

## Talking points on Issue 1 November 7, 2023 Election

**Desperate attempts to confuse voters.** Opponents of the Repro Freedom Amendment (GOP extremists - Frank LaRose, Ohio Ballot Board) know the majority of Ohioans support it, so they are trying to trick us by:

- Naming the amendment “Issue 1” the same name we voted NO on in August, and
- Writing a “summary” of the amendment that is longer than the actual amendment, medically inaccurate, AND not what the more than 700,000 voters gave their signatures for to get the amendment on the ballot in the first place.

**Voters can read it themselves.** The amendment's language is concise and clear. You can read the whole thing at [www.readtheamendment.com](http://www.readtheamendment.com). Hard copy of PDF also.

**Opponents of the amendment are LYING, insulting the intelligence of voters.**

**Amendment DOES NOT change Ohio's parental notification/consent law.** The amendment does not affect existing parental notification and consent law, which requires minors to have parental permission – or a judicial exception in extreme cases – in order to get an abortions. Opponents make this claim based on the fact that the amendment uses the term “individual” instead of “adult,” conjecturing that the language makes it possible that someday, someone could challenge the existing parental consent law in court and it could then be ruled unconstitutional. Legal say that to be overturned, Ohio's existing parental consent law would have to be challenged in court and be struck down by the state Supreme Court, which currently has a conservative majority, making that scenario extremely unlikely.

**Amendment DOES NOT invite abortion “until the time of birth.”**

As doctors have explained exhaustively, abortion at the time of birth is not a thing. It would be infanticide, and that is illegal. Doctors have a duty to follow medical science and the law. The amendment essentially codifies Roe v. Wade, giving Ohio the ability to restrict abortion beyond when a fetus can survive the womb. With modern medicine, that point, referred to as the point of viability, is typically about 23 weeks or 24 weeks into the pregnancy. In the U.S. in 2020, less than 1% of all abortions were performed at or after 21 weeks, according to the CDC.

**Amendment DOES NOT mention or in any way affect gender-related healthcare.** Period. Though extremely important and worthy of factual discussion, that is NOT this. It is about REPRODUCTIVE healthcare decisions.

