



# MORE **EXTREME** THAN YOU KNOW

## Understanding the November 7 Constitutional Amendment

### WHAT IS ISSUE 1?

Issue 1 is a proposed amendment to enshrine a “right to abortion” up until birth into Ohio’s state constitution.

While proponents and many in the mainstream media attempt to distract or distort the true impact of the Constitutional amendment, it’s important for Ohio voters to read the amendment for themselves and see through the political spin.

Issue 1 is intentionally broad. It would allow for a child to be aborted through all nine months of a pregnancy. What’s more, because it’s a constitutional amendment, it would override Ohio’s existing regulations on abortion, including Ohio’s parental consent law. This means abortion clinics could perform abortions on a minor without her parent’s knowledge or permission.

This resource will unpack all that’s in the amendment so you’re better prepared to vote Wednesday, October 11, through Tuesday, November 7.

***Be a Vote for the Voiceless. **Vote No on Issue 1.*****



# UNDERSTANDING THE AMENDMENT

Planned Parenthood, the largest abortion business in America, and the ACLU carefully crafted the language of Issue 1. Through legalese and vague language, they've attempted to hide just how extreme this measure is and what its true impact would be.

But at Center for Christian Virtue, we believe it's essential for Ohio voters to understand what the legal and technical language in this amendment would mean for our state, our children, and our families.

## FULL AMENDMENT TEXT

Be it Resolved by the People of the State of Ohio that Article I of the Ohio Constitution is amended to add the following Section:

### **Article I, Section 22. The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety**

- A. Every individual has a right to make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions, including but not limited to decisions on:
1. contraception;
  2. fertility treatment;
  3. continuing one's own pregnancy;
  4. miscarriage care; and
  5. abortion.
- B. The State shall not, directly or indirectly, burden, penalize, prohibit, interfere with, or discriminate against either:
1. An individual's voluntary exercise of this right or
  2. A person or entity that assists an individual exercising this right unless the State demonstrates that it is using the least restrictive means to advance the individual's health in accordance with widely accepted and evidence-based standards of care.
- However, abortion may be prohibited after fetal viability. But in no case may such an abortion be prohibited if in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician it is necessary to protect the pregnant patient's life or health.
- C. As used in this Section:
1. "Fetal viability" means "the point in a pregnancy when, in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician, the fetus has a significant likelihood of survival outside the uterus with reasonable measures. This is determined on a case-by-case basis."
  2. "State" includes any governmental entity and any political subdivision.
- D. This Section is self-executing.

# THE TRUE IMPACT

## Breaking down what this amendment actually means for Ohioans

### Locking Abortion Politics Into Our State Constitution

“Article I of the Ohio Constitution is amended”

This is absolutely essential to understand: when the Ohio Constitution is amended, it overrides all other state law.

And when something is put into the Ohio Constitution, it's nearly impossible to remove it.

### Abolishing Parental Rights and Health and Safety Standards

“The State shall not, directly or indirectly, burden, penalize, prohibit, interfere with, or discriminate against either:

1. An individual's voluntary exercise of this right [to abortion]”

Since Issue 1 is a constitutional amendment and therefore overrides all existing Ohio laws regulating abortion, this section has massive implications for women and children especially.

For decades, Ohio has enacted several common-sense regulations on abortion, including:

- 1) Prohibiting abortion clinics from performing abortions on minor girls without parental consent.
- 2) Requiring abortion clinics follow basic health and safety standards.
- 3) Ensuring women have the opportunity to see an ultrasound before an abortion, if they would like to see one.
- 4) Protecting children with Down syndrome from being aborted simply because they have a disability.

However, if Issue 1 is passed, each one of these protections will be said to, in some way, “directly or indirectly burden” the ability to have an abortion. Or in other words, each one of these protections will be struck down.

Proponents of Issue 1 are attempting to claim that the amendment would not abolish parental rights, but last year, a similar abortion constitutional amendment passed in Michigan, and the abortion industry is already working to use the amendment to override parental consent laws.

