

**Prepared Testimony of
Eileen McNeil
President, CTV
Before the Michigan House of Representatives Committee on Health Policy
September 14, 2023**

Good morning Madame Chair and Members of the Committee: Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on the “Reproductive Health Act,” My name is Eileen McNeil, President of Citizens for Traditional Values (CTV) and I am here to share my deep opposition to this 11-bill package that will not only strip long-standing, common-sense protections for women and children, but goes directly against the will of the voters of Michigan in several of these proposals.

As you just heard there is an absolute expectation by women that any surgical facilities they use would be regulated to ensure their health and safety is protected. To suggest that these regulations are a burden for women, or somehow lessens their access to abortion is just not based in fact or experience – and is counter to medical ethics.

When the voters of Michigan approved the Reproductive Freedom Amendment they did so with the understanding that Michigan laws protecting their health would continue under Roe v. Wade. I refer you to the listed articles¹⁻² with repeated statements from the ACLU, Planned Parenthood and the campaign that assured voters that they would have the same protections and access to abortion as they had under Roe v. Wade.

In a Nov. 3 Detroit Free Press article³: Darci McConnell, spokesperson for the Reproductive Freedom for All campaign *stated, “Passing this amendment **simply restores the same protections that Michiganders had for five decades under Roe v. Wade,**”*

Well, those **protections** are why we are here today. Why would you remove these? The protections under ROE v. WADE included:

- Common-sense surgical abortion clinic regulations
- Informed consent ensuring women have ALL information they need
- Screening to make sure there is NO COERCION involved in this vulnerable decision-making process
- Reporting regulations and keeping Vital statistics—as required for all forms of medical procedures!
- Banning horrific late term abortions
- Making sure there was a compassionate, humane disposal of fetal remains
- AND respecting the vote of almost 2 million Michiganders [who voted to ban](#) funding for ELECTIVE Medicaid abortions. Women can choose abortion but Michigan residents, even those who support abortion, decided they shouldn’t be compelled to pay for other’s abortions!

Recent polling bears this out as well: A March 2023 poll done by the Marketing Resource Group showed that:

- [90% of Michiganders support keeping abortion clinic regulations in place. 97% of those who voted FOR Proposal 3 want these regulations to remain intact.](#)
- [63% of Michiganders support the 24-hour waiting period. 65% of those who voted FOR Proposal 3 support the 24-hour waiting period.](#)

In closing I urge you to follow the will of the people of Michigan. Please don't bait and switch your constituents. Under the beguiling umbrella of "access" this Reproductive Health Act recklessly endangers women and I ask that you join me in opposing this unnecessary, unhealthy and unsafe legislation.

Thank you,

Eileen McNeil
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¹[Bing Videos – Proposal 3 passes in Michigan: When will it take effect? What's next? WDIV - 4](#)

²<https://www.bridgemi.com/michigan-government/michigan-proposal-3-fact-check-no-masseuses-wont-give-abortions-minors>

³[Proposal 3 in Michigan: What it will and won't do \(freep.com\)](#)