

House Health Care Policy Committee Advances Bill To Close Loopholes in Amendment 2

March 27, 2007

"Missouri Right to Life commends the members of the Health Care Policy Committee, chaired by Rep. Wayne Cooper (R-155), who successfully voted to pass HJR 11 out of committee. This joint resolution, sponsored by Rep. Jim Lembke (R-85), if passed by a majority in both houses, will place on the November 2008 ballot language to close the loopholes allowing human cloning that now exist in our Missouri Constitution. This resolution will also restore to our elected representatives oversight responsibilities of those entities involved in life-destroying research," said Pam Fichter, President of Missouri Right to Life.

The Health Care Policy Committee was convened shortly after noon today with nine of ten members present. After calling roll, establishing that a quorum was present, the committee heard one bill and then immediately went into Executive Session. Chairman Cooper brought up HJR 11 and allowed 15 minutes for discussion. During the discussion, an amendment was offered and defeated. At the close of the discussion period, a vote was taken on HJR 11. While the vote was in process, several members of the committee left the hearing room. The final vote was five to zero in favor of passage. HJR 11 will now advance to the House Rules Committee for consideration. It must be voted out of this committee to move to the floor for a vote of all House members.

Those voting in favor of passing HJR were Chair Rep. Wayne Cooper (R-155), Vice-Chair Rep. Cynthia Davis (R-19), Rep. J.C. Kuessner (D-152), Rep. David Sater (R-68) and Rep. Rodney Schad (R-115).

Those members who left while the vote was in process are Rep. Judy Baker (D-25), Rep. Jim Guest (R-5), Rep. Sam Komo (D-90) and Rep. Rob Schaaf (R-28). Rep. Craig Bland (D-43) was absent.