



[Proposal 5, Right to Personal Reproductive Liberty](#)

What is Prop 5?

- Prop 5 is a proposal that would amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont to reflect the Vermont value that every Vermonter should be afforded personal reproductive liberty.

Why a Constitutional Amendment?

- The Vermont Constitution is a declaration of the rights and liberties of its citizens.
- Unlike many places in the country, Vermonters have for over 40 years supported and valued reproductive freedom for women.
- A Constitutional amendment allows Vermonters an opportunity to enshrine this freedom.

Why is it important to amend the Vermont Constitution to include reproductive liberty?

- Reproductive liberty is a civil rights issue. The proposed amendment upholds the will of Vermonters: that an individual's right to personal reproductive autonomy is central to the liberty and dignity to determine their own life's course.
- Women's rights are at risk. The U.S. Supreme Court could overturn *Roe v. Wade* as soon as this year, which would block millions of people from the health care they need. If *Roe* is overturned, one in three women of reproductive age could live in states where abortion is not only overturned, but criminalized.
- Nationally, abortion rights are under attack. The Trump Administration has issued global and domestic gag rules blocking funding to abortion providers. And at the state level, over 400 abortion restrictions have gone into effect since 2011.
- At this time of uncertainty, the Vermont legislature is working to protect citizens civil rights by initiating a process to amend the Vermont Constitution in order to ensure that reproductive freedom remains a fundamental right of Vermonters.

When will Prop 5 take effect?

- The constitutional amendment must pass both the Senate and House chambers in two consecutive legislatures, followed by a vote by Vermonters in the general election. In the 2019-2020 legislative session, Prop 5 PASSED in the House and Senate. In 2021-2022, the new House and Senate will vote on the amendment.
- The soonest Prop 5 could take effect is Election Day 2022.

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