

JUST SAY NO! to ISSUE 1

1. **When the Ohio General Assembly fails to address popular issues**, as it often does, citizens need a manageable way of crafting legislation on their own, which is what citizen-initiated process does.
2. Amending the Ohio Constitution should be a thoughtful deliberative process, **not one put together at the very last minute** to advance a narrow and unpopular cause.
3. The General Assembly Initiated Constitutional Amendment called **Issue 1** would **rewrite the rules for Citizen-Initiated Constitutional Amendments** that have been used successfully for **over 100 years**.
4. The same **corrupt political machines, extreme concentration of wealth, and power of big business**, which led progressives in 1912 to push for citizen-led initiatives, appear to be behind today's major constitutional revision.
5. Let's be honest. **Issue 1** is about **obstructing "The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety"** proposed amendment to the Ohio Constitution.
6. The proposed 60% – supermajority – benchmark for passage places **too high of a burden on citizen activists, disenfranchises majority rule**, and ensures only those wealthy political machines and big businesses will utilize the process.
7. The citizen-led initiative **procedures are challenging, time consuming, expensive, and risky as is**. It costs millions of dollars to bring a measure to the ballot, only to risk losing it all, if rejected by voters.
8. Requiring 5% signatures from *all* counties multiplies the already expensive signature collection process. Analysis shows that this change can add as much as **200,000 signatures** and **\$1 million in cost to the campaign**.
9. Verification of hundreds of thousands of signatures can be time consuming, tedious, and error prone. Signatures will often be rejected for disputable irregularities. **The "cure period" offers an element of fairness** to this subjective activity.
10. Changing long established benchmarks for constitutional amendments **disrupts the uniformity of the direct democracy procedures**. What were once the same across all citizen-led initiatives, would become decidedly different for amendments vs. initiated statutes and referenda.
11. The Ohio General Assembly **should not be rewarded for the antics they utilized to pass the constitutional amendment revision** under possibly illegal and certainly unethical circumstances.
12. Ohio needs to **solve its trifecta problem that engenders monopolization** of thought and **absolute power**, which, as the saying goes, **corrupts absolutely**.