

## Ballot Measure #14 – Now CI-128

[https://www.montanafamily.org/call\\_to\\_action/](https://www.montanafamily.org/call_to_action/)

[Decline to Sign CI128](#) – (formontanafamilies.com) Here you can download the Six Things CI14 or CI128 will do

[Radio Update](#) – [Radio Update](#) Summary of CI-18 from Jeff Laszloffy 04/19/24

[Radio Update](#) Let the Battle Begin 04/12/24 Decline to Sign Explained

[Radio Update](#) – Co-Equal means Co-Equal: Background of Rogue Montana Supreme Court 4/05/24

What is CI-12 (Now CI – 128)

**Planned Parenthood’s version:** CI-128 is a constitutional initiative to amend the Montana Constitution to expressly provide for a right to make and carry out decisions about pregnancy, including the right to abortion. The government could not deny or burden the right to abortion before fetal viability or when a healthcare professional believes an abortion is medically necessary. The government could not penalize anyone for exercising a right to abortion.

**The Truth:** CI-128 would create a constitutional right to UNLIMITED ABORTION in Montana — including partial-birth abortion, dismemberment abortion, and other late-term abortion procedures. Any “healthcare professional,” which could mean a doctor, nurse, dentist, chiropractor, physical therapist, or paramedic, can make a subjective determination that an abortion is appropriate AT ANY STAGE OF PREGNANCY. Passing CI-128 will increase taxpayer-funded abortions, create a safe harbor for sex traffickers who force victims to have an abortion, and prohibit grieving couples from filing a lawsuit if their infant dies as a result of medical malpractice that results in an unwanted “pregnancy outcome.” Further still, because CI-128 uses broad phrases like “reproductive care,” this constitutional amendment would arguably create a right for anyone—including minors—to undergo radical, irreversible gender reassignment surgeries and therapies because these procedures alter the human reproductive system.

Important Talking Points

1. Terms used in the Ballot Statement are ambiguous and confusing to voters

a. “Health” – The petition would ...” also prohibit the government from denying or burdening access to an abortion when a treating healthcare professional determines it is medically indicated to protect the pregnant patient’s life or health.” Is this term intended to cover physical health only, or also mental health? If the term is limited to physical health, is that intended to be restricted to emergent medical conditions? Or does this term also extend to pregnancies that increase the risk of certain medical complications?

b. “Healthcare professional” – This term is not defined. A healthcare professional could be anyone providing healthcare. It could be a doctor, but it could also mean nurse, chiropractor, dentist, physical therapist, or paramedic. This undefined term will lead to inconsistent medical standards.

c. “Fetal viability” – Modern advances in neonatal care have moved the standard for viability for pre-born babies. For this proposed constitutional amendment, the term “fetal viability” has no concrete, universal meaning. It is all based on the subjective determination of a “healthcare professional.” The phrase “Fetal viability” is vague and Montana voters will not be able to cast an informed ballot because of this ill-defined term alone.

2. Ballot Measure #14 will eliminate existing protections already debated by the People’s Representatives and signed into law that regulate the abortion industry. While opponents may disagree with existing law, the reality is that these laws are in place to protect vulnerable women to the greatest degree possible.

3. The Mechanism for an individual to “provide consent” is a simple signature given at the abortion clinic. Research indicates that it is no irregularity for women to be coerced into getting abortions, especially underage girls who are experiencing abuse or are being trafficked. The elimination of existing law for this “Constitutional Right to Abortion” will eliminate the ability for parents to provide consent before their daughter undergoes a radical procedure. This also helps to eliminate coerced abortions from taking place.

4. CI-128 will allow for unregulated abortion in Montana. The State will be effectively prohibited from regulating partial birth abortion, dismemberment abortion, and other late term abortion procedures.

5. Many parents have experienced the unexpected arrival of a child before full-term and are blessed beyond belief with the fulfillment that comes from having children. How can we come to terms with normalizing radical, violent, painful procedures being used to kill pre-born babies, many of whom are able to feel pain and survive outside the womb?

6. Women who undergo abortion, especially at younger ages, often resent their decision and experience higher levels of depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation. CI-128 will not help the mental health crises in our State but instead, it will exacerbate it.