

Dignity of Life Threatened in Ohio

A Catholic perspective on the proposed constitutional amendment to expand and enshrine abortion in our state.

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

A proposed amendment to Ohio's Constitution claims to recognize reproductive freedoms, but it furthers a culture of death and removes current safeguards for women. As Catholics, we find the proposed amendment dangerous, unjust, and contrary to our belief in the sacredness of all life.

WHAT CAN I DO NOW?

Groups are currently collecting citizen signatures to add the amendment to the November 2023 ballot. More informational resources are coming, but in the meantime:

- Decline to sign any petition to put this amendment on the November ballot
- Pray, Learn, and Volunteer by visiting the "Protect Them Both" resource center at www.ohiocathconf.org/protect



**PROTECT
THEM BOTH**



OUR CONCERNS

1

PUTS WOMEN AT RISK

2

**ENDANGERS
PREBORN CHILDREN**

3

**ENABLES THOSE WHO
PRESSURE WOMEN**

See Back for Details 

Where Does the Amendment Say That?

1

PUTS WOMEN AT RISK

- Vague language would challenge any attempt to regulate who could perform an abortion and the standards of care required
- Could eliminate current safety standards, such as the presence of a licensed physician and assurance of hospital access in an emergency

“The State shall not... interfere with...an individual’s [abortion]... unless the State demonstrates that it is using the least restrictive means”

2

ENDANGERS PREBORN CHILDREN

- Would force Ohio to abandon protections enacted for preborn children with a detectable heartbeat
- Permits abortions at any time in pregnancy; a clinician could justify a woman's anxiety or depression as a reason for late-term abortion

“...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”

3

ENABLES THOSE WHO PRESSURE WOMEN INTO ABORTIONS

- Majority of women who have had an abortion report “high levels of pressure” to seek the abortion+
- Anyone who transports, counsels, or pressures a woman into an abortion, including abusers, traffickers, and negligent clinicians, would be protected by law
- Parents would no longer need to give consent or even be informed if their minor is seeking an abortion, removing their ability to report suspected abuse of their daughter

“The State shall not... penalize, prohibit, interfere with, or discriminate against... A person or entity that assists an individual [to get an abortion]”