



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 747		DATE: 4/17/2023
COMMITTEE: General Laws		
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: JAMES HARRIS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-761-7875
REPRESENTING: OPPORTUNITY SOLUTIONS PROJECT		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 122 EAST HIGH STREET, SUITE 200		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/17/2023 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ALEX CASON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: strandedvisitor@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2023 5:04 PM

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Kicking people while they're down tends not to help them.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: ANDREA CLARK		PHONE NUMBER: 816-523-5353	
REPRESENTING: KC HEALTHY KIDS		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF FOOD SYSTEM PLANNING	
ADDRESS: 650 MINNESOTA AVENUE, FLOOR 2			
CITY: KANSAS CITY		STATE: KS	ZIP: 66101
EMAIL: aclark@kchealthykids.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2023 4:41 PM	

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

On behalf of the 21-member steering committee of the Greater KC Food Policy Coalition, we oppose HB 747, which would impose harsh penalties for noncompliance with work requirements for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Hunger is bad for workers and productivity. About 696,000 Missouri residents (11.4%) didn't have consistent access to enough food to live a healthy life in 2020. Hunger and food insecurity are connected to poor health outcomes for adults of all ages, including chronic health conditions and diseases. This impacts workplace productivity, from lack of focus due to hunger to absenteeism from food-related health issues. Workers need resources, not punitive motivation. Wages in Missouri haven't kept up with the rising cost of food. In 2021, 42% of SNAP recipients were working families. The food service industry pays some of the lowest wages in the state and has the highest number of workers participating in SNAP. In addition, many low-wage workers, including cashiers and cooks, don't control the number of hours they're scheduled each week and are at risk of violating work requirements. Workers don't need punitive motivation. They need a living wage, safe working conditions, paid sick leave and family leave. SNAP dollars support local economies. Through SNAP, nearly \$1 billion in federal funds were funneled into Missouri in 2019. For every SNAP benefit dollar spent at the grocery store or farmers market, about \$1.50 in economic growth is generated during an economic turndown. When SNAP benefits are revoked for life, local economies feel the impact. The Greater KC Food Policy Coalition, a program of KC Healthy Kids, convenes diverse stakeholders to advocate for an equitable, sustainable, and resilient food system in greater Kansas City and promote policies for the nutritional, economic, social, and environmental health of the community.



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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: 4/17/2023 11:48 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am Opposed to this Bill and Legislation. There are different circumstances in every Family that NEED to be taken into Consideration. Children and Adults shall Never go Hungry or with out Supervision over Politics and wanting to abolish the Program. You also have to get Permission from the Federal Government and waiver to change the Rules and Regulations.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: CURTIS JOSEPH WICHMER		PHONE NUMBER: 314-623-6280
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CATHOLIC CONFERENCE		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 600 CLARK AVE.		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: wichmerc@mocatholic.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 4/17/2023 11:01 AM

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In the zeal to get people to work, our government should not impose sanctions that deny basic food allowances to parents and/or children. There are better ways to encourage work.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: D. SCOTT PENMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-690-6772
REPRESENTING: EMPOWER MISSOURI		TITLE:
ADDRESS: PO BOX 684		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65201
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/17/2023 12:00 AM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GAYLENE CROUSER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gcrouser@kcindiancenter.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/17/2023 11:44 AM
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**Violations of the work requirements for SNAP benefits do not need to be made more severe.
Missourians need a living wage, not punishment for noncompliance of requirements for SNAP that may be beyond the control of the recipient.**



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: JESSICA PETRIE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-6092
REPRESENTING: CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS MO CHAPTER		TITLE:
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1805		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: jessica@wintonpolicygroup.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 4/17/2023 12:06 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JESSICA PETRIE		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS MISSOURI CHAPTER, CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1805			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: jessica@wintonpolicygroup.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 4/17/2023 3:58 PM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KAREN COULSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kecoulson715@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/16/2023 11:45 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

A society will be judged by how the most vulnerable are treated. Why do we need to increase suffering? Red tape is exhausting and demoralizing. We have the resources. If implemented, this bill would also hurt Missouri's economy, its grocers and its farmers. Recipients who face the harsh sanctions in the bill, would lose access to their benefits, and therefore Missouri could lose millions in federal SNAP dollars per month, which go to local grocery stores and into the local economy.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: KATIE GAMBLE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876	
REPRESENTING: HEALTH FORWARD FOUNDATION		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1865			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65201
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/17/2023 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KORTNIE HUDDLESTON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kortniehuddleston@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/17/2023 2:39 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I urge you to oppose this bill. Food is a basic human right. Threatening people with starvation if they don't follow a specific set of rules or work a specific amount is cruel and malicious and reduces people to slaves. People who are able to work are already working and Missouri's unemployment rate is currently at a historic low of 2.8%. I don't understand how anyone who claims to be an ethical human being could support this bill. Anyone who votes for this viscous cruelty should be ashamed.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MADISON EACRET		PHONE NUMBER: 314-882-1007	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: OPERATION FOOD SEARCH		TITLE: PUBLIC POLICY COORDINATOR	
ADDRESS: 1644 LOTSIE BOULEVARD			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63132
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/17/2023 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL DREYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mdreyer93@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/17/2023 2:38 PM
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I urge you to oppose this bill. Food is a basic human right. Threatening people with starvation if they don't follow a specific set of rules or work a specific amount is cruel and malicious and reduces people to slaves. People who are able to work are already working and Missouri's unemployment rate is currently at a historic low of 2.8%. I don't understand how anyone who claims to be an ethical human being could support this bill. Anyone who votes for this viscous cruelty should be ashamed.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/14/2023 7:13 PM
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People who can work do work. Employers have to do their part: pay fair wages and benefits, and provide safe working conditions. It is inappropriate, cruel, and counterproductive to inflict hunger on people as punishment.