

## HJR 11 -- HUMAN CLONING

SPONSOR: Lembke

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Health Care Policy by a vote of 5 to 0.

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment prohibits human cloning and authorizes the General Assembly to enact laws regarding health care research.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that somatic cell nuclear transfer (SCNT) is cloning, the product of cloning is an embryo, and the embryo created by SCNT is human. Embryonic stem cells can only be harvested by killing the embryo. The bill allows access to cures, bans human cloning, and allows voters to change the Missouri Constitution and decide if SCNT is valid for research.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Lembke; Franz Wippold II, MD; Eric Claeys, JD; Missouri Farm Bureau; Missouri Catholic Conference; Campaign Life Missouri; Chelsea Zimmerman; Missourians Against Human Cloning; Concerned Women for America of Missouri; Missouri Right to Life; Missouri Family Network; Missouri Baptist Convention, Christian Life Commission; and Missouri Eagle Forum.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that there is a difference between SCNT and human cloning. The bill bans research and takes away the opportunity for treatment and research. SCNT creates stem cells not babies. Not all cloning should be banned, just the cloning of human beings. The reproduction process and SCNT blastocysts are not the same. Evidence shows that it is probably not possible to clone a human with SCNT.

Testifying against the bill were Don Rubin, Bob Pund, Joe Rhea, and Trenton Baier, Missouri Coalition for Lifesaving Cures; Steven Teidelbaum, MD; Pat Jackson, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation; Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce; Missouri Biotechnology Association; Mike Fredholm; Morgan Bearden, Diabetes Education Fund; Allen Ladage; Bernard Frank; Mark Eggleton, Act to Care; and St. Louis Regional Chamber and Growth Association.