

FLORIDA'S PRO-ABORTION AMENDMENT EXPLAINED

Why Floridians Should Vote NO on Amendment 4

WHAT IT SAYS

BALLOT SUMMARY

No law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion

before viability

or when necessary to protect the patient's health,

as determined by the patient's healthcare provider.

This amendment does not change the Legislature's constitutional authority to require notification to a parent or guardian before a minor has an abortion.

WHAT IT DOES

PUTS WOMEN AT RISK

Amendment 4 would jeopardize existing laws and prohibit new ones that voters on both sides of the abortion issue support, including health and safety laws that protect women.



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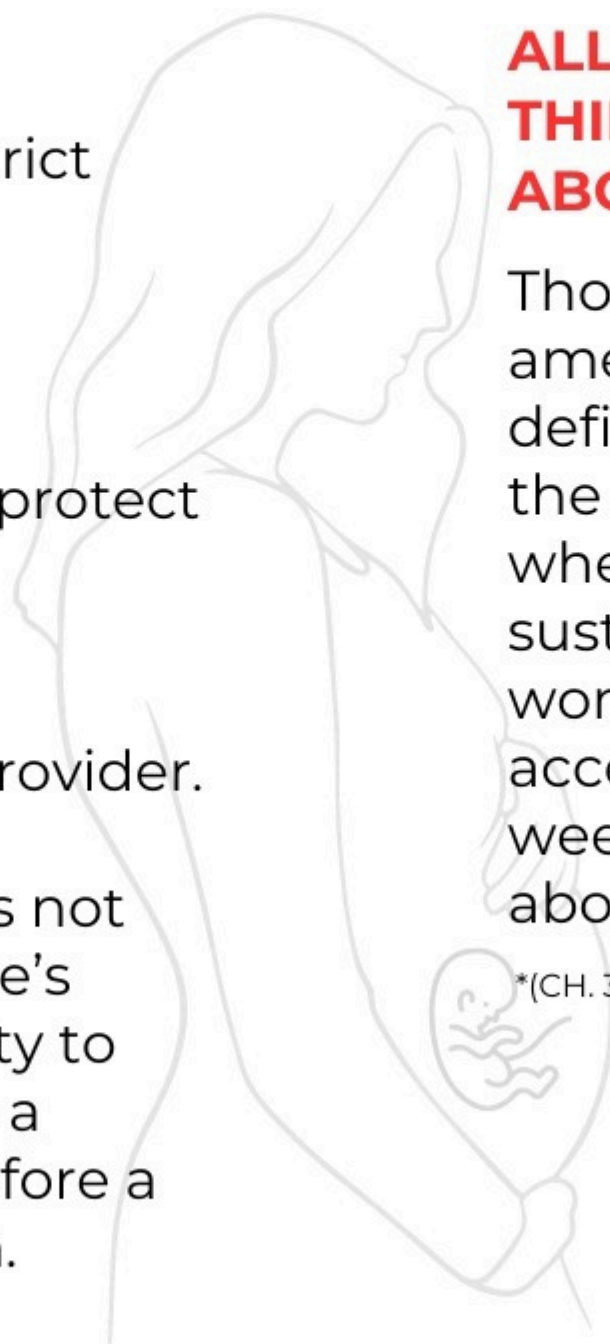
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WHAT IT DOES

ALLOWS SECOND & THIRD TRIMESTER ABORTIONS

Though not defined in the amendment, "viability" is defined in Florida law as the stage of development when the life of a fetus is sustainable outside the womb*, generally accepted to be 22-24 weeks of pregnancy, or about 6 months.

*(CH. 390.011(15))



