



Newsletter

April 25, 2024

Yes, on Amendment 4 Abortion Rights



'Yes on 4' tips on how to talk with Republicans and independent voters

Floridians Protecting Freedom, which organized the petition drive that qualified Amendment 4 for the Nov. 5 ballot, offers these ideas for conversations with Republican and independent voters.

Amendment 4 would place in the Florida Constitution a prohibition on government interference in healthcare decisions. It needs approval from at least 60 percent of those voting to pass. While Democrats largely support it, support will be needed from others.

1. This is about **medical decisions** that patients and their doctors should have the freedom to make without government interference. We never know what someone else is going through. We're not in their shoes.
2. **Current Florida law** is a near total ban because most women do not know they are pregnant at six weeks, and it **doesn't have any real exceptions**.
3. Amendment 4 allows for reasonable limits on abortion. It **does not allow abortion on demand until the moment of birth**, as opponents are saying.
4. Amendment 4 **does not undo Florida's parental rights protections regarding their minor children** -- it strengthens them by removing the government from the equation.
5. It also would **protect doctors and nurses**, who under the current ban could be charged with crimes.



Door to Door Efforts

Our Day of Action last Saturday did not have many volunteers come to help voters sign up for Vote by Mail or register to vote. It is very important that we increase voter turnout outside The Villages. If you can't or don't want to go door to door, please donate so we can hire people.



Knock-Knock. Who's There?
Volunteer. Volunteer Who?
"A Democratic Volunteer with election information!"

Help us hire canvassers to knock on doors in Sumter County and
register DEMOCRATS and enroll DEMOCRATS in VBM.

Every **\$18.50** is one canvasser knocking on doors for **1 hour.**

To donate

[Click on the link below](#)

or

Mail your check (Payable to SCDEC) to
Sumter Democratic Party
PO Box 1151
Wildwood FL 34785

The more money we raise the more canvassers we can hire and the more canvassers we hire the more doors we can knock on.

Donate here: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/24knock-knockcvr>



Our next **Day of Action** Volunteer Door-to-Door Canvassing is **May 18**, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. We will be in **greater Sumter** registering voters and enrolling registered voters in Vote by Mail. Now is the time to step up. We must do the groundwork now, so we are ready for August and then, of course, **November**.

Please meet at the Party headquarters, [300 S. Main St., Wildwood](#). We provide a script, maps, and lists of addresses. Never gone door to door? It is not hard. We

will teach you.

For more information and to sign up, click here. <https://www.mobilize.us/sumtercountydec/event/599569/>

And the Winners Are

Delegates from Congressional District 11 to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago are:

Dylan Hellebrand, Orange

Ash Marwah, Sumter

Reggie Mc Gill, Orange

Amy Blackman, Orange

Echo King, Orange



Thanks to everyone who voted and helped with the voting!



Villages Democratic Club



Our May 10 Club meeting speaker: U.S. Senate candidate Stanley Campbell

Stanley Campbell is a native Floridian who earned his degree in Physics & Mathematics at Florida A&M and served as a Navy pilot.

Campbell has also led several technology businesses, including Eagle Force Associates, which pioneered a Medicare fraud detection software.

His major issues are access to healthcare, reproductive rights, protecting Social Security and Medicare, and helping veterans.

Blue Crew Gatherings will take a break during the summer and return in the fall.

If you live in The Villages, please consider joining the Villages Democratic Club. Learn more about their meetings and the club at <https://thevillagesdemocrats.com/>

Their Sunday email newsletter has many activities and information about other Democratic groups in the Villages.

Biden Accomplishments



President Joe Biden ✓

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Today, I am using my clemency power to pardon 11 individuals and commute the sentences of 5 individuals who were convicted of non-violent drug offenses.

These recipients have shown that they deserve forgiveness and the chance at building a brighter future beyond prison walls.

America was founded on the promise of second chances.

My commitment to rehabilitation and successful reentry for those returning to their communities after incarceration is ironclad, and I'm focused on building a justice system that ensures everyone is treated equally under the law.

While today's announcement marks important and continued progress, my Administration will continue to review clemency petitions and deliver reforms in a manner that advances equal justice, supports rehabilitation and reentry, and provides meaningful second chances.

