

Vote **YES!** On Amendment 4

County Programs & Administration

Proposed constitutional amendment #4 is part of the reform efforts of the Alabama Constitutional Revision Commission. If passed, it would allow county governments to establish **limited programs related to the management and administration of certain county activities**. It is designed, in part, to allow local governments to make decisions that currently require local legislation—which can sometimes clog the legislative process.

Amendment 4 does not grant “Home Rule” powers to counties, so it is not “Home Rule”.

In fact, language in the bill specifically prohibits the levying of taxes or fees, and prohibits any program that would “infringe on a citizen’s rights with respect to the use of his or her private property.”

The proposal simply provides for county commissions to carry out management and administrative activities in the following areas:

- County personnel programs, policies and procedures;
- Community programs for litter-free roadways, public facilities, and public property;
- Public transportation and the promotion of safety on public roads and rights-of-way;
- Operation of county offices; and
- Emergency assistance programs.

The bill clearly states that these powers do not supersede general or local laws. It further states that the county commission cannot use these powers to change the salary of other elected officials, nor in any way alter or interfere with the duties of other elected officials.

There is also a specific provision for citizen input into any proposed programs, policies, or procedures by providing notice and opportunity to be heard at a county commission meeting where such matters are to be considered.

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