



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2059		DATE: 1/31/2024	
COMMITTEE: Corrections and Public Institutions			
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: 1/31/2024 11:55 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am in Support of this Bill. But if the child becomes unruly, then they need to be restrained for themselves and the Public Safety of all in the Courtroom.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: BRIAN BERNSKOETTER		PHONE NUMBER: 636-2822	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI ASSOCIATION CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYER		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 101 E. HIGH			
CITY: JC		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: DANIEL FELDMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-584-1200	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER		TITLE: SENIOR PUBLIC DEFENDER	
ADDRESS: 1010 MARKET ST			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: GWEN SMITH		PHONE NUMBER: 314-324-9656	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: EMPOWER MISSOURI		TITLE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY MANAGER	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 104900			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65110
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2024 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: 1/31/2024 1:23 PM

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I wholeheartedly endorse the proposed bill that takes a bold and compassionate stance by prohibiting the use of restraints on a child during juvenile court proceedings. This legislation reflects our commitment to justice, recognizing the vulnerability of young individuals in the legal system and prioritizing their well-being. By mandating the removal of restraints before a child appears in court, except under carefully defined exceptions, the bill ensures that our legal processes are rooted in fairness and humanity. The provision requiring the juvenile officer to consult the child's attorney and make a written request in cases of immediate safety concerns establishes a balanced approach, allowing for due process and protection simultaneously. This bill not only safeguards the dignity of our youth but also promotes a system that values rehabilitation and compassion over punitive measures. It is a crucial step towards fostering a juvenile justice system that upholds the principles of justice and respects the inherent rights of every child.



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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: 1/31/2024 1:23 PM

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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: SHARON GEUEA JONES		PHONE NUMBER: 573-808-2156	
REPRESENTING: DREAM.ORG & MO STATE CONF. NAACP		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 227 JEFFERSON			
CITY: JCMO		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: VANESSA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: vanessa.wellbery@ppslr.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/31/2024 9:39 PM
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HB 2059 is long-overdue policy to apply protections against dehumanizing and dangerous restraints for young people. These are especially vulnerable populations and Advocates praises the sponsors for advancing this critical policy change. The practice of using restraints, or “shackling,” on pregnant, laboring, and postpartum individuals is both demeaning and dangerous. This practice has long been opposed by major medical organizations such as the American Medical Association, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and American Public Health Association. Eliminating this practice should extend to all those detained in Missouri, regardless of the carceral system in which they are detained.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOANNE SCHRADER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: crazyhorse1876@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/29/2024 4:22 PM
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I spent nine years working as a CASA Program Director and 15 years so far with the Division of Youth Services. (I am speaking on my own behalf here and not representing the Division.) I propose an amendment be added to HB2059 in regards to pregnant juveniles. Chapter 188.026 of the Missouri Revised Statutes states in part "the prohibition of restraints in correctional institutions to protect pregnant offenders and their unborn children." There have been pregnant females in DYS custody in the past, so this needs to be a consideration.