

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2589
BEFORE THE HOUSE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE
April 3, 2018

Sadly, the St. Louis City Board of Aldermen was not satisfied with trying to make St. Louis a sanctuary city for abortion last year.

Now, the St. Louis City Board of Aldermen have introduced a "buffer zone" bill that would prevent anyone from providing abortion alternative information, spoken or written, within 8 feet of the driveway entrance to the abortion clinic parking lot. The St. Louis City Board of Aldermen have their sights set on stamping out the free speech rights of those who offer alternative options or choices to vulnerable young women as they enter an abortion clinic.

This, of course, is a clear violation of the people's constitutional right of free speech. However, the St. Louis City Board of Aldermen apparently has a myopic view of things related to this issue. The "buffer zone" bill has been perfected and has another opportunity for final passage on April 16, 2018.

Passage of HB 2589, which protects all people's free speech rights on public property, reinforces those same rights protected in the U.S. and Missouri Constitutions. It would preempt any "buffer zone" bill the City of St. Louis or any other city in Missouri decides to pass. Therefore, Missouri Right to Life supports passage of HB 2589.