

CRR Opposes Florida Amendment 6: Amendment Would Take Away Women's Constitutional Rights

The Center for Reproductive Rights opposes Florida Amendment 6, which would take away Florida women's rights and allow politicians to interfere with personal health care decisions.

Amendment 6 would put politicians squarely between a woman and her doctor, and make it harder for women to access reproductive health care, through two harmful amendments to the Florida Constitution. Currently, the Florida Constitution contains a right to privacy that ensures that women and their families are able to make their own decisions about whether to terminate a pregnancy. Amendment 6 would roll back that constitutional right – actually taking away rights that are currently protected.

The amendment would also limit insurance coverage for abortion that is now available. Amendment 6 would prevent the state from providing coverage for abortion in state government health insurance programs except in the narrow circumstances of pregnancies that threaten a woman's life or when the pregnancy resulted from rape or incest.

The Florida Constitution contains critical protections for reproductive health care. Amendment 6 takes those protections away and allows politicians to interfere directly with a woman's ability to make her own health care decisions, instead of leaving those important, personal decisions to a woman and her doctor. We should not allow politicians to take these essential rights away.

Further, women and families are better off when health insurance covers all pregnancy related care, including abortion. Amendment 6 would restrict insurance coverage of abortion and could prevent Florida women from accessing safe medical care. A woman and her family deserve access to a full range of health insurance coverage so that they can make the best decisions for their circumstances. Instead of putting up barriers to safe medical care, we should safeguard women's health by ensuring every woman has insurance coverage for abortion care.

The Center for Reproductive Rights encourages Florida voters to reject this harmful amendment. For more information on opposing Amendment 6 and how to get involved, please visit the No on 6 Campaign at <http://www.voteno6.com>.