Florida Democratic Weekly Talking Points April 22, 2024



PRESIDENT BIDEN'S VISIT

On Tuesday, President Biden visited Tampa to give remarks on the stakes of this election for reproductive freedom across the country.

Florida is the battleground for all of our rights and freedoms.

- President Biden's visit comes just over one week before Florida's extreme 6-week abortion ban goes into effect on May 1st.
- Florida Democrats are leading the fight to protect reproductive rights and democracy in 2024 — not just for the Sunshine State, but for the entire country.

- This visit demonstrates the Biden-Harris campaign's commitment to fighting for Florida, recently [declaring the state 'winnable'](#), with a focus on defending reproductive rights in November.

ABORTION BAN

In just over one week, women in Florida will be living under one of the most extreme abortion bans in the country. The 6-week ban signed into law by Ron DeSantis goes into effect on May 1st.

Donald Trump and Florida Republicans are to blame for Florida's extreme abortion ban.

- Florida's extreme 6-week ban has virtually no exceptions and will put women's lives at risk. Women will die because of this ban.
- This ban goes into effect alongside Florida's mandatory 24-hour waiting period signed into law by Rick Scott and a requirement to have two in-person doctor's appointments before accessing abortion care.
- This ban is deeply unpopular with the majority of Floridians. Republicans are on the wrong side of this issue: over [67 percent](#) of Floridians support abortion access.
- Over 1 million Floridians have signed the petition to preserve reproductive freedom on the ballot in November. Democrats, Independents, and Republicans support access to safe, legal abortion.
- The only way to guarantee that our reproductive rights are restored now is by re-electing President Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris.

FLORIDA KIDCARE

Last week, a hearing was held in federal court on the lawsuit filed by the DeSantis administration to block a new provision that provides health insurance coverage for children eligible for Florida KidCare. 22,000 children have been kicked off Florida KidCare this year.

Because of Florida Republicans, hundreds of thousands of children have lost their health care coverage.

- The DeSantis administration is paying lawyers to sue the federal government so they can make it easier to kick kids off health care. If successful, this lawsuit would have devastating impacts for millions of children across America and create a child health care crisis nationwide.
- Nearly [500,000 children who have lost Medicaid coverage](#) since the unwinding started and the DeSantis administration is now breaching federal rules by [kicking off over 22,000 children from Florida KidCare](#), according to the latest data.
- Florida is one of only nine states that charges families making less than 150% of the federal poverty level premiums to be eligible for Florida KidCare coverage, and the only state involved in the lawsuit, no other state has joined.
- While the Biden-Harris administration is fighting to ensure health care coverage is affordable and accessible to every child and lowering health care costs for all Americans, Florida Republicans are working around the clock to rip away coverage from Florida's sickest kids.
- Once again, Florida voters are the last line of defense. We must re-elect President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris this November to guarantee federal protections to health care for all.

RICK SCOTT

Rick Scott is refusing to answer for his [support](#) for Florida's extreme six-week abortion ban with virtually no exceptions. That's because Scott knows his [endorsement](#) of Florida's ban, [support](#) for a national abortion ban, and [attacks](#) on safe and effective medication abortion are [deeply unpopular](#), and could cost him his seat in the Senate.

Rick Scott is running from his support for the extreme six-week abortion ban because he knows it could cost him his Senate seat.

- Florida is ground zero in the fight for control of the Senate and the fight for reproductive freedom.

- The fight against Florida’s dangerous abortion ban is shining a light on Scott’s extreme anti-abortion record.
- Rick Scott is going to run from his support for the ban, but [take his own word for it](#) — he would’ve signed the bill into law himself if he was governor.
- Scott can’t help it – he again doubled down on his support of the near-total ban last week, saying [“If I was the sitting governor, and the six-week abortion ban came in front of me, I would sign it. I’ve always said I would sign it.”](#)
- Rick Scott is hiding because his extreme anti-abortion agenda is at odds with Floridians, [nearly 70 percent](#) of which support reproductive freedom.
- This November, Floridians will reject this extreme abortion ban and send Rick Scott into retirement.

