



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 652		DATE: 2/4/2021	
COMMITTEE: Rural Community Development			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CASEY WASSER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-291-9808	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 3337 EMERALD LANE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2021 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: DANIEL CHRISTOPHER LESTER		PHONE NUMBER: (573) 635-7719
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF CENTRAL AND NORTHERN MISSOURI		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 2201 W. MAIN STREET		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY	STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: dlester@cccnmo.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2021 12:00 AM

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Testimony of Dan Lester, Executive Director Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri in Support Of House Bill 652 – Missouri Farmers’ Nutrition Program Representative Pollitt, Representative Sharpe, Representative Bosley, and esteemed members of the Rural Development Committee: Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri (CCCNMO) supports House Bill 652 – Missouri Farmers’ Nutrition Program. The Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) has proven to be a cost-effective program that improves the health and nutrition of low-income families. As a faith based social service provider committed to caring for those on the margins as well as working to promote a culture where all people can flourish, Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri has seen first-hand the positive impact of the WIC program in the lives of many that we have served. WIC is also evidence based, as ongoing evaluations of the program continue to point to positive long-term outcomes, such as:

- Women who participate in WIC give birth to healthier babies who are more likely to survive infancy.
- WIC supports diets that are more nutritious and better infant feeding practices. WIC participants buy and eat more fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat dairy products, following the introduction of improved WIC food packages more closely aligned to current dietary guidance.
- Low-income children participating in WIC are just as likely to be immunized as children that are more affluent are, and are more likely to receive preventive medical care than other low-income children are.
- Children whose mothers participated in WIC while pregnant scored higher on assessments of mental development at age two than similar children whose mothers did not participate, and they later performed better on reading assessments while in school.

Improvements made to the WIC food packages since 2009 have contributed to healthier food environments in low-income neighborhoods, enhancing access to fruits, vegetables, and whole grains for all consumers regardless of whether they participate in WIC. (Source: <https://www.cbpp.org/research/food-assistance/wic-works-addressing-the-nutrition-and-health-needs-of-low-income-families>) Missouri is blessed with an abundance of farmers’ markets, providing fresh, locally grown produce and other local products while also stimulating local economies, encouraging sustainable communities, and supporting the ongoing agricultural base that is so vital to our state economy. As more and more consumers are recognizing the value of farmers’ markets each year, the opportunity to engage WIC participants and encourage them to take advantage of the benefits of their local farmers markets is timely and would be a win-win situation for both WIC families and local farmers. WIC participants are given access and encouraged to include locally grown and healthy fruits, vegetables, and food into their diets, while local producers have additional consumers purchasing products and creating ongoing awareness of their services. Expanding the Missouri Farmers’ Nutrition Program to include WIC participants is an opportunity to provide care and create hope for those in need throughout Missouri, including in the 38 counties (predominantly rural) that are

served by Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri. We respectfully ask that you move forward in support of House Bill 652, a positive step in strengthening Missouri families and encouraging the long-term health of local communities. Contact Information: Dan Lester, Executive Director Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri PO Box 104626, Jefferson City, MO 65109 (573) 635-7719; dlester@cccnmo.org



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DAWN NICKLAS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-619-3573	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 3115 SOUTH GRAND			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63118
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2021 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: GARY GATES		PHONE NUMBER: 573-636-0445	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI PARK AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 2018 WILLIAMS STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JESSICA PETRIE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-6092	
REPRESENTING: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS-MISSOURI CHAPTER		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1805			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2021 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: KYNA IMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-651-1185	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI NURSE ASSOCIATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1483			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2021 12:00 AM	
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REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: KYNA IMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-651-1185
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1483		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2021 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: LANA DOMINGUEZ		PHONE NUMBER: 913-203-5533	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CULTIVATE KANSAS CITY		TITLE: FOOD ACCESS PROGRAM MANAGER	
ADDRESS: 300 E 39TH ST SUITE 4B			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64111
EMAIL: lana@cultivatekc.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2021 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: MALLORY RUSH		PHONE NUMBER: 314-306-8945
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: EMPOWER MISSOURI		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 308 EAST HIGH STREET, SUITE 100		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2021 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: WILLIAM A. GAMBLE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI STATE ALLIANCE OF YMCAS		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 213 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: WILLIAM A. GAMBLE		PHONE NUMBER: 816-291-7006	
REPRESENTING: HEALTH FORWARD FOUNDATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 2300 MAIN STREET			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 64108
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/4/2021 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: EMILY LEROY		PHONE NUMBER: 573-522-6715	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE		TITLE: LEGISLATIVE LIAISON	
ADDRESS: 1616 MISSOURI BOULEVARD			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
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