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Affiliated with the National Right to Life Committee

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Republican Senators

FROM: Steve Rupp, President
Gerard Nieters, Legislative Director
Susan Klein, Executive Director

DATE: June 24, 2021

RE: Testimony on FRA and Opposition to SB 1, SB 2 & SB 3 (Special Session)

**Please find attached the Testimony of
Missouri Right to Life in Opposition to SB 1, SB 2 & SB 3**

To ask the pro-life community to back off of our request to stop our tax dollars from going to Planned Parenthood to pay for abortions is unbelievable and pro-life Missourians will not do this. Our goal is to save innocent human lives in all cases and work to prevent our public dollars from paying for abortions and the destruction of innocent human lives from conception until natural death.

Advocates for unborn human lives are united in the commitment to deny public funding to abortion providers. Pro-life Missourians have worked tirelessly for 50 years to end abortion and we find it abhorrent to think we could be forced to pay for abortions.

Missouri Right to Life has been consistent over the years in supporting life-saving legislation to save innocent preborn babies from being killed in such horrendous ways and to protect pregnant moms from the deceptions of the abortion industry.

Missouri Right to Life asks the Missouri Senate to fix the language banning funding of abortifacient drugs and put the ban of public funding of abortion providers in Section 208.152 on SB 1.

Until these two amendments are fixed and placed on the same bill as the FRA (SB 1), Missouri Right to Life will continue to oppose these 3 bills at every step in the legislative process.



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TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 1 (SPECIAL SESSION)

BEFORE THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

JUNE 24, 2021

FRA With Problematic Pro-life Language (SB 1 – Special Session)

Advocates for unborn human lives are united in the commitment to deny public funding to abortion providers. Pro-life Missourians have worked tirelessly for 50 years to end abortion and we find it abhorrent to think we could be forced to pay for abortions.

Missouri Right to Life has been consistent over the years in supporting life-saving legislation to save innocent preborn babies from being killed in such horrendous ways and to protect pregnant moms from the deceptions of the abortion industry.

For the following reasons, Missouri Right to Life strongly opposes SB 1 until all pro-life protections have been corrected:

- 1. Last year Planned Parenthood, the nation's number one abortion provider, sued the State of Missouri in order to gain access to all Missouri citizens public tax dollars. The Missouri Supreme Court ruled that legislators could not legislate in a budget bill. The pro-life majority in the Missouri Senate has voted on this language in budget bill HB 11 for at least 5 years.**
- 2. The pro-abortion Biden Administration has filed the FY 2022 budget and it does away with the Hyde Amendment. If they are successful in this effort to exclude the Hyde Amendment then this will make federal tax dollars available to pay for abortions.**
- 3. Cole County Circuit Judge Beetem, in Cole County Court on Monday, June 21 during the hearing on Medicaid Expansion, said that the legislature could change statute 208.151, 208.152 or 208.153 to put the language preventing funds from going to abortion providers if they wanted to.**
- 4. Although Judge Beetem ruled in support of the legislature not expanding Medicaid due to no funding mechanism in the constitution, we expect this ruling will be appealed. And, if the rolls of Medicaid are expanded, then abortion numbers would most likely increase. This makes the need for strong pro-life protections necessary in 208.151, or 208.152 or 208.153.**
- 5. Missouri does not have to choose between the FRA or the pro-life amendments, we can do both by the July 1 deadline. We have super-majorities in both the House and the Senate.**
- 6. The deadline of July 1 is not necessarily the final deadline. That deadline is September 30th. And with super-majorities, passing an FRA with good pro-life amendments and doing an emergency clause can be accomplished.**

7. Court precedent:

- A. Court precedent on the “no funding of abortion providers” has been decided in the Texas and Arkansas Medicaid funding debate. Texas and Arkansas have defunded Planned Parenthood from receiving Medicaid dollars and they have NOT lost their Medicaid funding.
- B. Court precedent on the “no funding for abortifacient drugs” has been decided in the *Burwell v Hobby Lobby* case in June 2014. The Green Family, that owns Hobby Lobby, sued to not have to pay for abortifacient drugs in their Hobby Lobby healthcare plans for their employees. They, like our “ban on abortifacient drugs” language on the FRA, was very limited to a selected number of abortion-causing drugs/devices. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Hobby Lobby did not have to include those few abortifacient drugs in their health care plans for their employees.

VERY IMPORTANT TO NOTE: Hobby Lobby employees continue today to have their contraception/birth control paid for through their company health care plan with the exception of the known abortifacient drugs/devices excluded in the U.S. Supreme Court decision. Hobby Lobby Employees have never lost their healthcare payments on contraception/birth control.