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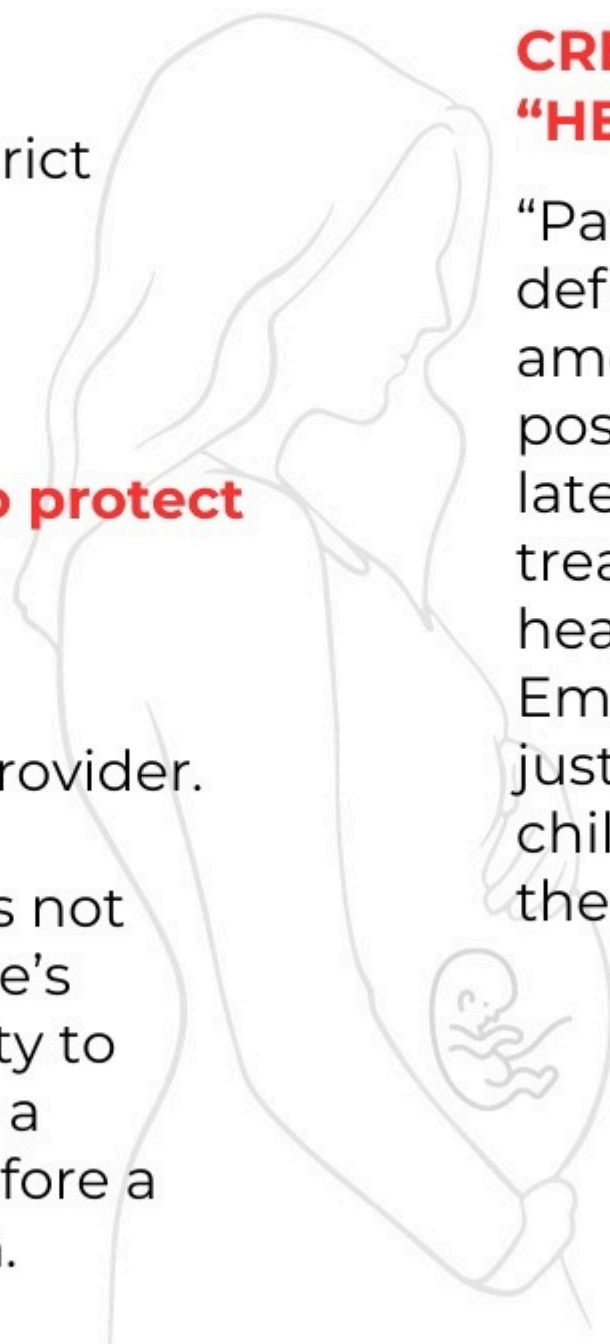
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WHAT IT DOES

CREATES A BROAD "HEALTH" LOOPHOLE

"Patient's health" is not defined in the amendment, allowing post-viability, extremely late-term abortions for treatable, temporary health concerns.

Emotional health would justify an abortion when a child could survive outside the womb.



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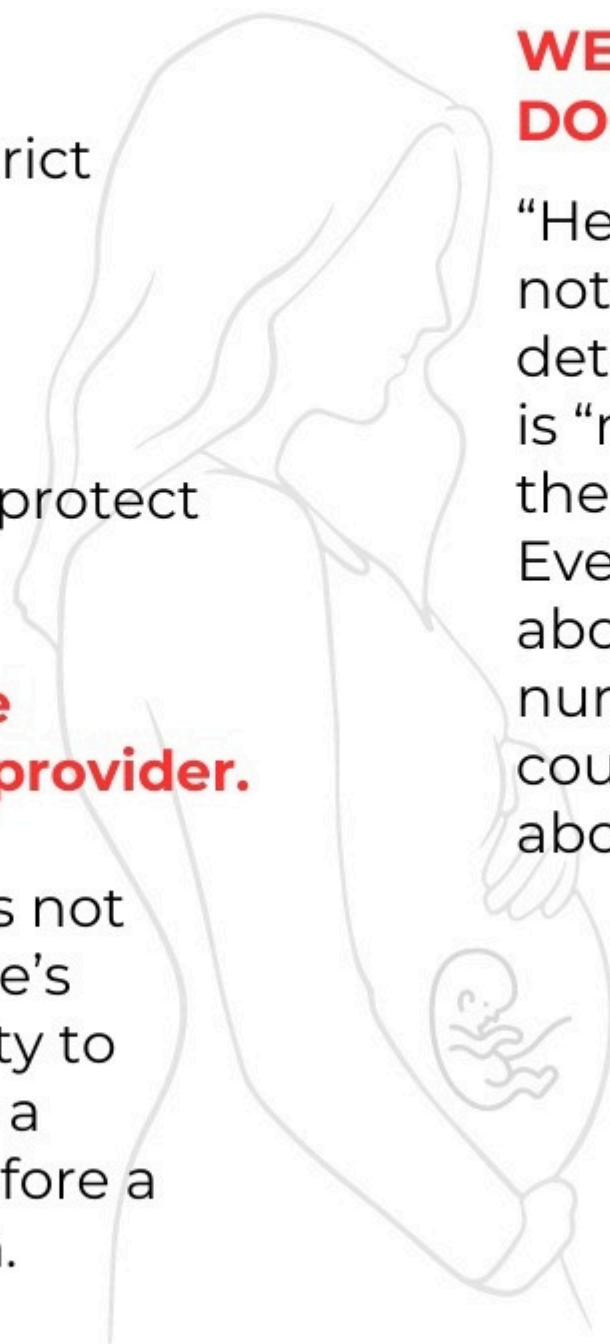
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WHAT IT DOES

WEAKENS MEDICAL DOCTOR REQUIREMENT

"Healthcare providers" – not just physicians – could determine if an abortion is "necessary" to protect the mother's "health." Even some employees of abortion clinics, such as nurses and counselors, could approve late-term abortions.



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WHAT IT DOES

ELIMINATES PARENTAL CONSENT

While preserving parental *notification* in our state constitution*, the amendment would invalidate the current law that requires parental *consent* for a minor to have an abortion**, making abortion the only medical decision for which parents have no say.

*(Article X, section 22)

**(CH. 390.01114(5))

