



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 6, 2023

CONTACT

Jill Zimon
440-544-6614
info@ohiodebatecommission.org

OHIO DEBATE COMMISSION ANNOUNCES OHIO DECIDES: ISSUE 1 FORUM

CLEVELAND - Representatives of the “yes” and “no” campaigns for Issue 1, the proposed constitutional amendment for reproductive rights including abortion, have agreed to participate in Ohio Decides: Issue 1 Forum. The forum will be an in-person in-studio program organized by the Ohio Debate Commission in partnership with Spectrum News, the Columbus Dispatch, and the Cincinnati Enquirer.

The one-hour program will feature two segments: the first segment will be a backgrounder on Issue 1, and the second segment will be a moderated discussion with journalists and representatives from both the “yes” on Issue 1 and the “no” on Issue 1 campaigns.

Curtis Jackson, news anchor with Spectrum News 1, and Jessie Balmert, who covers state government and politics for the USA TODAY Network Ohio Bureau, will provide an informational segment. Then, Jackson will moderate a forum with journalists, Tyler Buchanan, co-writer for Axios Columbus, and Karen Kasler, Bureau Chief, Statehouse News Bureau, and campaign representatives, Desiree Tims, President/CEO of Innovation Ohio for the “yes” campaign, and Mehek Cooke, spokeswoman for Protect Women Ohio, and an attorney, for the “no” campaign.

The program will be recorded live to tape on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 and made available for broadcast on Sunday, October 15, 2023. In addition, the ODC will share the released production on its YouTube channel from which anyone can view, share, embed, or link to the program.



Ohio voters are encouraged to submit their questions about Issue 1 for possible inclusion in the forum through an online form located at the following web address:

<https://forms.gle/FcVTj91LP7akXcXP9>

The Ohio Debate Commission is a nonpartisan collaboration of civic organizations, media organizations, and universities started in 2018. It seeks to create the highest quality content for the highest statewide offices and distribute that content to every corner of the state. Its vision is a stronger Ohio, with well-informed voters and highly qualified public servants, candidates, and elected officials. The ODC is a 501(c)(3). Read more at ohiodebatecommission.org.

###