

A legislative update from
STATE REP. ANITA SOMANI
HOUSE DISTRICT 11

 @AnitaSomaniMD

 @RepAnitaSomaniMD

 @OHHouseDems

 (614) 466-5358

 rep11@ohiohouse.gov



Dear neighbor,

With Election Day approaching, early voting across Ohio has already exceeded expectations. [An Ohio Capital Journal article](#) reported that suburban and urban counties alike are seeing increases in voting compared to the August election. Franklin County is up 107%, Cuyahoga is up 10%, and Hamilton is up 20%. This anticipates a healthy voter turnout for November 7th.

In addition to local candidates and issues on your ballot, there are two important state-wide issues you will decide on.

Issue 1 will enshrine the right to reproductive freedom in the Ohio Constitution, guaranteeing the right to make and carry out one's own reproductive healthcare decisions.

Unfortunately, the [Ohio Ballot Board's approved language](#) is extremely biased and does not reflect what is actually in the amendment. [The full text of the proposed amendment](#) was rejected, and the approved language ignores official medical terminology. There are several problems with this biased language that will appear on the ballot.

First, the language uses the phrase "unborn child", rather than "fetus". The language misleadingly refers to abortions as "decisions", rather than "medical treatment". It even goes as far as to not include the fact that the amendment protects all reproductive rights, including contraception, abortion, infertility, and the right to continue a pregnancy.

In addition, the original language talks about viability, which is left out in the ballot language. The ballot language also discusses abortions at term, known as "late-term abortions". This is not medically possible, and it is called delivery.

[Issue 2](#) will legalize recreational marijuana use for adults 21 and over. They may buy and possess up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana and can grow the plants at home.

The language states that there will be a 10% tax on the purchases. This will go towards the administrative costs, addiction treatment programs, municipalities with dispensaries, and a new cannabis social equity and jobs program.

To learn more or stay up-to-date on these issues, visit my Twitter [@AnitaSomaniMD](#) or my Facebook [@RepAnitaSomaniMD](#).

Make sure you and your family and friends have a plan to vote. Here are a list of important dates left leading up to the election:

- **November 1st-5th:** Last days of Early Voting. See hours [here](#).
- **November 6th:** Mailed absentee ballots must be postmarked by this date or returned in-person by **7:30 p.m.**
- **November 7th:** Election Day! Polls are open from 6:30 am until 7:30 pm

You can view [a sample of your ballot](#) if you are unsure of your local candidates and issues. If you have any problems or questions on Election Day, please reach out to our office.

Sincerely,

Anita Somani, M.D.
Ohio House District 11

**REPRODUCTIVE
HEALTHCARE
FOR ALL OHIOANS**