

Legislative Update – April 19, 2013

Spotlight for the Week

Thursday, April 18th, with a strong bi-partisan veto proof majority of 115 yes to 39 no, the Missouri House third read and passed HB 400, the ban on web-cam abortions. HB 400 is sponsored by Representative Jeanie Riddle, Callaway County, and 114 co-sponsors. We thank all House members who supported this life-saving legislation. HB 400 now moves to the Missouri Senate for debate. Missouri Right to Life calls upon the Senate to take up and pass this important legislation.

[Read the press release on HB 400 here](#)

Wednesday, April 17, the Missouri House accepted pro-life language amending an omnibus economic development bill (HB 698) in 4 sections. HB 698 is sponsored by Rep. Anne Zerr from St. Charles. Representative Jeff Messenger, Springfield, was instrumental in working on amending HB 698 with the pro-life protections in all necessary statutes. We are very grateful for the work of all legislators who are actively working and are open to discussion to place pro-life protections on economic development bills with pro-life concerns. We hope, pray and seek a continued openness to work together to protect innocent human lives on these bills. There are 4 weeks left in the 2013 legislative session and MRL will be watching these economic development bills and possible amendments to other bills in our effort to ensure that pro-life protections remain in place. Representative Jeanie Riddle, Callaway County and Representative John McCaherty, High Ridge, have also been very active on the floor of the House helping with pro-life protections where needed.

We also thank Senator Ryan Silvey, Kansas City, for accepting an amendment to his SB 333 and Representative Noel Torpey, Independence, for amending HB 389 to address pro-life concerns in these research and development bills. Our goal is to ensure, without question, that innocent human lives are not used for scientific research in embryonic stem cell research and human cloning with our tax dollars.

Priority Pro-Life Legislation

SB 175 & HB 400 - Establishes the requirements for the administration and regulation of RU-486 and other abortion-inducing drugs and chemicals and would ban web-cam abortions in MO. When web-cam abortions began in Iowa they went from approximately 5 abortion clinics to 17. We do not want this to happen in Missouri!

SB 175 is sponsored by Senator Wayne Wallingford. SB 175 is now on the Senate Calendar for Perfection. We ask the Senate to take up and pass SB 175.

HB 400 is sponsored by Representative Jeanie Riddle and 114 other House members (a veto proof bi-partisan majority). HB 400 now moves to the Senate.

Budget Bills

The Senate Appropriation Committee has been hard at work on all budget bills. They are in their final stages of committee work before moving to the Senate floor for debate. Once the Senate completes their floor debate on the budget bills, the House and Senate must come to a compromise between the two versions. Appropriation Bills must be Truly Agreed and Finally Passed by May 10th.

Thank you to all House members that supported the Alternatives to Abortion (A2A) program and the public awareness program for A2A, found in HCS HB 5. The House position for A2A is \$1,533, 561 and \$50,000 for the A2A public awareness program.

Thank you to all House members that supported pro-life protections on HCS HB 7, the Economic Development Appropriation Budget Bill. The pro-life language in Section 7.035 of HCS HB 7 will prevent the tax dollars in this bill

from funding human cloning and research on human embryos.

Economic Development

There was much debate on HCS HB 389 and HCS #2 HB 698. Both of these economic development bills include language that could open the door for human life sciences research. Both bills have been amended with pro-life protections at this time. Missouri Right to Life will be following these bills as they move to the Senate. We will also watch for amendments on other economic bills that require pro-life protective language. Missouri Right to Life goal is to ensure that our tax dollars, or tax credits and tax incentives are not given to any business that does abortion, human cloning or embryonic stem cell research.

There are a multitude of economic development bills that are moving and being amended. We are monitoring all these bills and will take positions at different stages of the bills progress if problems with the bills arise.

Movement on Pro-life Legislation: NOTE: Last Day of Session is Friday, May 17 at 6:00 p.m.

In the Missouri State Senate:

SB 20 (Includes SB's 15 & 19): Senator Bob Dixon (and Senator Ron Richard), Sponsors – Reinstates and extends the Pregnancy Resource Center Tax Credits – Signed by the Governor, March 29th in Cape Girardeau.