### Distract the Voters

“Every individual has a right to make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions, including but not limited to decisions on:

1. contraception;
2. fertility treatment;
3. continuing one's own pregnancy;
4. miscarriage care; and
5. abortion.”

This section is an attempt to distract from the true purpose of the amendment. Abortion is big business. But those who stand to make the most money from the passage of Issue 1 (such as Planned Parenthood) know abortion is a divisive issue. So they've tried to distract voters by including language about “continuing one's own pregnancy” and “miscarriage care” in the amendment.

Voters should know this is a smokescreen. Every Ohioan already has access to quality maternal healthcare. In some cases, this care is even offered for free! Additionally, it's important to stress that miscarriage and abortion are two entirely separate things, both morally and when it comes to medical care. Miscarriage is a heartbreaking, painful loss.

### Allow Abortion Up Until Birth

“in no case may such an abortion be prohibited if in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician it is necessary to protect the pregnant patient's life or health.”

This is carefully crafted language that would allow abortion to be performed through all nine months of a pregnancy. By not defining what “protecting the patient's health” means, the abortion-performing doctor gets the be judge and jury on whether the abortion is “necessary.”

**The abortionist has the final say on whether a fully-developed and viable 8 month, 29 day-old child lives or dies.**

### Why Can't They Just Say “Woman?”

As if you needed more proof that this amendment was written by political ideologues, it makes no mention of “women.” That's because the people that wrote this constitutional amendment believe that men can get pregnant. Ohioans should not trust our Constitution or our citizens to irrational people.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## on the Upcoming October 11 – November 7 Election

### Q: How do I register to vote in Ohio?

The State of Ohio has made it easy to register for vote online at [VoteOhio.gov](http://VoteOhio.gov). You must be registered to vote by Tuesday, October 10.

### Q: Can I register to vote with a paper form?

Yes, you may download a paper registration form by visiting [VoteOhio.gov](http://VoteOhio.gov), clicking on “Register to Vote Online” then following the paper form (PDF) link in the “What You Need” section. The completed form must be mailed to your county Board of Elections office.

### Q: Do I need to identify with a political party in order to register to vote?

No. You may declare your party preference at each primary election in order to receive a ballot for your preferred party. You do not need to declare a party preference at a general election.

### Q: Is it possible to cast my vote prior to Election Day?

Yes, you may vote before Election Day in two ways:

1. Submitting an absentee ballot through the mail. To vote by mail, you may request an absentee ballot online at [VoteOhio.gov](http://VoteOhio.gov) or by calling your county Board of Elections.
2. Early in-person voting. You can vote early in-person at your County Board of Elections. State wide early voting hours for the Fall Election are as follows:

October 11 – 13 (W-F)	8:00 am – 5:00 pm
October 16 - 20 (M-F)	8:00 am – 5:00 pm
October 23 – 27 (M-F)	8:00 am – 5:00 pm
October 30 – November 3 (M-F)	7:30 am – 7:30pm
November 4 (Sat.)	8:00 am – 4:00pm
November 5 (Sun.)	1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

You may find early voting locations in your area by calling your county Board of Elections or online at [VoteOhio.gov](http://VoteOhio.gov) under the “Voting Early In-Person” section.

### Q: I want to vote on Election Day. Where do I go?

Polls are open from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm on Election Day. Look up your polling location at [VoteOhio.gov](http://VoteOhio.gov).

### Q: Will I need a state-issued ID to vote?

Yes, all Ohio voters must now have a valid state-issued photo ID in order to cast a ballot. Acceptable forms of ID include:

- Ohio driver’s license;
- State of Ohio ID card;
- Interim ID form issued by the Ohio BMV;
- A US passport;
- A US passport card;
- US military ID card;
- Ohio National Guard ID card; or
- US Department of Veterans Affairs ID card

If you do not have any of these, you may receive a free state-issued ID card at any BMV office.

***Be a Vote for the Voiceless. Vote No on Issue 1.***



**Center FOR Christian Virtue**  
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