

INITIATIVE PETITION

AN AMENDMENT CONCERNING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Valid of _____

By _____ Date _____

To the Honorable John Thurston, Secretary of State of the State of Arkansas: We the undersigned registered voters of the State of Arkansas, respectfully propose the following amendment to the Constitution of the State, and by this, our petition, order that the same be submitted to the people of said state, to the end that the same may be adopted, enacted, or rejected by the vote of the registered voters of the state at the regular general election to be held on the 5th day of November, 2024, and each of us for himself or herself says: **I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered voter of the State of Arkansas, and my printed name, date of birth, residence, city or town of residence, and date of signing this petition are correctly written after my signature.** The Popular Name is AN AMENDMENT CONCERNING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE, and the ballot title and full text is attached or affixed hereto.

VOTERS REGISTERED IN _____ COUNTY.

#	Signature	Printed Name	Birthdate	Residence (Street Address)	City or Town of Residence	County of Residence	Date of Signing
1							
2							
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State of Arkansas, County of _____ (county where notary signs)

I, _____ being sworn, state that each of the foregoing persons signed his or her own name to this sheet of petition in my presence. To the best of my knowledge and belief, each signature is genuine, and each signer is a registered voter of the State of Arkansas, in the County listed at top of the Petition. At all times during the circulation of this signature sheet, an exact copy of the popular name, ballot title, and text was attached to this signature sheet. My current residence address is correctly stated below.

Signature _____

Residence _____

Indicate one: Paid Canvasser Volunteer/Unpaid Canvasser

Received

Date: 7/27/23

On this ____ day of _____, 20____, before me, the undersigned Notary Public, personally appeared _____ well known to me (or satisfactorily proven by identification documents provided) to be the person described in the foregoing Canvasser Affidavit and acknowledged that s/he executed the same in the capacity of a Canvasser for the purposes of fulfilling legal requirements of a Canvasser in the State of Arkansas; and that I personally witnessed the signature of the Canvasser.

Signature of Notary _____

My Commission Expires _____

Residence County of Notary _____

[Notary Seal]

Popular Name

An Amendment Concerning Reproductive Healthcare

Ballot Title

AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION PROVIDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHALL NOT PROHIBIT, PENALIZE, DELAY, OR RESTRICT ACCESS TO ABORTION BEFORE VIABILITY, OR IN CASES WHEN IT IS NEEDED TO PROTECT THE PATIENT'S HEALTH, LIFE OR IN CASES OF RAPE OR INCEST; PROVIDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHALL NOT DENY OR INFRINGE THIS RIGHT UNLESS JUSTIFIED BY A COMPELLING GOVERNMENT INTEREST ACHIEVED BY THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE MEANS; THE GOVERNMENT SHALL NOT PENALIZE AN INDIVIDUAL FOR EXERCISING THIS RIGHT OR A PERSON OR ENTITY THAT ASSISTS AN INDIVIDUAL IN EXERCISING THIS RIGHT; PROVIDING THAT A GOVERNMENT INTEREST IS "COMPELLING" ONLY IF IT IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF AN INDIVIDUAL SEEKING CARE, DOES NOT INFRINGE ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S DECISION MAKING, AND IS CONSISTENT WITH THE WIDELY ACCEPTED CLINICAL STANDARDS OF PRACTICE AND EVIDENCE BASED MEDICINE; DEFINING "FETAL VIABILITY" AS THE POINT IN THE PREGNANCY WHEN THE PREGNANT PATIENT'S PHYSICIAN DETERMINES THE FETUS IS LIKELY TO SURVIVE OUTSIDE THE UTERUS WITHOUT EXTRAORDINARY MEDICAL MEASURES; PROVIDING THAT THE AMENDMENT IS SELF EXECUTING AND THAT IF ANY SECTION IS HELD INVALID IT SHALL BE SEVERABLE FROM THE REMAINING PORTIONS OF THE AMENDMENT.

Text of Amendment

The government shall not prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict access to abortion before viability, or in cases when it is needed to protect the pregnant individual's health, life, or in cases of rape or incest.

The government shall not deny or infringe this right unless justified by a compelling government interest achieved by the least restrictive means. The government shall not penalize an individual for exercising this right or a person or entity that assists an individual in exercising this right.

For the purposes of this section:

A government interest is "compelling" only if it is for the purpose of protecting the health of an individual seeking care, does not infringe on the individual's decision making, and is consistent with widely accepted clinical standards of practice and evidence based medicine.

