



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1563		DATE: 1/23/2024
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		
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: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2024 11:15 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am in Support of this Bill and its Intent to Prohibit any expenditure of Tax-Payer Dollars on Out-of-State or across State-Line Abortions and any Transportation Expense. This is wrong! Let's try and firm up the Terms (definitions) to save Tax-payer Funds on Legal Expenses and a Lawsuit. It is wrong to take and terminate a life. I value ALL life. There is a better path and "Waiting-List" of Parents willing, able and financially in a good position to provide a newborn child with a stable home, food, clothing and love. Let's ALL embrace, value and fully support life over termination of a human-being with a heart-beat.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMIE MORRIS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-7239	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI CATHOLIC CONFERENCE		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 600 CLARK AVE. P.O. BOX 1022			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: morrisj@mocatholic.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2024 11:31 AM	

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

The Missouri Catholic Conference (MCC) supports the General Assembly's efforts to protect unborn life and uphold the dignity of all human life. To that end, the MCC supports legislation that would prohibit public funds from being expended to any abortion facility or its affiliate. Missourians should not be forced to pay for abortion services or to support those institutions that perform elective abortions. HB 1563 is part of the effort to create a culture of life and respect for the dignity of the human person in Missouri. The Missouri Catholic Conference urges the committee to vote YES on HB 1563.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JEREMY JACOBS		PHONE NUMBER: 636-795-9604	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: BOUND4LIFE - ST. LOUIS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 1707 DOE VALLEY LN.			
CITY: O'FALLON		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63366
EMAIL: jacobs.jeremy@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2024 12:14 PM	

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Unfortunately last year NO pro-LIFE bills were moved in the house. I'm very happy to see some movement this year. We should not be giving ANY state money to an organization that promotes the murder of children. The state of Missouri has already recognized the abomination that abortion is. There is NO reason that our state should continue providing state funds to an organization that promotes the practice that we as a state stand again.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SAMUEL H. LEE		PHONE NUMBER: 314-368-4242	
REPRESENTING: CAMPAIGN LIFE MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 142585			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63114
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN KLEIN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-5110	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI RIGHT TO LIFE		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 651			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TIMOTHY FABER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: timothy@ephesians412.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/22/2024 8:53 PM
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Article I, Section 2, of the Missouri Constitution states that "all constitutional government is intended to promote the general welfare of the people; that all persons have a natural right to life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness and the enjoyment of the gains of their own industry; that all persons are created equal and are entitled to equal rights and opportunity under the law; that to give security to these things is the principal office of government, and that when government does not confer this security, it fails in its chief design." And RSMO 1.205 states, in part, that : Life begins at conception — unborn child, defined — failure to provide prenatal care, no cause of action for. — 1. The general assembly of this state finds that: (1) The life of each human being begins at conception; (2) Unborn children have protectable interests in life, health, and well-being; (3) The natural parents of unborn children have protectable interests in the life, health, and well-being of their unborn child. 2. Effective January 1, 1988, the laws of this state shall be interpreted and construed to acknowledge on behalf of the unborn child at every stage of development, all the rights, privileges, and immunities available to other persons, citizens, and residents of this state, subject only to the Constitution of the United States, and decisional interpretations thereof by the United States Supreme Court and specific provisions to the contrary in the statutes and constitution of this state. 3. As used in this section, the term "unborn children" or "unborn child" shall include all unborn child or children or the offspring of human beings from the moment of conception until birth at every stage of biological development. Therefore, the use of public funds to support any abortion or any facility, as defined in section 188.015, or any affiliate or associate of such abortion facility would be a violation of the Missouri Constitution and State statute . . . Thus it is proper and required to pass this bill – HB 1563 to codify and clarify the use of public funds in keeping with our constitution and statute. Failure to pass this bill could result in the state funding illegal activity.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JEN BERNSTEIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-277-9080
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN ST. LOUIS		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 295 NORTH LINDBERGH BLVD.		
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63141
EMAIL: jbernstein@ncjwstl.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/22/2024 5:51 PM

