized eggs. A59 would permanently raise taxes and eliminate TABOR's check on the growth of government. Please vote **NO** on both measures. Here are my recommendations for all the ballot measures:

Item	Title	Brief Description	Diana's Recommendation
A 46	Colorado Civil Rights Initiative	A46 would prohibit the state government from discriminating based on race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public employment, education, or contracting.	<b>Yes.</b> Governments ought not discriminate on the basis of irrelevant factors like race and sex.
A 47	Right to Work initiative	A47 would prohibit requiring an employee to join and pay any dues to a union as a condition of employment.	<b>No.</b> It is a violation of contract and property rights to prohibit businesses from voluntarily agreeing with unions to only hire only union employees.
<b>A 48</b>	Definition of Personhood	A48 would define the term "person" to "include any human being from the moment of fertilization," thereby granting all the rights of persons to embryos and fetuses.	<b>NO NO NO.</b> A person is not created at conception but rather born. This measure would outlaw nearly all abortion, ban the birth control pill, morning-after pill, and IUD, and impose police controls on pregnant women. For more information, see <a href="http://www.SecularGovernment.us/a48.shtml">www.SecularGovernment.us/a48.shtml</a> .
A 49	Limitation on Public Payroll Deductions Initiative	A49 would prohibit union dues from being automatically deducted from the paychecks of public employees by limiting the allowed deductions.	<b>Yes.</b> Although this measure should not be a constitutional amendment, taxpayers are within their rights to manage the terms of government employment. Currently, union withholdings often go strait to pro-union political campaigns seeking to violate our rights. Government employees will retain their right and ability to fund any group through their own bank account.

A 50	Limited Gaming Initiative	A50 would allow residents of gaming towns to vote to extend casino hours, add games, and increase the bet limit to \$100—with most of the resulting tax revenue going to community colleges.	<b>Yes.</b> Limitations on gambling are a paternalistic violation of rights, and this measure would loosen some of them. While gaming regulations shouldn't be part of our constitution, A50 only amends existing constitutional provisions. Also, the additional tax revenue will be used for government education, but that seems inevitable in our current political climate.
A 51	Sales Tax for Developmentally Disabled Initiative	A51 would increase the state sales and use tax from 2.9% to 3.0% in 2009 then to 3.1% in 2010 to fund services for disabled people. It would prohibit any reduction in funding for such programs.	<b>No.</b> This tax hike is not just welfare-statist but downright altruistic. Moreover, the constitution should not limit the legislature in its budget allocations.
A 52	Severance Tax & Transportation Initiative	A52 would require the legislature to spend a portion of state severance taxes on highway projects.	<b>No.</b> The use of tax revenue should be determined by the legislature, not by the constitution.
A 54	Clean Government Initiative	A54 would limit the campaign contributions of certain government contractors and labor groups.	<b>No.</b> Campaign finance laws are unjust restrictions on freedom of speech. They ought to be repealed, not extended.
A 58	Severance Tax Initiative	A58 would increase the amount of state severance taxes paid by oil and natural gas companies, primarily by eliminating an existing tax credit. The additional revenue would fund college scholarships, wildlife habitat, renewable energy projects, etc.	<b>No.</b> This measure is populism at its worst. It is a tax hike against an unpopular but vital industry for the sake of illegitimate government funding of schooling.
<b>A 59</b>	Savings Account for Education Initiative	A59 would eliminate TABOR rebates, spending that tax revenue on P-12 education, and eliminate the required inflationary increase for P-12 education spending.	<b>NO NO NO.</b> This measure would be a permanent tax hike to enable more irresponsible spending by politicians. See < <a href="http://www.voteno59.com">www.voteno59.com</a> >.
Ref L	Candidate requirements	Ref L would lower the age of a candidate for the Colorado House and Senate from 25 to 21.	<b>Yes.</b> Adults should be able to serve in the legislature.
Ref M	Obsolete provisions	Ref M would eliminate obsolete provisions in the constitution about land value increases.	<b>Yes.</b> Obsolete provisions should be repealed.
Ref N	Obsolete provisions	Ref N would eliminate obsolete provisions in the constitution about intoxicating liquor.	<b>Yes.</b> Obsolete provisions should be repealed.
Ref O	Initiative Process	Ref O would increase the requirements for placing a constitutional amendment on the ballot by requiring more total signatures, with 8% to be gathered from each congressional district. The requirements for statutory initiatives would be lessened.	<b>Yes.</b> Amending the Colorado constitution should not be the state sport. Those attempting to do so should have to show that their measure has substantial and broad support from across the state.