SB 40: Senator Scott Sifton, Sponsor - Immediate Coverage for Maternity Benefits – Second Read and Referred to Committee, January 10

SB 50: Senator Wayne Wallingford, Sponsor - Protection for PRC Alternative to Abortion Providers to Freely Engage in Religious Practices – Hearing Completed in the Senate Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, February 18. Voted Do Pass Out of Committee, April 17

SB 84: Senator Scott Rupp, Sponsor - Protection of Conscience Rights of Medical Professionals – SCS SB 84 Voted Do Pass, March 11

SB 111: Senator Ed Emery, Sponsor – Protection for a Pharmacy Owner from being Forced to Carry any Drug or Device – Second Read and Referred to Committee, January 24

SB 126: Senator David Sater, Sponsor - Protection for a Pharmacy Owner from being Forced to Carry any Drug or Device – Passed the Missouri Senate on Thursday, April 4th by a vote of 24 to 9. Hearing Completed in the House Health Care Policy Committee, HCS HB 126 Voted Do Pass, April 17

SB 175: Senator Wayne Wallingford, Sponsor – Regulation of RU 486, Ban on Web Cam Abortions – Voted do pass by the Senate Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, April 2. Reported in to the Senate by Senator Bob Dixon, Chairman of the Committee and placed on the Senate Formal Calendar, Senate Bills for Perfection, April 19

SB 185: Senator David Sater, Sponsor – Criminalizes Drug Abuse During Pregnancy – Second Read and Referred to Committee, January 31

SB 318: Senator Scott Rupp, Sponsor – Updates Abortion Statistic Reporting – Second Read and Referred to Committee, February 28

SB 393: Senator Doug Libla, 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 Committee, March 13

SJR 17: Senator Brian Nieves, Sponsor – Seeks Voter Approval to Give Support for State's Right to Refuse to Legalize or Fund Abortion if Forced to by the Federal Government. This is One Part of a Larger Resolution that Includes Numerous Conservative Issues – Second Read and Referred to Committee, March 13

In the Missouri State House:

HB 31: Rep. Chuck Gatschenberger, Sponsor – Protection for PRC Alternative to Abortion Providers to Freely Engage in Religious Practices – Voted Do Pass Out of Committee, March 12

HB 87: Rep. Eric Burlison, Sponsor – Reinstates and extends the Pregnancy Resource Center Tax Credits – Passed House, Second Read in Senate and Referred to Committee, February 20

HB 177: Rep. Andrew Koenig, Sponsor – Abortion Inducing Drug Safety Act: Regulation of RU 486 – Voted Do Pass

Out of Committee, March 13

HB 288: Rep. John McCaherty, Sponsor – Reinstates and removes sunsets of the Pregnancy Resource Center Tax Credits – HCS Voted Do Pass Out of Committee, February 19

HB 298: Rep. Keith English, Sponsor - Requires an ultrasound to be conducted and reviewed with the pregnant woman prior to the 24-hour waiting period for an abortion - HCS Voted Do Pass Out of Committee, March 13

HB 378: Rep. Mike Kelley, Sponsor – Protection for a Pharmacy Owner from being Forced to Carry any Drug or Device – Referred to Committee, February 27

HB 386: Rep. John McCaherty, Sponsor - Prohibits an abortion solely due to the sex of the unborn child or a genetic abnormality diagnosis – Hearing Completed in the House Health Care Policy Committee, March 6

HB 400: Rep. Jeanie Riddle, Sponsor – Ban on Web Cam Abortions – Hearing Completed in the House Health Care Policy Committee, March 13 - Rules Committee Reported Do Pass, March 14 – Passed the House by a veto-proof bipartisan majority of 115 yes to 39 no, April 18

HB 457: Rep. 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 – Passed the House by a veto-proof bi-partisan majority of 116 yes to 41 no, March 12 – Senate Hearing Completed, April 15 – SCS HCS HB 457 Reported Do Pass, April 18

HB 716: Rep. Jeff Grisamore, Sponsor - Establishes the "Show-Me Healthy Babies Program" as a separate CHIPs program for low-income unborn children – Hearing Completed in the House Children, Families and Persons With Disabilities Committee, March 26

HCR 35: Rep. Tim Jones, Sponsor - Requests the Attorney General to argue on appeal that the federal contraception mandate violates the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act as well as the First Amendment of the Constitution, Passed House by a vote of 111 yes to 38 no, April 11 – Referred to Committee, April 16

HJR 19: Rep. 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 - This Resolution would address the health care rationing in Obamacare - Hearing Completed in the House Health Care Policy Committee, March 13 - Reported Do Pass, April 11 - Referred to Rules, April 11 – Reported Do Pass, April 15

Senate Bills Opposed by Missouri Right to Life:

SB 93: Repeals provision making changes enacted by Senate Bill 7, MOSIRA (1st Ext. Sess. 2011) contingent on the passage of another act - This act would remove the connecting language and put MOSIRA into effect. Second Read and Referred to Committee, January 17

SCR 6: Urges ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution. A State ERA has been used for the basis to publicly fund abortion. Hearing was Cancelled, February 5

House Bills Opposed by Missouri Right to Life:

HCR 36: Urges ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution. A State ERA has been used for the basis to publicly fund abortion. Read Second Time, April 2