

**TESTIMONY OF MISSOURI RIGHT TO LIFE  
IN SUPPORT OF HCS HB 1541 AS PERFECTED  
THE PROPOSED CONSCIENCE RIGHTS BILL**

MRL is here to testify today in support of HB 1541. HB 1541 provides protection against discrimination for health care professionals and institutions that choose not to participate in conduct and/or provide medical services which they believe to be morally objectionable based on their religious beliefs.

MRL is supportive of this goal to the extent that it allows the individuals and religious institutions to protect and preserve life.

MRL worked with the sponsor on amendments to tighten the language which would prevent the use of this bill to circumvent the patient's wishes and state law. We also worked to ensure that current statutes regarding informed consent were not endangered.

We thank the sponsor for bringing this bill forward. With the recent regulations from the Obama administration and Kathleen Sebelius with Health and Human Services, this is an issue that must be addressed by our lawmakers both in Missouri and Washington, DC.

MRL strongly supports HCS HB 1541 as perfected and urges the Senate to take up and pass this important pro-life legislation.