8. The Missouri GOP platform says:

The Missouri Republican Party supports “current state law preventing taxpayer money from subsidizing abortions or organizations performing abortions or making abortion referrals.” Remember in this...Judge Beetem says that legislators can and have the right to make a law to put the pro-life language in 208.151, 208.152 or 208.153 if they want to. You have the power and position to MAKE this a current state law.

9. The National GOP platform says:

“We oppose the use of public funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund organizations, like Planned Parenthood, so long as they provide or refer for elective abortions....” Missouri Republican Delegates voted to affirm this language in the National GOP Party platform.

10. It was reported on Wednesday and has been confirmed to Senator Onder that the Missouri Department of Social Services stated that Planned Parenthood has not even requested funds from the “Uninsured Women’s Healthcare Program” for the last two years. So, the pro-life protective language of “no public tax dollars for abortion providers or their affiliates” needs to go on the whole Medicaid program in section 208.151, 208.152, or 208.153.

To ask the pro-life community to back off of our request to stop our tax dollars from going to Planned Parenthood to pay for abortions is unbelievable and pro-life Missourians will not do this. Our goal is to save innocent human lives in all cases and work to prevent our public dollars from paying for abortions and the destruction of innocent human lives from conception until natural death.

Therefore, Missouri Right to Life asks the Missouri Senate to fix the language banning funding of abortifacient drugs and put the ban of public funding of abortion providers in Section 208.152.

The votes on this bill and others in this special session are of the utmost importance to pro-life Missourians and will be considered as such by Missouri Right to Life. Until these two amendments are fixed, Missouri Right to Life will continue to oppose SB 1 at every step in the legislative process.



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**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 2 (SPECIAL SESSION)
BEFORE THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
JUNE 24, 2021**

Pro-life Protections Not Connected to the FRA (SB 2 – Special Session)

Advocates for unborn human lives are united in the commitment to stopping public funding of abortions. Pro-life Missourians have worked tirelessly for 50 years to end abortion and we find it abhorrent to think we could be forced to pay for someone else's abortion.

Missouri Right to Life has been consistent over the years in supporting life-saving legislation to save innocent preborn babies from being killed in such horrendous ways and to protect pregnant moms from the deceptions of the abortion industry.

Over the years working in the legislature, Missouri Right to Life has opposed putting pro-life protections needed in one bill in a totally separate bill. There are so many procedures in the legislative process that can go awry with this kind of approach. Therefore, Missouri Right to Life will not support a separate bill with the pro-life protections needed on the Federal Reimbursement Allowance (FRA).

For these reasons, Missouri Right to Life strongly supports pro-life amendments in statute 208.152 on the FRA bill to stop public tax dollars from going to any abortion facility, as defined in section 188.015, or any affiliate or associate and prevent funding of abortifacient drugs and devices that cause an abortion.

Our goal is to save innocent human lives in all cases and work to prevent our public dollars from paying for abortions and the destruction of innocent human lives from conception until natural death.



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**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 3 (SPECIAL SESSION)
BEFORE THE SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

JUNE 24, 2021

FRA With No Pro-Life Protections (SB 3 – Special Session)

Last year Planned Parenthood, the nation's number one abortion provider, sued the State of Missouri in order to gain access to all Missouri citizens public tax dollars. The Missouri Supreme Court ruled that legislators could not legislate in a budget bill. The pro-life majority in the Missouri Senate has voted on this language in budget bill HB 11 for at least 5 years.

The pro-abortion Biden Administration has filed the FY 2022 budget and it does away with the Hyde Amendment. If they are successful in this effort to exclude the Hyde Amendment then this will make federal tax dollars available to pay for abortions.

Advocates for unborn human lives are united in the commitment to deny public funding to abortion providers. Pro-life Missourians have worked tirelessly for 50 years to end abortion and we find it abhorrent to think we could be forced to pay for someone else's abortion.

Missouri Right to Life has been consistent over the years in supporting life-saving legislation to save innocent preborn babies from being killed in such horrendous ways and to protect pregnant moms from the deceptions of the abortion industry.

For these reasons, Missouri Right to Life strongly supports pro-life amendments in statute 208.152 to stop public tax dollars going to any abortion facility, as defined in section 188.015, or any affiliate or associate and prevent funding of abortifacient drugs and devices that cause an abortion.

Our goal is to save innocent human lives in all cases and work to prevent our public dollars from paying for abortions and the destruction of innocent human lives from conception until natural death.