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

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Jen Bernstein; I am submitting this testimony in opposition to HB 1563 on behalf of the National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis (NCJWSTL). NCJWSTL is a non-profit organization in metropolitan St. Louis, representing over 5,000 members and supporters throughout the state. We focus our work on community service, advocacy, education and philanthropy to improve the quality of life for women, children and families while supporting individual and civil rights, and have been doing so since 1895. This bill is aimed at doing one thing: Preventing Missouri patients from getting birth control, cancer screenings, STI testing and treatment, and other health care at Planned Parenthood. This measure blocks patients who are insured by MO HealthNet, Missouri's Medicaid program, from choosing their own health care providers. This bill discriminates against patients and blocks them from using their health insurance at any health center affiliated with an abortion provider — and Planned Parenthood is the biggest target. This effort will particularly impact Missouri communities that are already facing extreme disparities in access to health care, such as Black, Indigenous and people of color, people overcoming financial hardship, the LGBTQIA+ community; immigrants, young people, those living in rural communities; and people with disabilities. Planned Parenthood plays a vital role in Missouri's health care safety net, which is already overburdened. Many safety-net providers have weeks-long wait times for appointments, but patients who need birth control or have a lump in their breast can't wait that long. Planned Parenthood fills this gap, with appointments available on short notice, evening and weekend hours, and the full range of birth control options so patients can choose the method that works best for them. NCJWSTL encourages you to vote no on HB 1563.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: KATIE BAYLIE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: PLANNED PARENTHOOD GREAT PLAINS VOTES		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	
ADDRESS: 4401 W 109TH ST.			
CITY: OVERLAND PARK		STATE: KS	ZIP: 64114
EMAIL: katie.baylie@ppgreatplains.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2024 4:29 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

HB 1563 is an attempt to "defund" Planned Parenthood by blocking patients' access to essential health care. This bill plays politics with Missourians health and well-being by seeking to prevent access to critical, life-saving family planning services, including birth control, cancer screenings, and STI testing and treatment. The bill would disproportionately impact the most vulnerable Missourians. Planned Parenthood is a crucial component of Missouri's health care safety net and provides high-quality, comprehensive care to thousands of Missouri patients. There are simply not enough sexual and reproductive health care providers in the state to fill the gap. Additionally, this bill could risk funding for Missouri's entire Medicaid program. Federal law protects Medicaid patients' right to choose their preferred health care provider. Access to preventative care is more critical than ever. PPGPV urges the committee to vote against HB 1563.



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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: 1/23/2024 5:29 PM
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I urge you to oppose this bill, and any similar bills. Abortion care is necessary healthcare. Being denied an abortion has serious consequences. The largest study of the long term effects of being denied an abortion, the Turnaway Study, found that people forced to continue unintended pregnancies, and consequently their families, are likely to experience long-term economic insecurity and hardship. People denied abortions also face increased risk of future birthing complications and remaining in contact with abusive partners. Abortion should be legal, accessible, and free. No restriction on abortion access is just, compassionate, or acceptable. I strongly urge you to oppose this bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MAGGIE EDMONDSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: ABORTION ACTION MISSOURI (FORMERLY PRO CHOICE MISSOURI)		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 1210 S VANDEVENTER AVE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63110
EMAIL: maggie@abortionactionmissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2024 7:57 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Chair, Vice-Chair, members of the committee; thank you for the opportunity to testify today in opposition to HB1563 which seeks to bar Missourians' access to critical and trusted sexual reproductive healthcare at their preferred health care providers based on their income level and insurance coverage status. Abortion Action Missouri, formerly Pro Choice Missouri, works to protect and expand every Missourians' right to bodily autonomy, to access essential reproductive healthcare including abortion care, to access accurate information to make the best decisions for ourselves and our families, and to parent our children in safety and dignity. Bans on abortion and restrictions on all forms of sexual and reproductive health care are directly correlated to high rates of maternal and infant mortality; so it is no surprise that Missouri, with some of the highest numbers of medically unnecessary restrictions on access to abortion care (even prior to our total abortion ban) also has some of the highest rates of maternal and birthing parent mortality, nationwide. In 2020, maternal/ birthing parent death rates in states with the most restrictions on access to abortion were 62% higher than states with access to abortion care. In short; restrictions on reproductive health care access lead to poor reproductive health outcomes. For individuals who want to start or grow their families in Missouri, our state remains one of the most dangerous to give birth; Missouri ranks 44th in the country for maternal mortality and Black birthing parents are 3-4 times more likely to die within a year of pregnancy than their white counterparts. For many reasons, including structural racism and implicit bias in medicine, the closure of seven rural hospitals in MO since 2014, a growing number of people falling in the insurance gap, and continued attacks on abortion and reproductive healthcare access, the maternal and infant mortality rates in MO continue to rival that of both peer and less-resourced nations. The Missouri Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review 2018 Report, published in 2021, found that the pregnancy-related mortality ratio (PRMR) in Missouri is four times greater for Black women than white women at 87.6 per 100,000 live births. The same review board found that 82% of pregnancy-related deaths in Missouri were "determined to be preventable." Recommendations for addressing racial and economic disparities in maternal health in Missouri named in the report include increased access to mental health resources throughout pregnancy, increased coverage of postpartum care for low-income mothers and families, and increased uniformity in trauma-informed and culturally competent practices. Critical care that Planned Parenthood provides to the thousands of Missourians their health centers serve each year, particularly those Missourians who rely on Medicaid for their health coverage. Additionally, the postpartum care period is a critical time for comprehensive care intervention and prevention measures like exploring future family planning options and screening for interpersonal and domestic violence (IPV/DV) at home. Missouri has the third highest national rate of IPV/DV and we know that people experiencing violence at home are most likely to report to a trusted

