

MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1730			DATE: 2/20/2024	
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Public Policy				
TESTIFYING : ☑ IN SUPPORT OF	☐ IN OPPOSITION TO	☐FOR INFORM	ATIONAL PURPOSES	
WITNESS NAME				
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:				
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTINE WOODY		PHONE NUME 314-503-7		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: EMPOWER MISSOURI		TITLE: FOOD POLICY MANAGER		
ADDRESS: PO BOX 104900				
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101	
EMAIL: christine@empowermissouri.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/20/2024 4:26 PM		

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

As the largest and oldest anti-poverty non-profit in our state, Empower Missouri is committed to improving the quality of life for all Missouri residents through advocacy. As part of our work, we organize a statewide coalition called the Food Security Coalition. This coalition is made up of individuals and organizations who are working to ensure every Missourian has access to healthy and nutritious food and that Missouri has a strong safety net for those who need it. As you may know, over 12% of Missourians struggle with food insecurity. In our urban centers and in many rural counties in our state that percentage is even higher. Our food pantries are one of the first lines of defense for those struggling with food insecurity. These organizations rely on donations of food and money to be able to provide for the thousands of individuals they see every month. Providing additional support to these entities through tax credits is one way to increase the help they can provide to families and individuals in communities across Missouri. Missouri has a long history of using tax credits to incentivize businesses, create jobs, increase economic activity and support community organizations. By passing HB 1730, the legislature again can support these community organizations and decrease food insecurity as well. We respectfully ask this committee to vote for HB 1730.



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		WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORG	ANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JACK SEIGEL			PHONE NUM	BER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: OPERATION FOOD SEARCH		GOVERNMENT RELATIONS MANAGER		
ADDRESS: 1644 LOTSIE BLVD				
CITY: SAINT LOUIS			STATE: MO	ZIP: 63132
EMAIL: jack.seigel@opera	tionfoodsearch.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT 2/20/2	DATE: 024 11:42 AM

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Operation Food Search would like to go on record in support of House Bill 1730. Founded in 1981, Operation Food Search (OFS) is a hunger relief organization that provides free food, nutrition education and innovative programs proven to reduce food insecurity. We provide food and other services to 200,000 people monthly – one-third of them are children – through a network of 330 community partners in 42 Missouri and Illinois counties. Operation Food Search is a food bank that collects food and distributes them to over 200 agencies. The food we deliver feeds over 200,000 people per month, about 1/3 of which are children. Most of the partner agencies are food pantries. Donations are a key way to support local food pantries and this bill will help encourage the public to donate to their local food pantries. Please support this bill so food pantries can continue their good work fighting against food insecurity in communities across Missouri.



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WITNESS NAME				
REGISTERED LO	DBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JESSICA PETRIE			PHONE NUME 573-635-6	
REPRESENTING: FEEDING MISSOUI	RI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1805				
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY			STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: jessica@wintonpo	licygroup.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT I 2/20/20	DATE: 024 12:57 PM

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On behalf of the six regional Feeding Missouri food banks and the over 1,200hunger-relief partners that provide emergency food to Missourians, we support theprovisions in HB 1730. The challenge every year for hunger-relief programs is to raiseenough funding to buy and secure enough food to meet growing needs. This provisionwould help put additional resources in the hands of those partners and onto the tablesof neighbors that need it most. We urge you to support this provision and help localpantries, shelters, and soup kitchens provide assistance to our most vulnerableneighbors.



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WITNESS NAME					
INDIVIDUAL:					
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE N	PHONE NUMBER:		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	TITLE:		
ADDRESS:					
CITY:		STATE:		ZIP:	
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yah	oo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/20/2024 11:55 PM	
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I am Opposed to this Bill and giving away of "Tax-Credits."