

Legislative Update – January 31, 2014

Spotlight for the Week:

While pro-life bills dealing with abortion and health care are being heard in House and Senate Committees, two House Committees, the Special Standing Committee on Small Business and the Economic Development Committee are holding hearings on bills that open the door for public funding, tax credits and state incentives for human cloning and embryonic stem cell research. At this time pro-life protections have been rejected for the bills heard by the Special Standing Committee on Small Business (HB 1236 and HB 1310). Please see important information on bills below.

It is yet to be seen what the House Economic Development Committee will do on HB 1498 or what the Special Standing Committee on Small Business will do on HB 1495.

Missouri Right to Life “Opposed” these Economic Development bills (see explanation below) because they do not include pro-life protections to prevent our tax dollars, public monies, tax credits and state incentives from being used for or given to businesses that could do human cloning and embryonic stem cell research. The legislature needs to be clear on pro-life protections. If these businesses do not intend to do human cloning and embryonic stem cell research then there should be no problem putting pro-life protections on these bills.

Please see testimony and notes on these economic development bills below: HB 1236, HB 1310, HB 1495 and HB 1498.

ACTION FOR YOU TO TAKE:

Following are the House Committee Members hearing economic development legislation.

Please call the members of these committees and let them know that you want MRL’s pro-life protective language on the above four bills and other bills where Missouri Right to Life requests pro-life protections. Link to Legislative Phone Numbers: <http://www.house.mo.gov/member.aspx>

House Special Standing Committee on Small Business Committee

Members: <http://www.house.mo.gov/CommitteeIndividual.aspx?com=506&year=2014&code=R>

House Economic Development Committee Members:

<http://www.house.mo.gov/CommitteeIndividual.aspx?com=612&year=2014&code=R>

On Abortion and Health Care legislation, see testimony given on SB 519, SB 546, SB 638, HB 1132 & HB 1430.

Economic Development

Several Economic Development bills have been filed and our Missouri Right to Life Legislative team continues to review 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) or its language by any new name and the assignment of the Missouri Technology Corporation to grant state monies to any industry without pro-life protections is a major focus MRL is watching 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.**

HOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BILLS OPPOSED BY MISSOURI RIGHT TO LIFE:

HB 1236: Representative Denny Hoskins, Sponsor - Establishes the Missouri Angel Investment Incentive Act - Opens the door for public funding of human cloning and embryonic stem cell research **Executive Session Held Wednesday, January 29 – HB 1236 and HB 1310 Combined and Pro-life language not included on committee sub**

See Notes on HB 1310 below...

Still Needs Pro-Life Language – Still Not on the Bill at this Time

Testimony in Opposition to HB 1236: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-22d.html>

HB 1310: Representative Noel Torpey, Sponsor – Establishes the Missouri Angel Investment Incentive Act – Opens the door for public funding of human cloning and embryonic stem cell research

January 22, MRL told by vice-chairman (acting chairman at the time), during committee testimony, that testimony was only being taken for HB 1310 and not on HB 1236 – even though both sponsors for HB 1236 and HB 1310 both presented their bills together and everyone giving testimony in support of these bills, including MOBIO, the lead group seeking public monies for human cloning and embryonic stem cell research, gave testimony for both bills. MRL turned in testimony in opposition to both HB 1310 and HB 1236. HB 1236 never had a separate presentation in the hearing. It was on the hearing list, shows that a hearing was held but there was no separate time in the hearing to give testimony on HB 1236.

Executive Session Held Wednesday, January 29 – HB 1310 and HB 1236 Combined and pro-life language not included on committee sub

Still Needs Pro-Life Language – Still Not on the Bill at this Time

Testimony in Opposition to HB 1310: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-22e.html>

HB 1495: Representative Noel Torpey, Sponsor – Requires Missouri Technology Corporations to distribute money to specified early stage business development corporations for grants to newly formed businesses that have the potential for sales or development of new technologies. This includes business incubators at Universities where we know embryonic stem cell research has been done. – Public Hearing Completed, January 29

Needs Pro-Life Language – Not on the Bill at this Time

Testimony in Opposition to HB 1495: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-29b.html>

HB 1498: Representative Anne Zerr, Sponsor - Changes the laws regarding tax incentives and tax credits. Includes Establishing the Missouri Angel Investment Incentive Act – Opens the door for public funding of human cloning and embryonic stem cell research. Public Hearing Completed, January 28

Needs Pro-Life Language – Not on the Bill at this Time

Committee Adjourned to go to reception held by MOBIO in the home of MOBIO's President and CEO. MOBIO is the leading group pushing to get public funding for open-ended human life sciences research, which includes human cloning and embryonic stem cell research. MOBIO adamantly opposes pro-life protective language to prevent human cloning and embryonic stem cell research.

Testimony in Opposition to HB 1498: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-28b.html>

Missouri Right to Life Priority Legislation:

SB 770 – Missouri State Senator Wayne Wallingford of Cape Girardeau, MO filed the Women's Health Care Protection Act Thursday, January 23, 2014. HB 1478 is the companion bill sponsored by Representative Kathryn Swan from Cape Girardeau, MO and has over 100 cosponsors.

SB 770 and HB 1478 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.

Atrocities at abortion clinics in Pennsylvania and Texas and multiple violations of health requirements at the St. Louis Planned Parenthood facility where there have been multiple 911 calls over the last 4 years illustrate the need for this legislation.

