

## MEMORANDUM

January 9, 2019

Missouri State Capitol  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Legislator:

Welcome to Jefferson City! 2018 was a tumultuous and yet rewarding year.

While we made great advances in the fight for life, our battle is not over. The people of Missouri are looking, more than ever before, to your leadership in 2019 on pro-life legislation. They have given you the great privilege and opportunity to continue to advance the cause of life in our state. This is a trust that should never be taken lightly.

Pro-life Missourians turned out to win the day in the 2018 elections. And they will fight for you in 2020 so you can fight the battle for innocent human lives.

We urge you to support pro-life legislation for the 2019 legislative session. The accountability and oversight of abortion clinic inspections has shown that Planned Parenthood cannot be trusted. Missouri needs to continue to defund Planned Parenthood from receiving our state tax dollars to subsidize the killing of babies. We need the same pro-life protective language we had in 2018 in both the Department of Health and Senior Services and the Department of Social Services budget bills. On the federal level, President Trump continues to open doors for states to defund Planned Parenthood without penalties of losing federal monies and we need to look for ways to stop Planned Parenthood from receiving our federal tax dollars to kill babies.

We need to continue the Alternative to Abortion funding and the tax credits for Pregnancy Resource Centers. These centers are on the front line helping women in crisis pregnancies choose life for their unborn children. The services provided by Pregnancy Resource Centers and Maternity Homes are essential to the health and well-being of women and unborn babies across the State of Missouri!

Legislation that could come before you that MRL is working to pass:

- The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act
- Ban Dismemberment Abortions
- update abortion statistic reporting
- prevent DNR orders that are being placed in minors medical files without parents knowledge
- two-custodial parent notification for a minor prior to an abortion
- health care decision maker legislation for incapacitated persons, and;
- pro-life protective language for any life sciences funding or economic development legislation that opens the door for unethical research.

We are also watching the movement of other possible legislation that could have life and death consequences, such as: expansion of Medicaid, end-of-life and quality of life issues and taking away health care decision-making from the patient and family.

Being pro-life is not just about abortion any more. With the advances in science and the passage of Obamacare, being pro-life means protecting innocent human lives on the issues of abortion, human life sciences research, human

cloning and end-of-life decisions being challenged on various fronts.

With the 2006 passage of Amendment 2, the Missouri constitution includes a right to engage in human cloning and human embryonic stem cell research. While Missouri Right to Life supports ethical research using adult stem cells and other non-embryonic, non-lethal stem cell research, we stand opposed to life-destroying research. We also oppose taxpayer funding and other incentives of this open-ended research with no pro-life protections. Until Missouri voters have the opportunity to correct the false definition of human cloning in our Missouri Constitution, we must work to protect life as much as possible within the confines of the law.

A 2009 decision by Judge Callahan allows the legislature to add protective language to legislation regarding life science research. As we have in the past, we will continue to request the following language in any legislation, appropriation or budget to prevent taxpayer funding or other incentives for unethical research:

**“Public funds shall not be expended, paid, or granted to or on behalf of an existing or proposed research project that involves abortion services, human cloning, or prohibited human research as defined in RSMo Section 196.1127.”**

Key facts to know about human embryonic stem cell research and human cloning are listed below. This is a topic that can be very intimidating, and we urge you to familiarize yourself with the basic information on this issue. In a nutshell, you should know that:

- Somatic Cell Nuclear Transfer (SCNT) is the scientific term for cloning.
- Human embryonic stem cells (HESC's) are obtained by destroying a human being at the embryonic stage.
- Adult stem cells (ASC's) are derived from non-lethal sources like tooth pulp, nasal tissue and body fat with no ethical problems, and are responsible for every successful human stem cell treatment.
- Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells have the same pluripotency of HESC's, and are derived from manipulating ASC's, and are not involved in destruction of a human embryo.
- Scientists have been able to coax adult stem cells into greater specificity, i.e., using an adult stem cell to create a blood cell, or a bone cell, or a muscle cell.

You will find information on this in the MRL folder. We'd be happy to provide any additional information you would like and will keep you updated on relevant new developments in this area. We will work with you to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

As a pro-life legislator, your voting record is very important in future elections. The MRL PAC uses the voting records to determine if legislators who claim to be pro-life are implementing those principles with their votes. We want to work with you in every way possible to assure a pro-life voting record.

Susan Klein is the Executive Director and Lobbyist for Missouri Right to Life. Susan has many years of experience working with the legislature on pro-life issues. She will be the first person for you to contact if you have any questions about MRL's position on any legislation.

When MRL takes a position on a piece of legislation, Susan will testify at relevant hearings, contact legislators, and have memos distributed explaining our position. We will continue distributing our memos electronically and will text message those legislators who wish to be contacted in this way. Please fill out/update and return the enclosed information sheet if you are interested.

We look forward to working with you this year.

Yours for Life!

Steve Rupp  
President