

Legislative Update – May 3, 2013

Action Alert Critical: Two Weeks Left – Please Call Your State Senator Monday!

Ask your Senator to "Vote YES on the Passage of SB 175 or HB 400" - This is the Legislation to Ban Web-Cam Abortions in Missouri.

NOTE: Last Day of Session is Friday, May 17 at 6:00 p.m.

Priority Pro-Life Legislation

SB 175 and HB 400 are both on the Senate Calendar and waiting for Senate action.

Thank you to Senator Bob Dixon for moving HB 400 quickly through the Senate Judiciary Committee!

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.

SB 175 is sponsored by Senator Wayne Wallingford. HB 400 is sponsored by Representative Jeanie Riddle and 114 other House members (a veto proof bi-partisan majority).

Budget Bills

The House and Senate begin Conference Committees for all budget bills next week. The House and Senate must come to a compromise between the two versions and then take each bill back to each chamber for final passage. Appropriation Bills must be Truly Agreed and Finally Passed by next Friday, May 10th.

Once again, thank you to all House and Senate members that supported the Alternatives to Abortion (A2A) program and the public awareness program for A2A, found in SCS HCS HB 5. The House and Senate held the same position for A2A at \$1,533, 561 and \$50,000 from Federal funds. They also approved \$50,000 for the A2A public awareness program. This is a grand total of \$1,633,561 for the Alternatives to Abortion program.

And, thank you to all House and Senate members that maintained the pro-life protections on HCS HB 7, the Economic Development Appropriation Budget Bill. **The pro-life language, offered by Rep. Bart Korman by an amendment in committee, 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. Special thanks to Rep. Bart Korman!**

Economic Development

Multiple economic development bills are moving quickly in these last weeks. Some in control of these bills know which will be the final vehicle(s) to move economic development legislation. Bill of concern at this time: SB 23, Now in Conference Committee - Sponsored by Senator Mike Parsons and supported by Rep. Anne Zerr, Chairman of the House Economic Development Committee. The question is: Will they include the pro-life protections on the final language of this bill and others or give open loopholes for abortion, human cloning and embryonic stem cell research? The final outcome will tell the tale.

Missouri Right to Life's 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. In these last weeks of session legislators, and lobbyists, begin looking for other similar legislation that they can amend with the language of their issues. We are watching for amendments on other economic bills that require pro-life protective language.

Movement on Pro-life Legislation:

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. **Hearing Scheduled Senate Small Business, Insurance and Industry Committee, May 7**

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. Hearing Completed House Rules Committee, HCS HB 126 Voted Do Pass, April 24. On the House Calendar Senate Bills for Third Reading with HCS, May 6 **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, May 6

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 bi-partisan majority of 115 yes to 39 no, April 18. Hearing Completed in the Senate Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee Monday, April 29, Voted Out of Senate Committee, April 29. **Now on the Senate**

Calendar Waiting for Action - Only two weeks of session left.

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. SCS HCS HB 457 on Senate Calendar, April 23

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 Senate 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

House and Senate Bills with Other Issues that Have Now Been Amended to Include Ban on Web-Cam

Abortions:

HB 936: Rep. Kathryn Swan, Sponsor - Establishes the "Utilization of Telehealth" by advanced practice registered nurses in certain rural areas

HB 625: Rep. Eric Burlison, Sponsor - Specifies that the geographic proximity requirement in a collaborative practice arrangement may be waived for up to 28 days per year for rural health clinics under specified conditions

Senate Bills Opposed by Missouri Right to Life:

SB 93: Senator Jolie Justus, Sponsor - 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: Senator Jolie Justus, Sponsor - 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

House Bills Truly Agreed and Finally Passed for which Missouri Right to Life Has Concerns:

HB 315: Rep. Lyle Rowland, Sponsor - Supervision and expanded duties of physician assistants via telemedicine.