



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1213		DATE: 3/25/2025
COMMITTEE: Health and Mental Health		
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: CARA HOOVER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-356-9698
REPRESENTING: SSM HEALTH		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: cara@heartlandpolicyadvisors.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/25/2025 9:40 AM
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Support the bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVID BARNES		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/25/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: JESSICA PETRIE		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-6092	
REPRESENTING: COXHEALTH		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1805			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: jessica@wintonpolicygroup.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/25/2025 12:57 PM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LINDSAY TESSMER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: lindsayt@wustl.edu		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/25/2025 10:37 AM

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I have been a nurse since 2011. Early in my career, I worked in a community hospital. I was caring for a patient in her 30s with no mental impairment who was admitted with extremely high blood sugar. The patient asked for ice cream. I let her know that I couldn't give her ice cream because her blood sugar was dangerously high and offered her a list of sugar-free snack options we had available. This woman struck me across the face and proceeded to yell obscenities at me and threaten to harm me again. After I left her room, I notified my charge nurse, who told me that this is part of nursing and I should get used to it. I then notified the house supervisor who reiterated that this is expected in nursing, nurses don't press charges, and that if I didn't want to continue caring for the patient she would report me for patient abandonment. I was then instructed to return to the room, give the patient ice cream, and apologize to her. I was made to apologize to a mentally competent person who physically and verbally assaulted me. I continued to care for the patient for the remaining 10 hours of my shift. In the morning, I reported the event to my floor manager, who told me that patients are expected to display poor behavior and part of our job as nurses is to deal with it. I asked to file a report with the hospital and a police report and was told that neither were options for me. This was not an isolated incident, but a single example of the repeated abuse I suffered in the hospital setting. I left the hospital and went to work in the department of corrections at ERDCC in Bonne Terre (a level 5 correctional center) where I was physically and verbally assaulted less frequently and less severely than I was working on a medical unit in a hospital. The woman I described above struck me hard enough to dislocate my jaw which led chronic jaw pain and headaches that are still present 12 years later. None of the minor assaults I endured at ERDCC led to sustained injury. I was safer working in a maximum security prison than I was working in a hospital. HR1213 would require hospitals to acknowledge the rights of staff to file a police report when they are assaulted. No person in any field deserves to be assaulted at their place of work and told that it is "part of the job".



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: libertytree.cottage976@passinbox.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/21/2025 1:45 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		
I SUPPORT HB 1213 as originally filed.		



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: RACHEL BAUER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-619-1663	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION; MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 113 E. MADISON			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/25/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: ROB MONSEES		PHONE NUMBER: 573-999-9652	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION		TITLE: DIVISION VICE PRESIDENT AND SENIOR POLITICAL ADVIS	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 60			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65203
EMAIL: rmonsees@mhanet.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/25/2025 12:21 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. Support with minor changes to the last sentence of the bill.			



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SEAN C. PRIDGEON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sean.c.pridgeon@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/25/2025 11:24 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Dear Members of the Missouri House of Representatives, I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 1213, which requires health care facilities to post signs warning of the potential criminal consequences of assaulting health care professionals. This bill is a crucial step in ensuring the safety and well-being of our dedicated health care workers. Health care professionals are the backbone of our medical system, providing essential services and care to patients in need. Unfortunately, they often face threats and violence in the workplace, which can have severe physical and emotional consequences. By mandating clear signage that informs the public of the legal repercussions of assaulting health care workers, HB 1213 will serve as a deterrent to such harmful behavior. This legislation not only protects health care workers but also promotes a safer and more respectful environment within health care facilities. It underscores the importance of treating those who care for us with the dignity and respect they deserve. Furthermore, it aligns with our commitment to uphold the rule of law and ensure that justice is served for those who commit acts of violence. I urge you to support HB 1213 and take a stand for the safety and protection of our health care professionals. Their work is invaluable, and they deserve to perform their duties without fear of assault or harm. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Sean C. Pridgeon



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUZANNE OPPERMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: suzannesmentalhealthwellness@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/24/2025 4:29 PM
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Anything to help with assaults of health care professionals. At present we are unable to defend ourselves without fear of being charged with assault of clients.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: WILL MARRS		PHONE NUMBER: 417-848-8561	
REPRESENTING: MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 211 E CAPITOL AVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: govservicesjcmo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/25/2025 12:53 PM	

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Workplace violence is a major issue across the Mercy system that has seen an increase in recent years. Any assistance the state can provide in reducing violence against healthcare workers in the state is welcome relief.



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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: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/25/2025 11:53 PM
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I am in Opposition to this Bill of making it mandatory to Post the proposed Warning in All Capital Letters. This should be voluntary of Health Care Facilities. We do NOT NEED additional State Mandated Rules and Regulations!