"Fetal viability" means the point in the pregnancy when the pregnant patient's physician determines the fetus is likely to survive outside the uterus without extraordinary medical measures.

This section shall be self-executing. Any provision of this section held invalid shall be severable from the remaining portions of this section.

Instructions to Canvassers and Signers

1. Under the Arkansas Constitution, citizens have the power to (a) initiate legislation by petition of 8% of the legal voters, (b) initiate constitutional amendments by petition of 10% of legal voters, or (c) order a referendum on any general act or any item of an appropriation bill or measure passed by the General Assembly by petition of 6% of legal voters. A proposed measure must be submitted at a regular election. Referendum petitions may be referred at special elections on petition of 15% of the registered voters. Any measure submitted to the people becomes law when approved by a majority of the votes cast upon such measure.

2. Only registered voters may sign. All signatures must be in the signer's own handwriting and in the presence of the person circulating the petition. Each petition part should contain only the signatures of voters residing in a single county.

3. A signer must provide her or her printed name, date of birth, residence, city or town of residence, and date of signing. If, due to a disability, a petition signer needs help providing this information, another person may print the signer's information and that person must sign and print her or her name in the petition's margin.

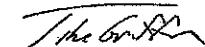
4. A canvasser must be both a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of Arkansas.

5. Under A.C.A. § 7-9-103, a person commits a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$2,500 and confinement of up to one year in jail, if the person knowingly (a) prints a name, address, or birth date other than his or her own to a petition or (b) prints the date of signing for another person, unless the signer requires assistance due to disability and the person complies with § 7-9-103.

6. Under A.C.A. §§ 5-55-601 and 7-9-109, a person commits a Class D felony, punishable by a fine of up to \$10,000 and up to six years imprisonment, if the person:

- Knowingly:
 - Signs a name other than his or her name to a petition;
 - Signs his or her name more than once on a petition; or
 - Signs a petition when he or she is not legally entitled to do so;
- While acting as a canvasser, notary, sponsor, as defined under A.C.A. § 7-9-101, or as a sponsor's agent:
 - Signs a name other than his or her own to a petition;
 - Prints a name, address, or birth date other than his or her own to a petition, unless the signor requires assistance due to disability and the person complies with § 7-9-103;
 - Solicits or obtains a signature to a petition knowing that the person signing is not qualified to sign the petition;
 - Knowingly pays a person any form of compensation in exchange for signing a petition as a petitioner;
 - Accepts or pays money or anything of value for obtaining signatures on a petition when the person acting as a canvasser, sponsor, or agent of a sponsor knows that the person acting as a canvasser's name or address is not included on the sponsor's list filed with the Secretary of State under § 7-9-601; or
 - Knowingly misrepresents the purpose and effect of the petition or the measure for the purpose of causing a person to sign a petition;
- While acting as a canvasser, knowingly makes a false statement on a petition verification form;
- While acting as a sponsor, files a petition or a petition part with the official charged with verifying the signatures knowing that the petition or petition part contains one or more false or fraudulent signatures, unless the sponsor clearly strikes each false or fraudulent signature before filing;
- While acting as a canvasser, witnesses signatures on a petition part but knowingly allows another canvasser who did not witness all signatures on a petition part to execute a false verification affidavit with respect to that petition part; or
- While acting as a sponsor, sponsor's agent, or representative:
 - Knowingly pays a canvasser for petitioner signatures on a petition part not personally witnessed by that paid canvasser; or
 - Knowingly submits to the Secretary of State a petition part where the verifying canvasser has not witnessed each signature on that petition part.

7. Under A.C.A. § 7-9-601, a person commits a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$2,500 and up to one year in jail, if the person pays or offers to pay a person, or receives payment or agrees to receive payment, on a basis related to the number of signatures obtained on a statewide petition.



Tim Griffin
Attorney General of Arkansas

INITIATIVE PETITION

THE ARKANSAS REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE AMENDMENT

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Valid of _____

By _____ Date _____

To the Honorable John Thurston, Secretary of State of the State of Arkansas: We the undersigned registered voters of the State of Arkansas, respectfully propose the following amendment to the Constitution of the State, and by this, our petition, order that the same be submitted to the people of said state, to the end that the same may be adopted, enacted, or rejected by the vote of the registered voters of the state at the regular general election to be held on the 5th day of November, 2024, and each of us for himself or herself says: **I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered voter of the State of Arkansas, and my printed name, date of birth, residence, city or town of residence, and date of signing this petition are correctly written after my signature.** The Popular Name is THE ARKANSAS REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE AMENDMENT, and the ballot title and full text is attached or affixed hereto.

