



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1441		DATE: 3/4/2025	
COMMITTEE: Children and Families			
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: CHESTER A. DEANES JR.		PHONE NUMBER: 314-210-1005	
REPRESENTING: FATHER's UNITED TO RAISE AWARENESS- FUTRA; YWCA HEADSTART EARLY HEADSTART		TITLE: PRESIDENT; MALE INVOLVEMENT CONSULTANT	
ADDRESS: 128 EVANS LANE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63114
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/4/2025 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LINDA REUTZEL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/4/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARK LUDWIG		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/4/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: RYAN DEBOEF		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: GOOD DADS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE: MO	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/4/2025 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: tfaber@mobaptist.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2025 2:29 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: AIMEE ROBERTSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: abaimerobertson@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2025 5:30 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I don't see anything in this bill that makes an effort to ensure that partners who may be in abusive relationships are given access to resources and supports to safely escape the relationship as well as ensure the safety of any children involved. I also don't see anything in here that discusses how a custodial parent would access financial support if the noncustodial parent is unable to pay child support because the state decided it was just too hard for the noncustodial parent to do so.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANTHONY STEMATZ-BREITLING		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: stembreit@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2025 8:40 PM
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I am deeply concerned about bill HB1441, which would require the Department to partner with organizations to offer grants for programs encouraging two-parent family formation, maintenance, and reunification. While family stability is important, government programs should not pressure individuals to stay in relationships that may be unhealthy or unsafe, especially for those receiving TANF assistance. The bill does not address the reality of abusive relationships. Encouraging reunification without safeguards against domestic violence could put vulnerable parents and children in harm's way. A government initiative should prioritize the well-being and safety of individuals over the ideal of a two-parent household. Additionally, this bill seems to disproportionately target low-income families, sending the message that those who receive temporary assistance should remain in relationships—regardless of their circumstances—to reduce government costs. This approach is misguided and fails to recognize that financial hardship does not mean a person should sacrifice their safety or happiness. I urge the committee to reconsider this bill and ensure that any family-focused initiatives prioritize individual well-being, autonomy, and safety above all else.



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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: 3/4/2025 11:16 PM

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I am Opposed to this New Office, the Hiring of Office Staff, Reports Mandated, without abolishing other Programs and Services that are NOT working for Missourians. Where is the \$6.7-Million in Appropriations going to come from?



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EMILY STOINSKI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: emilysto@rocketmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/3/2025 4:22 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Emily Stoinski, and I am a registered Missouri voter. I am also friend to many incredible men in my life, including men with children and men who wish to become fathers. When I first saw the brief summary of this bill and HB 927, I was extremely curious as I know so many men in Missouri would benefit from support in their journey to being a healthy father. I know that specific services geared towards men can be extremely helpful, and yet, I have concerns regarding this legislation. While bill sponsor Gragg stated on his social media and acknowledgement that sometimes two-parent households are not possible, I do not see this reflected. For some men, divorce is the way that they will be able to keep themselves emotionally and physically safe as they sometimes experience abuse within their marriages. There is already an urging for men to "keep it together" and ensure abuse silently, and I am deeply concerned that this bill does not address these issues and instead assumes that marriage is the issue, not assessing for abuse and supporting their needs to be able to co-parent as a single parent if necessary. I oppose this bill, and I would instead encourage individuals to explore how to expand supports to already existing programs to better reach fathers.