

Missouri Right to Life

Press Release

For Immediate Release
May 16, 2012

For Information
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Missouri House Passes HCS SS SB 749 Addressing the Rights of Religious Conscience

Today the Missouri House passed HCS SS SB 749, which gives the state of Missouri standing in the courts to file suit against the HHS mandate that will require all businesses, including religious institutions and those affiliated with such institutions, provide coverage for services that are counter to the moral teachings of that religion.

Another provision of this bill contains broader conscience clause protections that specify that anyone providing or participating in a medical procedure or research cannot be required to participate or provide services that violates his or her religious, moral, or ethical principles that are adherent to a sincere and meaningful belief in God or in relation to a supreme being.

“The mandate for religious institutions to participate in destroying innocent human life goes against the core religious beliefs of many faiths. This attack on our religious freedom is in stark opposition to our first amendment right to practice our religion. Make no mistake, the attack by the Obama Administration has nothing to do with women accessing contraception,” said Pam Fichter, President of Missouri Right to Life, “but is an attack on the religious freedom guaranteed by our Constitution.

Those in the medical and research fields that labor every day to save lives should not be forced to take lives against their religious and moral beliefs. This bill would protect them from negative repercussions by their employers.”

In addition, this bill will protect pharmacies from being forced to stock any drug or device. This means pharmacy owners who are pro-life will not be forced to stock abortion causing drugs or drugs and devices that cause actions to which they are morally opposed.

“Missouri Right to Life thanks the members of all the Missouri House who supported this important legislation, specifically Representatives Crawford and Cox, who spoke eloquently in its defense,” said Fichter.