

LAWS AFFECTED BY THE ANYTHING GOES ABORTION AMENDMENT

Because Proposal 3 seeks to create a constitutional “right” to “reproductive freedom,” this amendment could have negative implications for dozens of state laws protecting life and regulating abortion.

Below are examples of laws that could be revoked or limited if Proposal 3 were to pass:

- Increased penalties for later term abortions when babies are fully formed.
- Law requiring babies born alive during an abortion be protected and cared for.
- Conscience rights of hospitals and doctors who decline to take unborn human life.
- Ban on taxpayer-funded Medicaid dollars to pay for abortions.
- Ban on school employees from helping a child obtain an abortion.
- Informed consent provisions for an abortion, such as a 24-hour waiting period, information on fetal development and abortion procedures, and ultrasound viewing.
- Respectful disposal of fetal remains.

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Let's not pretend that this constitutional amendment is simply about creating a so-called right to an abortion. It goes much, much farther than that.

John Bursch

Former Michigan Solicitor General

Responding to Arguments Made for Proposal 3

The following are examples of what supporters may say about the abortion amendment. Study these responses so that you can help your family and friends better understand the consequences of this proposal.

THEY SAY “This amendment ensures women will not be prosecuted for having a miscarriage/abortion.”

WE RESPOND There is no history of women being prosecuted in Michigan for either of those circumstances. In addition, the Michigan Supreme Court ruled in 1963 that a woman receiving an abortion is not guilty and cannot be charged. State law also explicitly defines abortion as not including miscarriage.

THEY SAY “This amendment stops the government from prosecuting women who experience miscarriages or ectopic pregnancies.”

WE RESPOND Abortion is an intentional act to destroy a life, while a miscarriage is a spontaneous action within a woman's body. An ectopic pregnancy is when a fertilized egg implants outside the uterus, where it cannot survive. A woman receiving treatment for an ectopic pregnancy or suffering a miscarriage is not the same as choosing to undergo an abortion. Both state law and the Michigan Supreme Court are clear that women rightfully cannot be prosecuted for an abortion.

THEY SAY “Michigan residents should have the constitutional right to abortion care and reproductive freedom.”

WE RESPOND Women already have the right to reproductive care in the state of Michigan. Women have access to prenatal, postpartum, and infertility care. Pregnancy help centers provide support and referrals for women unable to see a doctor.