

Legislative Update - March 15, 2013

Two Pro-Life Bills Passed This Week : ACTION ALERT

Pregnancy Resource Center Tax Credits (SB 20, 15 & 19) on the way to the Governor for his signature. **Please call the Governor and ask him to sign SB 20, 15 & 19 (this is one bill) in support of the great work our pregnancy resource centers do to help women in crisis pregnancies. Governor's phone number: 573-751-3222**

Call Senator Bob Dixon 573-751-2583 and Senator Ron Richard 573-751-2173 and tell them "Thank You" for getting these important pregnancy resource center tax credits truly agreed and finally passed and sent to the Governor!

Conscience Protections for Medical Professionals & Researchers (HB 457) Passes the House, on the way to the Senate. The Sponsor of this important legislation is Speaker of the House, Tim Jones.

Priority Pro-Life Legislation – HB 400 Has Hearing in House Health Care Policy Committee, Voted Do Pass, Headed to Floor for Debate.

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. Hearing Completed in the Senate Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, February 18. Bill Still in Committee.

HB 400 is sponsored by Representative Jeanie Riddle and 114 other House members (a veto proof bi-partisan majority). Hearing Completed in the House Health Care Policy Committee, March 13, voted Do Pass and Sent to Rules Committee.

Thank you to the House Budget Committee Chair Rick Stream and the Committee Members for supporting pro-life protections on HCS HB 7, the Economic Development and 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.

The Budget Bills will move to the floor for debate upon the legislators return from Spring Break. Legislative Spring Break began upon adjournment Thursday, March 14th and will run until their return on Monday, March 25th. Appropriation Bills must be Truly Agreed and Finally Passed by May 10th, so these bills have a long way to finish the process. We will be following HCS HB 7 as it moves through the House and the Senate. We will also continue to monitor a multitude of economic development bills, watching for language that would put innocent human lives at risk due to open-ended life sciences research that would include human cloning and research on human embryos; seeking pro-life protections where needed.

Here is a link to the Budget Committee Members to see if your Representative is on this committee: <http://www.house.mo.gov/committeeindividual.aspx?com=11&year=2013&code=R>

Movement on Pro-life Legislation:

In the Missouri State Senate:

SB 20 (Includes SB 15): Senator Bob Dixon (and Senator Ron Richard), Sponsors – Reinstates and extends the Pregnancy Resource Center Tax Credits – Passed the House and Senate and is on it's way to the Governor for his

signature. (See request for phone calls to Governor above)

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

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, Feb 18. Bill Still in Committee.

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

SB 126: Senator David Sater, Sponsor – Protection for a Pharmacy Owner from being Forced to Carry any Drug or Device – On the Senate Calendar for Perfection

SB 175: Senator Wayne Wallingford, Sponsor – Regulation of RU 486, Ban on Web Cam Abortions – Hearing Completed in the Senate Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, Feb 18. Bill Still in Committee.

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

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

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

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

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

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, March 13

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

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 - Reported to the Senate and First Read

HB 716: Rep. Jeff Grisamore, Sponsor - Establishes the "Show-Me Healthy Babies Program" as a separate CHIPs program for low-income unborn children - Second Read and Referred to Committee

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

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.

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, Feb 5.

House Bills MRL Formerly Opposed and "at this time" Have Become Neutral on:

HB 389: Rep. Anne Zerr, Sponsor - Economic Development Bill dealing with types of research. MRL requested pro-life protections since "human" life sciences research was a part of this bill. The committee chose to simply take out the funding for human research and maintain the other forms of research. Missouri Right to Life becomes neutral at this time and will monitor any changes to HCS HB 389.