SJRCA 1 / HJRCA 5

- **Permits Illinois voters to make more substantial changes to their constitution.**
  - The signature threshold for constitutional amendments in Illinois is reasonably aligned with other states, but unlike most other states that permit citizen-initiated amendments, the Illinois Constitution limits the types of amendments that can be offered by the people.
  - The constitution currently only permits citizen-initiative amendments to the "structural and procedural subjects contained in Article IV" preventing Illinois voters from taking the lead on many key issues.
  - The amendment changes the constitution to permit citizen-initiative amendments to more of the constitution.
  - The change would align Illinois with the best practices of other, similarly situated states and empower its citizens to weigh in on issues such as pension benefits, taxation, redistricting, and other important constitutional provisions.

SJRCA 2 / HJRCA 6

- **Amends the constitution to allow for voter-initiated referendums on recently enacted laws.**
  - Unlike nearly half of U.S. states, IL does not permit citizens to initiate up-or-down referendums on legislation.
  - Currently, if a bill is passed by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor, the citizens must either convince the legislature and the Governor to reverse course or change the composition of their government in order to revoke the legislation.
  - The amendment provides that upon the enactment of any public act, the citizens have 90 days to circulate a petition to force a voter referendum.
  - The petition shall include the public act number, the date of the general election that the referendum would be submitted to voters, and the date the public act will cease to be in effect if rejected by the voters.
  - To get a referendum on the ballot would require a petition with signatures equal to 5% of the votes cast in the last gubernatorial election.
  - A citizen-initiated referendum could prove a useful tool to empower voters, permitting citizens to organize and check governmental overreach and repeal poorly considered laws.

SJRCA 3 / HJRCA 4

- **Amends the constitution to allow voters to recall elected officials at all levels**.
  - Per present constitutional guidelines, only the Governor is subject to recall.
  - The amendment expands the right to recall elected officials to: any executive branch officer, the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, the Auditor General, Members of the General Assembly, and local government officials.
  - Sets the signature threshold for recall petitions at 12%, except for local government recalls, which are driven by population size.

- Eliminates the requirement that the recall effort receive bipartisan support from at least 20 members of the House and 10 members of the Senate.
- Eliminates the regional requirement for recall petitions.
- Requires that 60% or more of the voters must vote to remove.