

Legislative Update - February 1, 2013

Priority Pro-Life Legislation Filed:

HB 400 & SB 175 - Establishes the requirements for the administration of RU-486 and other abortion-inducing drugs and chemicals. This legislation would ensure that abortions are not done by a video conferencing system where the abortionist is located at one location and uses a closed circuit TV to talk with a woman who is at another location over a computer video screen. Planned Parenthood, as close as Iowa, has formulated the web-cam abortion scheme and mandated that all of its family planning clinics participate. We want to prevent the abortion industry from opening up RU-486 abortion dispensaries across the state of Missouri.

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

Reinstatement of PRC Tax Credit Bill Passes the Senate, On its Way to the House:

Reinstatement of Tax Credits for Pregnancy Resource Centers, SB 20, 15 & 19 (now combined into one bill), passed the Missouri State Senate on Thursday, January 31 with a vote of 32 yes and 2 Senators absent. This bill garners its strong support because of the services that will be provided by the organizations receiving these tax credits to help those in our society who are in need. This bill is known as the "Benevolent Tax Credit Bill" and includes a multitude of social need tax credits which includes tax credits for Pregnancy Resource Centers. SB 20 (15 & 19) now moves to the House.

The House version of the "Benevolent Tax Credit Bill", HB 87, was voted out of the House Children, Families and People with Disabilities Committee on Tuesday, January 29 by a vote of 10 yes and 1 no. HB 87 could come up for a floor vote as early as next week.

ACTION NEEDED:

Regarding Economic Development Legislation:

We are following a multitude of economic development legislation to watch for language that would put innocent human lives at risk due to open-ended life sciences research that would include human cloning and embryonic stem cell research. **Many of these bills are beginning to move and we need your phone calls to ask that Missouri Right to Life Pro-Life Protections are placed on these bills.**

Regarding the ERA:

Missouri Right to Life and National Right to Life oppose SCR 6 which would seek to ratify the "Equal Rights Amendment." This concurrent resolution is the language of the proposed 1972 ERA and is virtually identical to language that the major pro-abortion groups have used in other states (including New Mexico) for highly successful legal attacks on laws protecting unborn children and limiting tax funding of abortion. SCR 6 has been assigned to be heard in the Senate Rules, Joint Rules, Resolutions and Ethics Committee on Tuesday, February 5.

For further information on the ERA, please read the NRLC memo written by Douglas Johnson, Federal Legislative Director, National Right to Life Committee regarding opposition to SCR 6 in Missouri: <http://www.nrlc.org/Federal/ERA/ERAMOMemo.html>

All pro-life legislation passed in Missouri is at risk with the passage of SCR 6 (The ERA) so we encourage everyone to call the following Senate Rules, Joint Rules, Resolutions and Ethics Committee Members and

say, “VOTE NO on SCR 6 to Protect Innocent Human Lives.”

The Committee Members are Senators: Ron Richard, Chair (R-32) 573-751-2173, Tom Dempsey, Vice-Chair (R-23) 573-751-1141, Brad Lager (R-12) 573-751-1415, Doug Libla (R-25) 573-751-4843, Brian Nieves (26) 573-751-3678, Paul LeVota (D-11) 573-751-3074, Gina Walsh (D-13) 573-751-2420.

Movement on other Pro-life Legislation:

In the Missouri State Senate:

SB 40 - Immediate Coverage for Maternity Benefits – Second Read and Referred to Committee

SB 50 – Protection for PRC Alternative to Abortion Providers to Freely Engage in Religious Practices – Second Read and Referred to Committee

SB 84 – Protection of Conscience Rights of Medical Professionals – Second Read and Referred to Committee

SB 111 – Protection for a Pharmacy Owner from being Forced to Carry any Drug or Device – Second Read and Referred to Committee

SB 126 – Protection for a Pharmacy Owner from being Forced to Carry any Drug or Device – Second Read and Referred to Committee

SB 175 – Ban on Web Cam Abortions – Second Read and Referred to Committee

SB 185 – Criminalizes Drug Abuse During Pregnancy – Second Read and Referred to Committee

In the Missouri State House:

HB 31 – Protection for PRC Alternative to Abortion Providers to Freely Engage in Religious Practices – Second Read

HB 177 – Abortion Inducing Drug Safety Act: Regulation of RU 486 – Referred to Committee

HB 378 – Protection for a Pharmacy Owner from being Forced to Carry any Drug or Device – Second Read

HB 386 - Prohibits an abortion solely due to the sex of the unborn child or a genetic abnormality diagnosis – Second Read

HB 400 – Ban on Web Cam Abortions – First Read

Thank you for your involvement to ensure protection for innocent human lives through the legislative process! See you in Jefferson City on February 19 at the “Show Me Life Action Day”!