

Issue 3 – Your Healthcare Freedom Is At Stake

Do you want to keep healthcare decisions between patients and doctors and not politicians and bureaucrats? Do you want the freedom to choose the kind of healthcare and health insurance that best fits your own personal needs? If so, you can protect your freedom and reject government overreach by voting yes on Issue 3, the Ohio Healthcare Freedom Amendment.

At the state level, Issue 3 amends the Ohio Constitution to say Ohio cannot:

- Force you to participate in a healthcare system
- Prohibit the purchase or sale of healthcare or healthcare insurance
- Impose a fine or penalty for the purchase or sale of healthcare or healthcare insurance

Issue 3 ensures that future Ohio laws won't impose a government-run system or take away your freedom to choose your healthcare or health insurance.

At the federal level, Issue 3 strengthens the argument that a federal mandate to purchase private health insurance is unconstitutional because it exceeds Congress's commerce power and violates a fundamental right to liberty.

Why is that important? Because the federal individual mandate is an unprecedented threat to your personal freedom.

For the first time in our history, the federal government is claiming the power to force you to purchase a private product for the rest of your life against your will. If the federal government can force you to purchase health insurance so you don't impose your medical costs on others, what's to stop it from forcing you to go to the doctor for preventive care or check ups? And if Congress can mandate your purchase of a private product on the theory that your decision not to purchase it affects interstate commerce, what are the limits on Congress's power to force you to purchase other private products?

The opponents of Issue 3 don't want to answer these questions, so they've tried to confuse people by creating three myths.

- Their first myth is that Issue 3 won't accomplish anything because federal law takes priority over state law. The reality – The people of Ohio can prohibit their state government from taking away their healthcare freedom, and if they do that by passing Issue 3, the federal individual mandate is more likely to be held unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court.
- Their second myth is that, if Issue 3 passes, we won't be able to insure people with preexisting conditions, provide prescription drug coverage for seniors, or require insurance companies to cover children under their parent's policies until age 26. The reality – There are good proposals to deal with these problems that don't include an individual mandate. That's why President Obama opposed an individual mandate during the 2008 campaign.

- Their final myth is that Issue 3 will override existing state laws and prevent new state laws we might need. The reality - Issue 3 doesn't affect laws in place before the Affordable Care, and it won't prevent new laws unless they take away our healthcare freedom.

In reality, Issue 3 preserves your freedom to make some of the most personal decisions you can make. It is a way to fight back against inappropriate government control over your life.

When you vote this November, remember that a vote for Issue 3 is a vote for healthcare freedom.

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