Informational Pamphlet

on

Initiative and Referendum Measures

Appearing on the 2024 General Election Ballot



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This pamphlet is intended to provide the voters of Nebraska with additional information about the measures proposed via the initiative and referendum petition process that will appear on the November 5, 2024 General Election ballot.

Each measure contains three portions: the language which will appear on the November ballot, the text of the measure, and arguments supporting and opposing the measure. The arguments are derived from information provided to the Secretary of State from supporters and opponents of these measures.

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INITIATIVE MEASURE 439

Ballot Title and Text for Initiative Measure 439

Proposed by Initiative Petition

A vote "FOR" will amend the Nebraska Constitution to provide that all persons shall have a fundamental right to abortion until fetal viability, or when needed to protect the life or health of the pregnant patient, without interference from the state or its political subdivisions. Fetal viability is defined as the point in pregnancy when, in the professional judgment of the patient's treating health care practitioner, there is a significant likelihood of the fetus' sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures.

A vote "AGAINST" will not amend the Nebraska Constitution in such manner.

Shall the Nebraska Constitution be amended to include a new section which provides: "All persons shall have a fundamental right to abortion until fetal viability, or when needed to protect the life or health of the pregnant patient, without interference from the state or its political subdivisions. Fetal viability means the point in pregnancy when, in the professional judgment of the patient's treating health care practitioner, there is a significant likelihood of the fetus' sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures."

\bigcirc	For
\bigcirc	Against

Full Text of Proposed Initiative Measure 439

OBJECT STATEMENT: The object of this petition is to amend the Nebraska Constitution to provide all persons the fundamental right to abortion without interference from the state or its political subdivisions until fetal viability, which is the point in pregnancy when, in the professional judgment of the patient's health care practitioner, there is a significant likelihood of the fetus' sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures; or when needed to protect the life or health of the pregnant patient.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Language

(<u>underscored language</u> indicates added language, strike through indicates language being removed)

TEXT: Article I of the Nebraska Constitution shall be amended by adding a new section 31 as shown:

I-31 All persons shall have a fundamental right to abortion until fetal viability, or when needed to protect the life or health of the pregnant patient, without interference from the state or its political subdivisions. Fetal viability means the point in pregnancy when, in the professional judgment of the patient's treating health care practitioner, there is a significant likelihood of the fetus' sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures.

Arguments For and Against Initiative Measure 439

Supporters contend:

Vote FOR 439 to end the current abortion ban so that families are in control of their own personal medical decisions, not the government. Voting FOR 439 ends the current ban that has already prevented doctors from caring for women whose pregnancies put them at risk of bleeding out or organ failure. FOR 439 ensures that in unthinkable situations, such as when a pregnancy will not survive, Nebraska families have options. Doctors can provide their patients with the best care possible without risking criminal prosecution. Vote For 439 to end the dangerous abortion ban. Vote FOR 439.

Opponents contend:

Initiative 439 subjects women and medical professionals to vague, unscientific standards, putting courts in the middle of the doctor-patient relationship. The initiative dangerously allows unlicensed individuals – instead of licensed physicians – to make medical judgements for a woman in a critical situation. The initiative creates a new constitutional right to abortion for "all persons," not just women, leaving women and young girls vulnerable to abortions against their will by perpetrators of abuse. The initiative also eliminates parental notification protections, enabling abusers and allowing human traffickers to prey on victims by forcing abortions without parents or law enforcement being notified. It also forces Nebraska taxpayers to fund abortion. Vague and misleading language is dangerous and deceptive for women and children.