

If Petition 2024 – 086 (The Proposed Abortion Amendment) Passes . . .

1. **Human trafficking will increase.** The amendment eliminates parental consent laws for minors to obtain an abortion which means that boyfriends and pimps can force a teenage mother to abort her child.
2. **There would be no medical standards required for abortions.** Requiring medical standards to be met would be seen as the government infringing on a “person’s fundamental” right to an abortion. Also, that right “shall not be denied, interfered with, delayed or otherwise restricted....”
3. **Persons other than doctors could perform abortions.** There is no requirement for a medical doctors and the amendment itself only references “health care professional” which is a very broad term that could include LPNs, EMTs and Paramedics, even Dental Assistants and many other “health care professionals”!
4. **Abortion could occur up to the time of delivery.** Even though the amendment states the General Assembly “may enact laws that regulate the provision of abortion after fetal viability...” it does not require it. Furthermore, fetal viability is not defined. And further still, the remainder of that very same sentence says: under no circumstances shall the government deny, interfere with, or otherwise restrict an abortion that in the good faith judgment of a treating health care professional is needed to protect the life or physical or mental health of the pregnant person.” Remember, any health care professional can make a determination of a pregnant person’s mental health and use that as a basis for abortion and the government cannot deny, interfere with, or otherwise restrict.
5. **Abortions could happen anywhere.** Because the government cannot restrict or interfere with abortion access, local zoning laws would be useless for restricting abortion clinics to commercial areas. It may be possible for a “health care professional” to open a clinic in their home or apartment next to your own. When the lack of parental notification is considered as well, abortions could happen in the school nurse’s office or health clinic.
6. **There can be no malpractice suits for botched abortions.** Paragraph 5 of the proposed amendment states: No person shall be penalized, prosecuted, or otherwise subjected to adverse action based on their actual...outcomes.... So in the process of an abortion, if the “health care professional” does anything (actual, perceived or alleged) that causes infertility or even death, they are constitutionally protected from malpractice suits.
7. **Violation of Free Speech and Religious Liberty.** Pregnancy Help Centers may be forced to refer clients to providers of abortion, especially those who receive any type of government funding. (Alternatives to Abortion, for instance) This is a gross violation of conscience and would force their volunteers and employees to communicate things contrary to their beliefs.
8. **Gender transitioning would also be a constitutional right.** The terms “reproductive freedom” and “reproductive health care” are used throughout this proposed amendment. These terms are also used by the LGBTQ+ community when referring to puberty blockers and gender transition surgeries. Such evil practices would be conducted on minors . . . again, without parental consent or even notification!