



Ohio Right to Life Summer 2023

NEWS LETTER



Vote YES on Issue 1

Protecting Ohio's Constitution

Under the current laws, wealthy out-of-state interest groups can sidestep Ohio's checks and balances every election cycle by buying their way onto the ballot—passing Issue 1 puts a stop to that. **page 4**



Defeating the ABORTION AMENDMENT

page 5

The Pro-Life Path Forward

Ohio Right to Life's Director of Communications, Elizabeth Marbach, makes a plea to the pro-life movement not to take for granted the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* by abandoning the fight for life today.

"For so long, our focus was to win at the United States Supreme Court and overturn *Roe*, and now that that is completed, we must define our next steps. We must make clear what our end goal is." **page 6**



A Word from Our CEO

Ohio Right to Life's CEO, Peter Range, has traveled from corner to corner of the Buckeye state, encouraging all who hear to build a culture of life and help us defeat the abortion lobby's attempt to enshrine abortion in our state's Constitution. **page 3**



State Oratory Contest

Every year, Ohio Right to Life hosts our annual State Oratory Contest. The Oratory contest is a fantastic way to engage our youth and train up the next generation of pro-life leaders.

This year's winner was Siobhan Knox from Immaculate Conception Academy in Cincinnati, Ohio. **page 8**



FIGHT TO END ABORTION

The fight to save innocent life has never been more important than it is today.

On June 24th, 2022, the United States Supreme Court officially overturned Roe v. Wade, allowing lawmakers in Ohio to protect life and end abortion.

However, as expected, the abortion lobby continues their fight and has done everything possible to preserve the evil of abortion in our state. The battle happening in 2023 will be the most consequential yet in the fight against abortion.

Ohio's Pro-Life Movement has launched a full-time campaign against the abortion lobby this year, forming the coalition group, Protect Women Ohio, in an effort to defeat the radical ballot initiative that will allow abortion-on-demand and eliminate parental rights if passed.

Every Dollar Counts

Ohio is quickly approaching a significant crossroads, likely the most important one for the cause of life in our history.

The proposed ballot initiative would guarantee the right to tax-payer-funded abortion-on-demand, with no qualifiers or caveats, and

completely eliminate the rights of parents to protect and defend their own children.

Abortion would be granted the same protections as our rights to freedom of speech, assembly, and worship.

This ballot initiative is beatable, but to do that, Ohio Right to Life needs your financial support to continue our critical work advocating

for the smallest and weakest among us, those who have no voice of their own.

Please consider financially supporting us today to ensure that the rights of preborn Ohioans continue to be protected.

Every dollar counts, and we are deeply grateful for your support.

Your donation will further our efforts to protect life!

DONATE HERE:
ohiolife.org/donate



A WORD FROM OUR CEO:

The State Motto of Ohio, "With God, All Things Are Possible," was adopted by the General Assembly in 1959. Our State Motto is a direct quote from the New Testament, Matthew 19:26.

I am proud to live in a state, and a nation, that recognizes our rights and responsibilities are founded not in government but in God, the Creator of all things. This foundational belief that our rights are endowed by our Creator, not government, has guided the American experiment from its founding until today.

Yet today, our society, our culture, and even many people of faith have pushed God to the horizon, arguing that we cannot, or should not, articulate a faith perspective in the public square. I disagree, and I fundamentally believe that if we are to defeat the left's attempt this November to enshrine abortion in our Constitution, we'll need the church to rise up. An army of believers in God's Almighty providence must step forward to pray, volunteer, and donate all they have to defeat this anti-life, anti-parent amendment.

I've seen the polls and have read the pundits; there is no doubt this is an uphill fight. Yet, I believe, as our State Motto affirms, and the Word of God declares, "With God, All Things Are Possible!" Join us with your time, talent, and treasure, and help us defeat this extreme abortion amendment at www.protectwomenohio.com.

Peter Range
Peter Range,
CEO of Ohio Right to Life

MEET OUR TEAM

Michael Gonidakis,
President



Peter Range,
Chief Executive Officer



Deb LaBarre,
Director of Administration



Elizabeth Marbach,
Director of Communications



Ray Duffy,
Development Coordinator



Protecting Ohio's Preborn By **VOTING YES ON ISSUE 1** **AUGUST 8, 2023**

Issue 1 is a common-sense resolution to elevate the standards necessary to amend Ohio's Constitution—ensuring every citizen has a voice when changing our founding document.

