

EXTREME ABORTION DOESN'T BELONG IN OUR CONSTITUTION

BACKGROUND

Last summer, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe vs Wade* and related precedent, returning abortion policy to the states. Ohio law currently prohibits abortions after about 22 weeks, although several laws are being litigated, including one that would prohibit most abortions after a baby has a heartbeat. Ohio law also makes a distinction between induced abortions and treating ectopic pregnancies or managing miscarriages (see O.R.C. 2919.11 and 2919.191), and gives doctors wide discretion to protect the life and health of a pregnant woman in the case of a medical emergency (see O.R.C. 2919.12, 2919.15, 2919.17, etc.)

Abortion advocates are using Ohio's initiated amendment process to try to change Ohio's Constitution. They want to guarantee a right to "Reproductive Freedom" without any government interference. *This would apply not only to abortion, but to an expanded list of anything deemed to be a reproductive right—including sterilization, fertility treatment, and gender-identity related medical procedures.* Even more shocking - their language will specifically prohibit the state or local government from taking any action that is determined a "direct or indirect burden" on obtaining or providing abortion or other "care."

If by July 5th they gather valid signatures from about 415,000 Ohio voters in at least 44 counties this will be on the November 2023 ballot. This proposal is dishonest and extreme, and if it is amended into Ohio's Constitution the only way it will be changed is to amend the Constitution—again and again. If you are asked to enable this effort - **decline to sign.**

GET INVOLVED

1. **Pray and Fast:** The Catholic Bishops of Ohio have invited the faithful to join in this prayer.
2. **Learn more:** Skeptical? That is ok. Go to our website, read their language, and review the analysis.
3. **Get Involved:** Sign up for alerts online and consider attending a town hall (or invite us to come speak).
4. **Donate:** The abortion lobby is well funded by outside interests and those who profit from abortion. Can you help us to defeat this amendment? If so, visit: gcrtl.org/donate

PRAY

God our loving Father, grant wisdom to those who govern us, compassion and courage to those who work to defend human life, and safety and care to every human being.

For you alone who formed us in our mothers' wombs, and who call us home to heaven, are God, for ever and ever. Amen.

AT A GLANCE THIS WOULD...

- **Repeal** abortion laws, including those that prohibit painful and cruel abortions later in pregnancy, even on perfectly healthy babies.
- **Eliminate** requirements that parents be involved and notified (or that an alternate judicial process be followed) before children are taken for abortion or sterilization or gender-related treatment.
- **Risk** religious freedom and conscience protections on any matter under term "reproductive care."

HELP US STOP IT: GCRTL.ORG/STOP

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