Registering to Vote

Republicans in Florida continue to make registering to vote harder. Voters must send in the form themselves. In the past we could bring the application to the Supervisor of Elections. Now there is a new form that we did not anticipate. Need to register to vote? Here is more information on how to register to vote.

<https://www.sumterelections.org/Voters/How-to-Register-to-Vote>

Honey Baked Ham Fundraiser

Honey Baked Ham Fundraiser
Having company and don't want to cook?

Let Honey Baked Ham do the cooking and support the Sumter Democrats.



Buy a Honey Baked Ham gift card using the unique link below and 20% goes to the Sumter Democrats.
It's a Win - Win!
[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE YOUR GIFT CARD](#)

Click here for Honey Baked Ham fundraiser. [https://www.honeybaked.com/fundraising/Sumter Democrats](https://www.honeybaked.com/fundraising/Sumter_Democrats)

Volunteer

Going door to door not your thing or you want to do more? We need to people to phone bank. We are also looking for members of the following committees:

- Community Outreach Committee
- Data Committee
- Voter Outreach Committee
- Voter Protection Committee
- Legislative Watch Committee



Go to <https://sumterfldemocrats.com/>

Click on Get Involved and then complete the volunteer form. If your computer is acting up, give us a call and leave a message at 352.794-1351.

Vote by Mail



We finally have the new state Vote by Mail form. You can still sign up for Vote by Mail on-line or call the SOE office. Here is the link to enroll in Vote by Mail <https://www.sumterelections.org/Ways-to-Vote/Vote-By-Mail-Online-Request-Link> You need the last four digits of your social security card or your driver's license number to request the ballot on-line.

Check your Registration and Vote by Mail status at <https://www.sumterelections.org/Voters/Review-My-Registration-Status--Voter-Lookup>

Vote by Mail is your insurance that you can vote in the 2024 elections. You do not need to use your Vote by Mail ballot if you still want to go to the polls. **Sign up for Vote by Mail today!**

Stay Informed

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SumterFLDemocrats>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/sumterflyoungdems/>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/SumterFLDems>

Sign up for the email newsletter [SumterFLDemocrats.com](https://www.sumterelections.org/SumterFLDemocrats.com)

Sumter County Supervisor of Elections <https://www.sumterelections.org/>

Voting Information including voter registration, vote by mail, and polling locations

Sumter County Democrats

The Mission of the Sumter County Democratic Executive Committee is to achieve an inclusive society by electing qualified and responsible candidates who effectively represent the diverse population of Sumter County, Florida.

Headquarters:

300 S Main Street

Wildwood, FL 34785

[352-794-1351](tel:352-794-1351)



Hours: Starting April 1: Mondays 1-4PM, Wednesdays 9 AM- noon, Friday 1-4 PM, Saturdays 10AM to 1PM

Email: info@sumterFLDemocrats.com Webpage: [SumterFLDemocrats.com](https://www.sumterelections.org/SumterFLDemocrats.com)

The office, which is funded by the Sumter County Democratic Executive Committee and The Villages Democratic Club, is located at 300 S. Main Street, Wildwood, in a stand-alone building shared with a doctor's office and facing Ace Hardware.

Calendar

All Sumter County residents are welcome at events listed below.

May 8 Democratic Breakfast, 9AM, Panera Bread, 1010 Lake Sumter Landing, The Villages, RSVP Susan Houston: houdems93@gmail.com, sponsored by the Villages Democratic Club

June 16 Pride Day, more details to come

2024 Election Dates



August 10 - 17, 2024 Early Voting, Primary 9 AM - 6 PM, Voters can vote at any Early Voting Location

August 20, 2024 Election Day, Primary 7 AM - 7 PM, Voters must vote at their Assigned Precinct

October 22 - November 2, 2024, Early Voting, General Election 9 AM - 6 PM, Voters can vote at any Early Voting Location

November 5, 2024, Election Day, General Election 7 AM - 7 PM, Voters must vote at their Assigned Precinct

Have a comment or suggestion about this newsletter? Email Laura Goudreau, editor,
at dems_newsletter@sumterfldemocrats.com

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