



DEFEAT THE AMENDMENT

CURRENT LAW:

1991 -- Maryland Freedom of Choice Act - Abortion for any reason throughout all 9 months of pregnancy

2021 -- Mental Health Access Initiative – **12 year olds** may seek mental health care without parental consent

2022 -- Abortion Care Access Act – removed physician requirement, Medicaid and private health insurance providers completely cover costs, \$3.5 million annual fund for abortion training

2023 -- Trans Health Equity Act – Nondiscrimination for drugs and surgeries for “gender affirming” care, including puberty blockers (minors included - adults do not need puberty blockers). Medicaid required to cover costs.

Whether or not the amendment passes, abortion through birth will remain legal in Maryland. Gender drugs and surgeries are legal for adults and will remain legal for adults. **VOTE NO TO AMENDING THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION TO PREVENT --- LOSS OF PARENTAL RIGHTS -- DECREASED HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS -- INCREASED HEALTHCARE COSTS -- LOSS OF CONSCIENCE PROTECTIONS AND FREE SPEECH.**

• PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION:

“That every **PERSON**, as a central component of an **INDIVIDUAL’S** rights to liberty and equality, has the fundamental right to **REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO** the ability to make and effectuate decisions to prevent, continue, or end one’s own pregnancy. **THE STATE MAY NOT, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, DENY, BURDEN, OR ABRIDGE THE RIGHT** unless justified by a compelling state interest achieved by the least restrictive means.”

• BALLOT wording will be the following or similar (not required to match amendment language):

Question ____ Constitutional Amendment

The proposed amendment confirms an **INDIVIDUAL’S** fundamental right to an **INDIVIDUAL’S** own **reproductive liberty** and provides **the State may not, directly or indirectly, deny, burden, or abridge the right** unless justified by a compelling State interest achieved by the least restrictive means.

[] For the constitutional amendment

[] Against the constitutional amendment

UNDEFINED TERMS (words not narrowly defined in the amendment):

Person - man or woman, adult or child

Individual – man or woman, adult or child

Reproductive Freedom --->

Reproductive Liberty --->

INCLUDES **ANYTHING** WITH THE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM

Reproductive Autonomy --->

REMEMBER – When the marijuana amendment was on the ballot, the wording defined who the individuals would be --

“Do you favor the legalization of the use of cannabis by **an individual who is at least 21 years of age** on or after July 1, 2023, in the state of Maryland?”

Replace person/individual with woman --->

Replace “reproductive freedom” with abortion --->

ALL REQUESTED CHANGES **REJECTED**

Include minimum age and parental consent requirements --->

Match ballot language to amendment language --->



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