care provider, if at all. Pregnancy and the postpartum period are especially dangerous for people in abusive relationships and by decreasing the number of opportunities for trusted medical providers to touch base with postpartum patients on Medicaid in Missouri this legislation will end lives. Planned Parenthood provides unique and critical care. They are one of few providers who have made a commitment to providing quality and compassionate care with a trauma-informed lens to survivors of sexual violence, and they are more likely than other providers to offer the full range of contraception methods (versus only about half of federally qualified health centers). They also are a critical provider of often time-sensitive reproductive healthcare; whether trying to get in for a pregnancy test, where timely care can have a significant impact on the pregnancy, or awaiting a cancer screening where every day can count. Targeting Planned Parenthood health centers with this bill discriminates against Medicaid patients and violates their right to access essential health care from the providers they trust. Hundreds of thousands of people across Missouri rely on Medicaid for critical sexual and reproductive healthcare. Approx. 650,000 Missouri women rely on Medicaid for essential healthcare. That's more than half of the states' one million Medicaid recipients. Planned Parenthood is an essential provider of reproductive healthcare in Missouri and is not replaceable. Other safety net providers will not be able to fill the gap if one of the most trusted providers is eliminated. On August 4th 2020, 53.3% of Missouri voters voted to expand Medicaid in Missouri. This was a significant margin of victory, and a clear showing by 672,967 Missourians that they believe in the Medicaid health care safety net. Planned Parenthood is a critical component of this safety net, and one that thousands of Missourians rely on every day. The people who already face the systemic barriers to healthcare, are more likely to have low incomes and rely on Medicaid—including Black people and people of color, LGBTQ+ folks, and people with disabilities. These folks are among those hit hardest by restrictions on reproductive healthcare. Every Missourian should have access to the full range of reproductive health care. This basic right is the foundation of freedom and opportunity for Missourians and their families. MOHealthNet continues to be a critical safety net as unemployment skyrocketed and the need for health insurance increased during the pandemic. Ensuring that Missourians have access to coverage for reproductive health care is an important part of ensuring that they have control over their economic security. At odds with the Medicaid program's free-choice-of-provider provision, this bill jeopardizes our entire MO HealthNet program, as evidenced by the recent Cole County Court ruling on this body's previous attempt at this illegal measure (Missouri judge hands Planned Parenthood a Medicaid win



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MANDY HAGSETH		PHONE NUMBER: 573-636-4060	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI FAMILY HEALTH COUNCIL, INC.		TITLE: DIRECTOR OF POLICY AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS	
ADDRESS: 1909 SOUTHRIDGE DRIVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65110
EMAIL: mhagseth@mfhc.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2024 10:34 PM	
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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: 1/23/2024 5:28 PM
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I urge you to oppose this bill, and any similar bills. Abortion care is necessary healthcare. Being denied an abortion has serious consequences. The largest study of the long term effects of being denied an abortion, the Turnaway Study, found that people forced to continue unintended pregnancies, and consequently their families, are likely to experience long-term economic insecurity and hardship. People denied abortions also face increased risk of future birthing complications and remaining in contact with abusive partners. Abortion should be legal, accessible, and free. No restriction on abortion access is just, compassionate, or acceptable. I strongly urge you to oppose this bill.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SANDRA ENO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lynneno@swbell.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2024 10:16 AM
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I oppose HB 1563!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SARAH COPELAND		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sarahcopeland@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/22/2024 7:54 PM

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Planned Parenthood is a vital resource to the citizens of Missouri. Every human should have a right to appropriate, affordable and safe healthcare. Planned parenthood is the closest thing we have to that in MO. As citizens we pay taxes so that these services are available to all people. This is what we should do as caring people wanting the best for every person. Governments funds should not be withheld from organizations and services that provide life saving care to all people. Without government funding these organizations will not survive, which will cause harm to Missouri citizens.



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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: 1/22/2024 8:21 PM

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Planned Parenthood is a beloved organization that provides health services to Missouri Medicaid recipients. Other providers in the state do not have the capacity to serve all their patients.