



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: SB 834		DATE: 4/11/2022	
COMMITTEE: Judiciary			
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."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/11/2022 11:49 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I Support this Bill and Legislation. We MUST Give a Unborn Child, Where the Mother is Caught-Up in Crime a "Fighting-Chance" to Get the Best Start Possible in this World. Bonding With the Mother is the First-Step in this Process. I am Excited About this Program and to See the Results of the Program's Result with Both the Child and the Mother.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CHERYL LYNN ADELSTEIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-518-1185	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL OF ST. LOUIS		TITLE: DEPUTY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 3146 ILLINOIS AVE			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63118
EMAIL: cadelstein@charter.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/11/2022 12:48 PM

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The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), guided by Jewish values, advocates, educates, collaborates, and mobilizes action on issues important to the Jewish community, 60,000 strong in St. Louis. We are committed to pursuing religious tolerance, civic discourse and social justice in St. Louis and beyond. JCRC supports this proposals as evidence shows that both babies and their mothers have better outcomes when they are able to be together. This shows humane treatment to those who are incarcerated and may have a positive impact on both family bonding and reducing recidivism. Please support SB 834.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVID JACKSON		PHONE NUMBER: 314-406-2933	
REPRESENTING: FOSTER CARE & ADOPTIVE CARE COALITION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1865			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/11/2022 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JEFF SMITH		PHONE NUMBER: 314-323-0915	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI APPLESEED		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 7 THE ORCHARDS			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63132
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/11/2022 12:00 AM	
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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:	
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CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MAGGIE OLIVIA EDMONDSON		PHONE NUMBER: 314-368-1137	
REPRESENTING: PRO CHOICE MISSOURI		TITLE: POLICY MANAGER	
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CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63110
EMAIL: maggie@prochoicemissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/11/2022 4:38 PM
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Chairman Evans, Vice-Chairman Veit, members of the committee; thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony today in support of SB 834 which would keep pregnant and postpartum people who are incarcerated with their babies through the establishment of the state's first correctional nursery program. Pro-Choice Missouri works to protect and expand every Missourian's right to bodily autonomy, to access essential reproductive healthcare, to access accurate information in order to make the best decisions for ourselves and our families, and to parent our children in safety and dignity. Moreover, we work to ensure reproductive justice for all Missourians, which includes advocating where our bodily autonomy, family security and physical/mental/spiritual safety connect with our sexual and reproductive lives. Pro Choice Missouri is committed to the advancement of reproductive justice for all Missourians. We support the advancement of this bill because the perinatal and postpartum periods for pregnant and parenting individuals, and their babies, are crucial to the health and well-being of themselves, their families, and therefore their communities. Birthing parents and infants alike both experience health benefits associated with postpartum bonding and likewise experience physical, mental and socioeconomic consequences when they are denied bonding time. "The Price They Pay: Protecting the Mother-Child Relationship Through the Use of Prison Nurseries and Residential Parenting Programs," Anne E. Jbara discusses the emotional and cognitive benefits of the [parent] child bond. Jbara notes that the attachment bond is crucial to a child's psychological development; even in instances where a [parent] is reunited with [their] child at two to three years of age—before a child can actually remember their [parent's] absence—severe psychological trauma can ensue later in life (Jbara)."Critically, while Pro Choice Missouri supports the advancement of this bill in order to better provide for incarcerated Missourians and their families right now, we oppose the incarceration of pregnant people, and their babies, period. We know that Black and other non-white Missourians are over-policed and disproportionately incarcerated compared to their white counter parts. Incarceration decimates entire families; emotionally, physically, socioeconomically, ect. Furthermore, the inadequate access to adequate health care, including menstrual products and peri/postpartum support, is far from just. "Perinatal Needs of Pregnant, Incarcerated Women," Barbara A. Hotelling discusses the lack of quality healthcare provided to expectant mothers behind bars. Despite adequate healthcare being mandated to all inmates through the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution, women still make up a lesser percentage of total incarcerated individuals than men, which is used by correctional staff to justify providing scarcer healthcare and rehabilitative programs for incarcerated women (Hotelling). Not to mention the fact that prisons aren't subject to any sort of external review, which doesn't encourage the improvement of healthcare services, especially if they are seen as costly endeavors (Hotelling). As a result, many incarcerated women face unnecessarily high-risk pregnancies."Research shows that when birthing parents have access to care, their newborns have better health outcomes,

too. When birthing parents can't get support for mental health conditions, it adversely affects both birthing parent and baby, leading to health complications for mothers, limited ability to breast/chestfeed, an increased risk of child abuse and neglect, and adverse effects on infant brain development. When new birthing parents have health coverage, their newborns are more likely to receive regular well-child visits. And when infants have regular access to preventive care, they can receive early screening and support that sets them on the path to grow and thrive. In the year following pregnancy, birthing parents who have had even the most straightforward pregnancies and uncomplicated deliveries experience significant physical and mental health risks. All new birthing parents in MO need and deserve ongoing care. Every Missourian should be empowered to exercise their right to access the full range of reproductive health options, including essential postpartum care, and to nurture their families in safety, health, and dignity. Pro Choice Missouri urges this body to work further to keep pregnant and parenting Missourians out of prison, for the health of our communities and our state, and in the interim to advance this bill that will promote the health and well being of pregnant and parenting Missourians who are incarcerated right now.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SAMUEL H. LEE		PHONE NUMBER: 314-368-4242	
REPRESENTING: CAMPAIGN LIFE MISSOURI		TITLE: DIRECTOR	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH SCHLEMEIER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876	
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN COLLEGE OF OBGYNS		TITLE:	
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CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/11/2022 12:00 AM	
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