

**For Immediate Release**

February 18, 2010:

**Contact:**

Statewide (573) 635-5110

St. Louis (314) 966-3889

**MISSOURI HOUSE APPROVES INCENTIVES  
FOR UNETHICAL RESEARCH**

Missouri Right to Life has a neutral position on the topic of economic development for the state of Missouri. We have a neutral position on the tax breaks for the auto industry. We are not neutral when legislative bills that can benefit those concerns also benefit the cloning and embryonic stem cell industry.

Representative Nolte's auto industry bill, HB 1675, when first introduced, was of no concern to MRL. It became a concern on Tuesday morning, February 16th when we discovered that the House Committee Substitute of HB 1675 was amended to include businesses that do life sciences research which allow for the destruction of innocent human lives. It was at this point, at mid-day on the 16th, that Missouri Right to Life became opposed to the new language added to the bill and attempted to have a pro-life amendment introduced. The vote was taken before the amendment could be considered.

That afternoon Missouri Right to Life circulated a memo on HCS HB 1675 with supporting materials explaining, once again, our concerns about the potential destruction of innocent human life. In spite of this communication and multiple testimonies over the last five years, the Missouri legislature has added financial incentives that will benefit an industry that destroys life in its earliest stages.

Language that prohibited any financial benefit to the cloning industry, while preserving economic development to other industries, has been provided to a number of members of House leadership. If the intent of the legislature was to provide economic incentives to only the auto industry, the inclusion of the pro-life amendment in HCS HB 1675 would have resolved pro-life concerns.