

From Marion County REC - Brigitte Smith 12/13/2023

In the midst of good vs evil, we're in a battle to defend human life!

My fellow precinct members we must fight against unrestricted late-term abortion on-demand,

Planned Parenthood, the ACLU, and Florida's Democrats are promoting a State Constitutional Amendment which would remove any restriction on abortion for adults in Florida and thus enshrine late-term abortion on-demand as a constitutional right, including abortion until the point of birth. (See below full proposed language)

According to the Gallup organization, most Americans (55%) oppose abortion being legal in the second trimester and 70% of Americans oppose it being legal in the third trimester. Yet the coalition pushing this amendment wants no restriction on abortion in Florida - provided a health care provider signs off in it. And the health care provider making that determination could be a Planned Parenthood abortion provider, which would be an unconscionable conflict of interest and completely legal under this amendment.

The proposal's backers claim the proposed amendment is mostly supported by Floridians making small donations. The fact is that 80% of the funds supporting this amendment come from donations of \$50,000 and up. Also, almost 45% of the funds come from two organizations: Planned Parenthood and the ACLU.

The group pushing this ironically calls itself "Floridians Protecting Freedom, Inc." and has mis-named its initiative "Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion, 23-07". Unfortunately, the group has already collected over 75% of the signatures needed to get this amendment on the November 2024 ballot. They have done this by using out-of-state paid solicitors and, as one Republican Executive Committee member experienced, stating falsehoods about what the amendment would do.

We must stop this amendment. What can you do to help?

- Of course, do not sign the petition to get it on the ballot;
- If it makes it on the ballot, do not vote for it;
- Ask the leader of your house of worship to speak out against this amendment; and,
- Let your friends and family know what this amendment means: legalization of late-term abortion-on-demand including abortion until birth.

Text of the Amendment and Analysis

The proposed amendment states:

“Except as provided in Article X, Section 22 [which addresses parental consent], no law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient’s health, as determined by the patient’s healthcare provider.”

The amendment’s language after “or” is the most important; it has no limitation on time for an abortion and requires no minimum level of health concern required to justify late-term abortions. It does not even specify that the health concern be the mother’s physical health. Therefore, the health concern could be for the routine risks of pregnancy or childbirth, or it could be for the mother’s mental health. Finally, there is nothing precluding that the health care provider who determines that an abortion justified from performing the abortion himself/herself. If this amendment is passed, a Planned Parenthood clinic could take a walk-in patient seeking a late term abortion for any reason (including wanting to abort a fetus due to anxiety that the fetus is not the desired sex), make the determination that it’s “necessary to protect the patient’s health,” and conduct the abortion.

This would allow abortion on-demand at any point in a pregnancy (yes, that includes up to birth) if determined by the “patient’s healthcare provider” to be “necessary to protect the patient’s health.”

The Democrats want to keep the narrative wrapped in the fuzzy terms of viability and “when necessary to protect the patient’s health.” We cannot let them do that. We need to call out this amendment for what it is: it would legalize abortion-on-demand at any point in a pregnancy with a health care provider’s sign off.

Please, tell your friends about this. Let them know what this amendment would do. Don’t let the Democrats get away with promoting this deceptive and barbarous amendment to Florida’s Constitution.

Finally, if you are interested in pushing back against such extreme liberal activism in Marion County, consider joining the Marion County Republican Executive Committee. We meet on the third Monday of each month at the Ocala Golf Club (3130 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470). The meeting starts at 7:00 pm, with a first-come, first-served dinner starting at 6:00 pm. The dinner menu varies and usually cost \$15 per person. You do not have to contact us in advance of coming to a meeting. Our December meeting is our Christmas gathering and our regular meetings will resume on 15 January 2024.

Advocating for life and the preborn, you can find additional information at the Florida Right to Life website at www.frtl.org and on the Human Life Protection Amendment at www.humanlifefl.com (they are proposing an amendment recognizing the God-given right to life of the preborn individual, desiring to be added to the Declaration of Rights under Article 1 of the Florida Constitution).

Copyright (C) 2023 Republican Executive Committee . All rights reserved.