How does Issue 1 affect Ohio's preborn and the right to life?

The very integrity of Ohio's constitution hangs in the balance. The abortion lobby is currently attempting to put abortion up until birth with zero restrictions in Ohio's constitution this November. That is unacceptable and goes against the very nature of our nation's principles. Our state's founding document was created to protect Ohioans' liberty and freedoms, not take them away. Enshrining abortion removes the most foundational right that any of us have—the right to life. We cannot allow this right to be stripped away. We must vote YES on Issue 1 on August 8, 2023.

The effort to pass Issue 1 requires as many hands and feet as possible!

Would you help us and volunteer?

From now until August 8, 2023, Ohio Right to Life, alongside many others, will dedicate their time and efforts towards getting as many pro-life, pro-liberty Ohioans out to vote YES on Issue 1.

Ways to get involved:

- Join us to go door-to-door canvassing.
- Set up a phone bank with your closest friends.
- Volunteer as a poll worker or watcher from July 11th until Election Day.
- Educate your local neighborhood and friend group about Issue 1.

Email Elizabeth Marbach at emarbach@ohiolife.org to sign up today!



Ohio's Constitution Must Be Protected

Passing Issue 1 does not only provide greater protections for the preborn this November. It would defend the rights and liberties of every Ohioan from being threatened by the abortion lobby ever again.

Passing Issue 1:

- ✓ Requires 60% of voter approval before passing an amendment
- ✓ No longer allows half of Ohioans to be ignored in the petition process.
- ✓ Eliminates loopholes allowing fraudulent petitioners excess time to collect signatures.
- ✓ Restores trust & confidence in our state's guiding document, making it no longer vulnerable to the political winds of our day.



Defeating the **ABORTION** Ballot Initiative This November

What is at Stake?

The ACLU and the abortion lobby are currently attempting to amend Ohio's constitution to allow abortion permanently in our state. If passed, it would make Ohio home to abortion-on-demand until birth and remove all current pro-life laws enacted.

The Truth About the Ballot Initiative:

- 1. Removes Parents' Rights:** The initiative's language uses the legal term "individual," which does not differentiate between adults and minors. An "individual" legally refers to citizens of all ages—nullifying parents' rights to stop their children from making harmful irreversible decisions.
- 2. Allows Abortion Through**

Nine Months of Pregnancy:

In the case "*Doe v. Bolton*," the court defined "health" to include physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman's age, allowing for abortion without limits in the proposed amendment.

- 3. Enshrines the "Right" to Sex-Change Surgery and Hormones for Minors:** The initiative would enshrine protections for anything involving "reproductive decisions." This includes gender transition "therapy" like hormones and irreversible surgeries.
- 4. Enables Abusers:** Any "person" that "assists" an "individual,"



including a minor, in getting an abortion or sex change would be legally protected in doing so. This includes an adult man abusing a teenage girl or a teacher going behind a parent's back.

Get Involved TODAY

Fighting and defeating this ballot initiative will be the biggest battle that Ohio's pro-life movement has ever faced. We need your help!

Go to protectwomenohio.com to learn more about how you can get involved and defeat the abortion lobby.

Important Dates to Remember:

- » **July 10:** Voter Registration Deadline
- » **July 11:** Absentee and Early In-Person voting begins
- » **August 1:** Absentee ballot applications must be received by your board of elections by 8:30 p.m.
- » **August 8:** ELECTION DAY! Polls are open from 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m

REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT:





Winning for Life by **ENGAGING GRASSROOTS**

The Pro-Life **PATH FORWARD**

As we travel into uncharted territory, may we always remember our end goal and remain grounded in truth always.

The pro-life movement is at a crossroads, and where we go next will set in motion the movement's success—or decline—for decades to come. After 49 years of tireless advocacy, the behemoth named *Roe v. Wade* has now been tossed into the ash heap of history. *Roe* being overturned now places the power back into the rightful place of voters and their elected officials, both state and federal.