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_____ well known to me (or satisfactorily proven by identification documents provided) to be the person described in the foregoing Canvasser Affidavit and acknowledged that s/he executed the same in the capacity of a Canvasser for the purposes of fulfilling legal requirements of a Canvasser in the State of Arkansas; and that I personally witnessed the signature of the Canvasser.

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My Commission Expires _____

Residence County of Notary _____

[Notary Seal]

Popular Name

The Arkansas Reproductive Healthcare Amendment

Ballot Title

AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION PROVIDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHALL NOT PROHIBIT, PENALIZE, DELAY, OR RESTRICT ACCESS TO ABORTION BEFORE 18 WEEKS POST-FERTILIZATION, OR IN CASES WHEN IT IS NEEDED TO PROTECT THE PATIENT'S HEALTH, LIFE OR IN CASES OF RAPE OR INCEST. PROVIDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHALL NOT DENY OR INFRINGE THIS RIGHT UNLESS JUSTIFIED BY A COMPELLING GOVERNMENT INTEREST ACHIEVED BY THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE MEANS; THE GOVERNMENT SHALL NOT PENALIZE AN INDIVIDUAL FOR EXERCISING THIS RIGHT OR A PERSON OR ENTITY THAT ASSISTS AN INDIVIDUAL IN EXERCISING THIS RIGHT; PROVIDING THAT A GOVERNMENT INTEREST IS "COMPELLING" ONLY IF IT IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF AN INDIVIDUAL SEEKING CARE, DOES NOT INFRINGE ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S DECISION MAKING, AND IS CONSISTENT WITH THE WIDELY ACCEPTED CLINICAL STANDARDS OF PRACTICE AND EVIDENCE BASED MEDICINE; PROVIDING THAT THE AMENDMENT IS SELF EXECUTING AND THAT IF ANY SECTION IS HELD INVALID IT SHALL BE SEVERABLE FROM THE REMAINING PORTIONS OF THE AMENDMENT.

Text of Amendment

The government shall not prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict access to abortion before 18 weeks post-fertilization, or in cases when it is needed to protect the patient's health, life, or in cases of rape or incest.

The government shall not deny or infringe this right unless justified by a compelling government interest achieved by the least restrictive means. The government shall not penalize an individual for exercising this right or a person or entity that assists an individual in exercising this right.

For the purposes of this section:

A government interest is "compelling" only if it is for the purpose of protecting the health of an individual seeking care, does not infringe on the individual's decision making, and is consistent with widely accepted clinical standards of practice and evidence based medicine.

This section shall be self-executing. Any provision of this section held invalid shall be severable from the remaining portions of this section.

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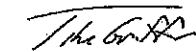
4. A canvasser must be both a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of Arkansas.

5. Under A.C.A. § 7-9-103, a person commits a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$2,500 and confinement of up to one year in jail, if the person knowingly (a) prints a name, address, or birth date other than his or her own to a petition or (b) prints the date of signing for another person, unless the signer requires assistance due to disability and the person complies with § 7-9-103.

6. Under A.C.A. §§ 5-55-601 and 7-9-109, a person commits a Class D felony, punishable by a fine of up to \$10,000 and up to six years imprisonment, if the person:

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 - Solicits or obtains a signature to a petition knowing that the person signing is not qualified to sign the petition;
 - Knowingly pays a person any form of compensation in exchange for signing a petition as a petitioner;
 - Accepts or pays money or anything of value for obtaining signatures on a petition when the person acting as a canvasser, sponsor, or agent of a sponsor knows that the person acting as a canvasser's name or address is not included on the sponsor's list filed with the Secretary of State under § 7-9-601; or
 - Knowingly misrepresents the purpose and effect of the petition or the measure for the purpose of causing a person to sign a petition;
- While acting as a canvasser, knowingly makes a false statement on a petition verification form;
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- While acting as a canvasser, witnesses signatures on a petition part but knowingly allows another canvasser who did not witness all signatures on a petition part to execute a false verification affidavit with respect to that petition part; or
- While acting as a sponsor, sponsor's agent, or representative:
 - Knowingly pays a canvasser for petitioner signatures on a petition part not personally witnessed by that paid canvasser; or
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Tim Griffin
Attorney General of Arkansas