

Amendment 3

Abortion Amendment Replacement & Minors' Gender-Transition Ban

VOTE NO

Repeals the 2024 reproductive-rights amendment and replaces it with a new constitutional provision on abortion, and bans gender-transition procedures for minors.

What a YES vote does

- Removes the abortion-rights amendment voters approved in 2024.
- Replaces it with a new provision that prohibits most abortions, but expressly permits them for medical emergencies, fetal anomalies, and rape or incest through 12 weeks.
- Lets the legislature regulate abortion providers, facilities, and procedures.
- Writes a ban on gender-transition procedures for minors into the Constitution.

What a NO vote does

- The 2024 abortion-rights amendment stays in the Constitution.
- No abortion exceptions are written into the Constitution.
- Gender-transition procedures for minors remain governed by existing state law rather than the Constitution.

What Act for Missouri Thinks, and Why

Vote No. Repealing the 2024 amendment is right; writing new abortion exceptions into the Constitution in its place is not.

Amendment 3 is not a straight repeal. It replaces the 2024 language with a provision that says abortion **may be performed** in cases of fetal anomaly and of rape or incest. A child conceived in rape committed no crime; a child with a terminal diagnosis is still a child. Once the Constitution divides unborn children into protected and unprotected classes, it establishes that some human beings may lose the protection of life because of circumstances they did not choose. **You cannot build equal protection by first constitutionalizing unequal protection.**

Supporters say the exceptions can be tightened later, but the final text has no rape-reporting requirement and no second-opinion requirement for a fetal-anomaly diagnosis. And if these exceptions are acceptable enough to write into the Constitution now, on what principle would they become unacceptable later?

A "no" leaves the 2024 amendment in place for now, and we do not minimize that. But it is not an endorsement. It is a demand for a clean repeal, or a personhood amendment that protects every unborn child equally.

The bottom line

Amendment 3 would restrict abortion by Missouri providers: its reach is the clinics, the physicians, and the standards they must follow. It would not stop a Missouri woman from traveling to a nearby state or, far more likely, ordering abortion pills from an out-of-state telehealth provider. It regulates the provision of abortion; it does not establish that the unborn child is a person entitled to the law's protection. Vote No, and ask your legislators for a recorded vote on personhood.