However, with victory comes responsibility. As many have said before—**the fight for life is by no means over. It has only just begun.** For so long, our focus was to win at the United States Supreme Court and overturn *Roe*, and now that that is completed, we must define our next steps. We must make clear what our end goal is.

Some say the goal is to allow each state to decide on the issue or to be content with only outlawing abortion up to a certain point. While others demand equal protection of the law for the preborn throughout the nation and

at the federal level, just as the original abolitionists did regarding the issue of slavery. Ohio, let me be clear: **We must seek true biblical justice for the lives of the preborn.** Our job cannot stop until every life, from fertilization, is protected. There can be no more room for partial laws of iniquity for the preborn.

If we believe that abortion is murder, then we must begin to act like it. We must cry out and demand more from our public officials. We must do as the bible commands us to do in Isaiah

1:17; **seek justice, correct oppression, and bring justice to the fatherless.** No longer can we be satisfied with laws of partiality that leave our preborn neighbors of any age vulnerable to being slaughtered.

As we move forward, may we never become blinded by the temptation of political pragmatism and fear, forgetting the duty we have before God and our neighbors—to protect and defend the rights of everyone, beginning with the right to life.

Let us remain grounded in truth and trust in the Lord with all our might. For if we do this, **life will win.**



Elizabeth Marbach

Director of Communications

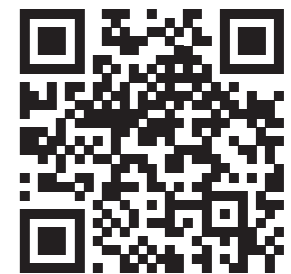
Elizabeth is an experienced campaigner in Ohio and Reformed Baptist. She firmly believes that the only way forward in the fight against abortion is to allow the bible alone to define the issue and to reject the temptation to remove God from the conversation. She believes that scripture alone is our sole authority and should be our ultimate guide in all things—including politics.



Hundreds of pro-life Ohioans are learning from and meeting with Ohio Right to Life and the Protect Women Ohio Coalition every single week to protect life!

Throughout 2023, the Ohio Right to Life team has traveled to nearly all 88 counties in Ohio. From speaking before church congregations to Young Republican groups—we are dedicated to informing every Ohioan about the ACLU's anti-life, anti-parent amendment!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER:



DONATE | VOLUNTEER | PRAY

At this pivotal moment in time, Ohio's pro-life movement requires three essential tasks to be done by our supporters: Donate to our cause, volunteer to educate voters, and lift up our cause to God in prayer.

DONATE

Go to ohiolife.org/donate today to fund our efforts to end abortion in Ohio and defeat the abortion lobby.

VOLUNTEER

Email Elizabeth Marbach at emarbach@ohiolife.org to sign up to go door-to-door canvassing or phonebank voters.

PRAY

Join our prayer zoom **every Friday at 1pm**. Email Elizabeth Marbach at emarbach@ohiolife.org to RSVP today.



2023 Statewide Oratory Contest

This year's State Oratory Contest hosted an array of talented young women that proudly and boldly advocated for life.

We were extraordinarily proud to have such an amazing panel of judges—Christian Writer and Commentator **Samuel Sey**, Wife of Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost, **Darlene Yost**, Pro-life Activist and Former Miss Ohio 2021, **Lora Current**, and **Susan Humphrey**, Finance Director for US Senate Candidate Bernie Moreno.

The winner of this year's contest is **Siobhan Knox**.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2ND ANNUAL OHIO STATE MARCH FOR LIFE!

Happening on **Friday, October 6th, 2023** at the Ohio Statehouse in downtown Columbus. Go to marchforlife.org/ohio for more information

10:00AM-1:00PM
1 Capitol Square, Columbus, Ohio 43215



OHIO RIGHT TO LIFE'S ANNUAL DINNER FOR LIFE EVENT

On Thursday, October 5th, 2023, Ohio Right to Life will be hosting our annual Dinner for Life event!

The Dinner for Life is the premiere event of the year, where pro-life Ohioans from across the state gather together to celebrate the work being done to save life inside the womb and look to what is to come. It is an event you will not want to miss!

More details will be announced in the weeks to come! Sign up for our email list at www.ohiolife.org to stay up-to-date on all our events.



www.ohiolife.org

For more information or to sign up to volunteer, please email Elizabeth Marbach at emarbach@ohiolife.org