

# Legislative Update – January 17, 2014

## Spotlight for the Week - Missouri Right to Life Priority Legislation Filed in the House

**HB 1478** – Sponsored by Representative Kathryn Swan from Cape Girardeau, MO. With Rep. Swan and Speaker Tim Jones there are a total of 103 sponsor/cosponsors. We expect and hope that the number of cosponsors will grow to at least 109 or 110. We are working on the Senate bill and hope to have a bill number for you in next week's lifeline.

HB 1478 is important pro-life legislation for the protection of women's health care. This legislation will place in statute stricter inspection requirements and more accountability for abortion clinics. It will establish statutory requirements rather than relying solely on regulations for oversight of abortion clinics and will be less subject to the agenda of a particular agency or political party. Even though Missouri has regulatory requirements for clinic inspections, the most recent report on Planned Parenthood shows that these aren't being enforced thus putting women at risk.

Atrocities at abortion clinics in Pennsylvania and Texas and multiple violations of health requirements at the St. Louis Planned Parenthood facility where 23 ambulances have been called in the last 4 years, at least 8 of those occurring in 2013, illustrate the need for this legislation.

Speaker Tim Jones held a press conference on HB 1478, HB 1430 and other important pro-life priorities in Springfield on Thursday, January 16 at the Pregnancy Care Center. Dave Plemmons, MRL PAC Chairman and Cindi Boston, Director of the Pregnancy Care Center hosted the Speaker of the House as he spoke about important issues to the pro-life community. We thank the Speaker for his stand on these pro-life bills and his commitment to move pro-life legislation forward and help get it to the Governor's desk.

## Missouri's Pro-Life Action Day

One of the most important events that you can plan for is to attend **Pro-Life Lobby Day on Tuesday, March 11th** at the Missouri State Capitol at 10:00 a.m. in Jefferson City, MO. Rally to begin at Noon on the 1st floor rotunda. Please print this flyer and invite people to lobby day: <http://www.missouririghttolife.org/news/2014/lobbyday2014.pdf>

## Budget Bills

As the budget moves through the process over the next 5 months, Missouri Right to Life will be looking to continue the funding for the Alternatives to Abortion Program. This important program provides funding for pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes. These programs help women in crisis pregnancies through difficult situations and help them choose life for their unborn babies.

We are also looking at ways to have more accountability for our federal tax dollars that are going to Planned Parenthood through the budget process.

Missouri Right to Life will also once again be seeking pro-life protections on the Department of Economic Development Budget Bill to ensure that public monies are not used to fund or subsidize human cloning or embryonic stem cell research.

Budget bills must be truly agreed and finally passed by the end of the day on May 9, 2014 this session.

## **Economic Development**

Several Economic Development bills have been filed and our Missouri Right to Life Legislative team is reviewing the impact these bills will have on funding human cloning and embryonic stem cell research with our tax dollars and state monies. The Missouri Science Innovation and Reinvestment Act (MOSIRA) and the assignment of the Missouri Technology Corporation to grant state monies to any industry without pro-life protections will be a major focus to watch for in economic development legislation again this year. **Missouri Right to Life seeks the pro-life protections of statute 196.1127 in economic development bills that open the door for public funding with state monies for human cloning and embryonic stem cell research.**

### **Movement on Pro-Life Legislation: NOTE: Last Day of Session is Friday, May 16 at 6:00 p.m.**

Missouri Right to Life watches each piece of legislation for changes in language that would change the status of our support or opposition at any point in the process.

### **In the Missouri State Senate:**

**SB 519:** Senator David Sater, Sponsor - Amends the current waiting period for having an abortion from 24 hours to 72 hours – Second Read and Referred to Senate Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, January 9

**SB 638:** Senator Gary Romine, Sponsor - Raises the fiscal year cap on the Pregnancy Resource Center Tax Credits from \$2 million to \$2.5 million – First Read, January 8

**SB 658:** Senator Wayne Wallingford, Sponsor - Provides protections for alternatives to abortion agencies to freely engage in religious practices – First Read, January 8

**SB 660:** Senator Wayne Wallingford, Sponsor - Designates the priority for the state with respect to any funding for family planning services – First Read, January 8

**SJR 38:** Senator Brian Nieves, Sponsor - Prohibits Missouri state government from recognizing, enforcing, or acting in furtherance of certain actions of the federal government. – First Read, January 8

### **In the Missouri State House:**

**HB 1063:** Representative Jeff Grisamore, Sponsor - Changes the laws regarding children and families and creates the Show Me Healthy Babies Program – Public Hearing Completed, January 14

Testimony in Support of HB 1063: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-14a.html>

**HB 1065:** Representative Jeff Grisamore, Sponsor - Establishes the Show-Me Healthy Babies Program as a separate children's health insurance program for any low-income unborn child – Public Hearing Completed, January 14

Testimony in Support of HB 1065: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-14b.html>

**HB 1103:** Representative Chuck Gatschenberger, Sponsor - Specifies that the constitutions and laws of the United States and Missouri must protect the rights of an alternatives-to-abortion agency and its officers to freely engage in activities without interference – Public Hearing Completed January 15

Testimony in Support of HB 1103: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-15.html>

**HB 1132:** Representative Kevin Engler, Sponsor - Increases the amount of tax credits for contributions to pregnancy resource centers available in each fiscal year to \$2.5 million – Second Read and Referred to Ways and Means House Committee, January 9

**HB 1148:** Representative Ron Hicks, Sponsor - Requires an ultrasound to be conducted and reviewed with the pregnant woman prior to the 24-hour waiting period for an abortion – Second Read and Referred to Health Care Policy, January 9

**HB 1192:** Representative Rocky Miller, Sponsor - Requires both custodial parents or the guardian of a minor to be notified prior to the performance of an abortion on their minor child – Hearing Continued to Wednesday, January 22

**HB 1307:** Representative Kevin Elmer, Sponsor - Changes the current waiting period for having an abortion from 24 hours to 72 hours – Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, January 22

**HB 1313:** Representative Keith Frederick, Sponsor - Amends the current waiting period for having an abortion from 24 hours to 72 hours – Hearing Scheduled for Wednesday, January 22

**HB 1352:** Representative Chuck Gatschenberger, Sponsor - Changes the laws regarding the protection of women's health care - Second Read, January 15

**HB 1353:** Representative Chuck Gatschenberger, Sponsor - Designates the priority for the state with respect to any funding for family planning services – Second Read, January 15

**HB 1375:** Representative Stanley Cox, Sponsor - Requires any organization, institution, or facility which performs abortions to make an annual accounting of all funds received pursuant to Title X of the federal Public Health Service Act – Second Read, January 15

**HB 1379:** Representative Chuck Gatschenberger, Sponsor - Requires an ultrasound to be conducted and reviewed with the pregnant woman prior to the 24-hour waiting period for an abortion – Second Read, January 15

**HB 1430:** Representative Tim Jones, Sponsor - Specifies that anyone providing medical services cannot be required to perform or participate in activities that violate his or her conscience or principles – Second Read, January 16

**HB 1478:** Representative Kathryn Swan, Sponsor - Changes the laws regarding the protection of women's health care – Introduced and First Read, January 16

**HJR 62:** Representative Kurt Bahr, Sponsor - Proposes a constitutional amendment specifying that each citizen has an inherent liberty that includes being able to make decisions regarding lawful health care related services or products – Introduced and First Read, January 16

**We continue to review all Senate and House Bills that have been filed as they move through the process. We will report either support or opposition or a change of our position as the bills move through the process. We are looking at every aspect of each bill to determine the impact on pro-life issues that put innocent human lives at risk or have the opportunity to give protection.**