We thank Senator Wayne Wallingford and Representative Kathryn Swan and all the co-sponsors for working to move this important life-saving legislation forward and help get it to the Governor's desk.

Status:

SB 770 has been first read in the Senate, January 23

HB 1478 has been Referred to the House Health Care Policy Committee, January 22

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://missourilife.org/news/2014/2014lobbyday.pdf>

Budget Bills

As the budget moves through the process over the next 4 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 works to 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 our state budget.

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.

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 – Hearing Completed Monday, January 27

Testimony in Support of SB 519: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-27.html>

Picture after Testimony in Support of SB 519 with 40 Days for Life

Group: http://missourilife.org/images/2014_sb519_hearing.jpg

SB 546: Senator John Lamping, Sponsor - Modifies Missouri' Health Care Freedom Act by prohibiting the state from implementing a health insurance exchange, prohibiting insurers from accepting remuneration and prescribing duties of the Attorney General for enforcement of the act – Hearing Completed Tuesday, January 28

Testimony in Support of SB 546: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-28.html>

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 – Hearing Completed Wednesday, January 29

Testimony in Support of SB 638: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-29.html>

SB 658: Senator Wayne Wallingford, Sponsor - Provides protections for alternatives to abortion agencies to freely engage in religious practices – Second Read and Referred to Senate Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, January 23

SB 660: Senator Wayne Wallingford, Sponsor - Designates the priority for the state with respect to any funding for family planning services – Second Read and Referred to Senate Seniors, Families and Pensions Committee, January 23

SB 770: Senator Wayne Wallingford, Sponsor - Modifies abortion provisions relating to medical emergencies and inspection of facilities - First Read, January 23

SJR 38: Senator Brian Nieves, Sponsor - Prohibits Missouri state government from recognizing, enforcing, or acting in furtherance of certain actions of the federal government. – Second Read and Referred to Senate General Laws Committee, January 30

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 – Executive Session to be held February 4

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 – Executive Session to be held February 4

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 – Public Hearing Completed Tuesday, January 28

Testimony in Support of HB 1132: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-28a.html>

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 Committee, 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 – Public Hearing Completed, January 22

Testimony in Support of HB 1192: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-22a.html>

HB 1193: Representative Jeff Roorda, Sponsor - Requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish cord blood collection sites across the state for transportation to the Saint Louis Cord Blood Bank – Public Hearing Completed, January 22

Testimony in Support of HB 1193: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-22b.html>

HB 1252: Representative Elijah Haahr, Sponsor - Changes the laws regarding custody and visitation rights of a father who attempted to coerce the mother of his child to obtain an abortion – Referred to Judiciary Committee, January 16

HB 1307: Representative Kevin Elmer, Sponsor - Changes the current waiting period for having an abortion from 24 hours to 72 hours – Public Hearing Completed, January 22 – Committee Sub Combining HB 1307 and HB 1313 Voted Do Pass, January 29

Testimony in Support of HB 1307: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-22c.html>

HB 1313: Representative Keith Frederick, Sponsor - Amends the current waiting period for having an abortion from 24 hours to 72 hours – Public Hearing Completed, January 22 – Committee Sub Combining HB 1313 and HB 1307 Voted Do Pass, January 29

Testimony in Support of HB 1313: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-22c.html>

HB 1314: Representative Keith Frederick, Sponsor - Modifies Missouri's Health Care Freedom Act by prohibiting the state from implementing a health insurance exchange, prohibiting insurers from accepting remuneration and prescribing duties of the Attorney General – Referred to Health Care Policy Committee, January 16

HB 1352: Representative Chuck Gatschenberger, Sponsor - Changes the laws regarding the protection of women's health care – Referred to Health Care Policy Committee, January 28

HB 1353: Representative Chuck Gatschenberger, Sponsor - Designates the priority for the state with respect to any funding for family planning services – Referred to Budget, January 28

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 – Referred to Health Care Policy Committee, January 22

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 – Referred to Health Care Policy Committee, January 28

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 – Public Hearing Completed, January 29

Testimony in Support of HB 1430: <http://missourilife.org/legislation/2014/2014-01-29a.html>

HB 1478: Representative Kathryn Swan, Sponsor - Changes the laws regarding the protection of women's health care – Referred to Health Care Policy Committee, January 22

HB 1531: Representative Bryan Spencer, Sponsor - Prohibits abortions performed for the purpose of providing fetal organs or tissue for medical transplantation – Referred to Health Care Policy Committee, January 29

HB 1585: Representative Andrew Koenig, Sponsor - Establishes the Abortion Ban for Sex Selection and Genetic Abnormalities Act of 2014 to prohibit an abortion solely due to the sex of the unborn child or a genetic abnormality diagnosis – Second Read, January 27

HB 1613: Representative Chuck Gatschenberger, Sponsor - Establishes the "Ultrasound Informed Consent Act" – Second Read, January 28

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 – Second Read, January 21

Senate Bills OPPOSED by Missouri Right to Life:

SCR 30: Senator Jolie Justus, Sponsor - Relating to the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution. A State ERA has been used for the basis to publicly fund abortion. – Second Read and Referred to Senate Rules, Joint Rules, Resolutions and Ethics, January 30

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.