



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 427		DATE: 2/22/2021	
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/22/2021 12:04 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am in Support of this Bill on its face. However the "Order of Protection Law" is highly abused. I caution any changes with out thoroughly thinking all changes and there results through.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER CARTER DOCHLER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-356-4109	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE		TITLE: PUBLIC POLICY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 217 OSCAR DRIVE, SUITE A			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: jennc@mocadsv.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/22/2021 7:47 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

MCADSV Priority Legislation for 2021: HB 427The Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MCADSV) unites Missourians with a shared value that rape and abuse must end, and advances this through education, alliance, research and public policy. MCADSV is a statewide membership association comprised of approximately 120 domestic violence and sexual assault agencies. MCADSV supports HB 427 which adds the elements of "coercive control" to the definition of abuse used as cause for seeking/obtaining a civil Order of Protection. This bill does not change the criminal code definition of domestic assault. Survivors deserve safety, so we must continue to keep pace with the ways offenders find loopholes, such as those that are remedied in HB 427. What is "coercive control?" Coercive control is a pattern of controlling behaviors over time more akin to terrorism and stalking. While psychological abuse does not always lead to physical violence, it is nearly always preceded and accompanied by psychological abuse. Coercive control represents the unseen psychological abuses victims experience in the most damaging relationships. According to MCADSV's DV 101: Understanding and Responding to Domestic Violence, examples of coercive controlling behaviors that are typically considered emotional or economic abuse include:

- Verbally attacks and humiliates their partner in private or public.
- Attacks their vulnerabilities, such as language abilities, educational level, skills as a parent, religious and cultural beliefs or physical appearance.
- Plays mind games, such as when they deny requests they have made previously or when they undercut the victim's sense of reality.
- Forces them to do degrading things.
- Ignores their feelings.
- Withholds approval or affection as punishment.
- Controls all the money.
- Doesn't let their partner work outside the home or sabotages their attempts to work or go to school.
- Refuses to work and makes their partner support the family.
- Ruins their credit rating or accrues debt in the survivor's name.

Although MCADSV staff are not there in-person, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions. Citations available upon request.