

NEWS RELEASE
April 4, 2016



Frank Dillman of Macon County will present a program on Initiative and Referendum, often referred to as "I&R," a right of greater citizen participation in government. The presentation at 6:00 p.m. at Western Sizzlin Steak House, 1114 Glenn Blvd SW, Fort Payne will follow a 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in studio interview on WFPA 1400 am, www.1400wfp.com, both on Thursday, April 21, 2016.

Initiative and Referendum is available to citizens in 26 states and more than 70% of the U.S. population in cities, including Birmingham, and counties across the nation. However, not so statewide in Alabama.

Initiative is a citizen right to place statutes and constitution amendments on a ballot. Referendum is the ability to reject or ratify referenda and legislative actions, including statutes and constitutional amendments.

Research shows citizens with this right are more likely to be more informed of political issues, have a greater tendency to be involved in their community, believe their elected representatives know their constituents' concerns, think better of their government, and are more likely to vote.

A brief mention of history including women suffrage, child labor laws, and elimination of poll taxes, highway and rail safety will demonstrate the value of citizen legislators. Fiscal issues, food safety standards, fair ballot access, recall, and education reform are additional examples of citizen efforts when their legislators fail to conduct state business as desired. Houston voters in 2015 rejected an unpopular city ordinance using popular referendum.

All members of our community, in particularly high school and college students are encouraged to attend this free and informative opportunity to learn of I&R as Frank likes to call "Alabama's best kept secret."

See www.LetBamaVote.org and facebook.com/LetBamaVote for more information.

Contact Frank at admin@LetBamaVote.org.

A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

Frank Dillman, U.S. Navy retired, has served half of his career with the Marine Corps as their "doc." An activist focused on greater citizen participation in government, fiscal responsibility, and proactive transparency.