



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1746		DATE: 2/2/2026
COMMITTEE: Emerging Issues		
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: AMY DECLUE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 6:41 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BEV EHLEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 11:59 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: BYRON KEELIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-402-0655	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: FREEDOM PRINCIPLE		TITLE: PRESIDENT	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 2			
CITY: BALLWIN		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63022
EMAIL: freedomprinciplemo@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2026 5:22 PM	

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

On behalf of the Freedom Principle and our members, we strongly support House Bill 1746, the "AI Non-Sentience and Responsibility Act," because it is essential for our laws to explicitly recognize and protect the unique value and dignity of human beings in the face of rapidly advancing artificial intelligence technology.

As AI systems become increasingly sophisticated, capable of simulating human-like cognitive functions and decision-making, there is rising confusion—and, at times, deliberate conflation—between machine reasoning and genuine human consciousness. HB 1746 wisely reaffirms that AI systems are not sentient and cannot hold legal personhood or enjoy rights reserved for human beings. By doing so, our state draws a clear boundary between the creators and users of technology and the technology itself, preserving the fundamental principle that only living individuals possess inherent dignity, consciousness, and autonomy.

Protecting human dignity means ensuring that persons—by virtue of their humanity alone—may never be equated with, replaced by, or supplanted by artificial systems, regardless of how advanced those systems become. HB 1746 ensures that legal status, such as marriage, property ownership, or corporate authority, cannot be granted to AI, preserving these foundational roles for people alone. Furthermore, the bill holds human individuals and entities responsible for the actions and impacts of the AI systems they develop, own, or deploy. This not only safeguards public welfare but also prevents the dangerous precedent of shifting blame or liability onto non-sentient machines.

At its heart, this legislation is about accountability: it reinforces that all technological innovation must remain subordinate to human interests and moral responsibilities. It requires oversight, risk assessments, transparent lines of responsibility, and prohibits the use of corporate structures to evade accountability when harm occurs. In this way, HB 1746 is a necessary and timely affirmation of our shared commitment to uphold the dignity, safety, and rights of every person.

For these reasons, we urge you to support HB 1746 and to stand in favor of clear, principled protections for human dignity in an era of rapid technological change.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH KAYSER		PHONE NUMBER: 636-893-8065
REPRESENTING: KAYSER AND ASSOCIATES LLC		TITLE: ATTORNEY – TALK SHOW HOST – ENTREPRENEUR – SPEAKER
ADDRESS: 1843 DOUGHERTY TERRACE DR.		
CITY: BALLWIN	STATE: MO	ZIP: 63021
EMAIL: attykayser@kayserlawfirm.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 7:30 AM
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I am a legal spokesperson and thought leader on AI and make this a focus on my talk show on Newstalk Stl.

I have also stood up and founded an AI roundtable that consists of several Missouri state reps, a Senator, and the director of AI at Washington University. Governor Kehoe's AI task force leader is also on the AI roundtable. We are drafting AI hyper scale infrastructure guidelines.

I have had other AI thought leaders on my talk show and AI experts.

I'm also an attorney and I strongly support that AI never be given legal personhood status. That liability lands squarely on the developer and deployer of the AI tool. That no AI immunity should ever be granted. Our existing product liability law should apply.

That human beings are always in control and that human beings are always accountable for any damage that AI creates.

I support this bill as it also preserves innovation and keeps the state of Missouri competitive.

I can be reached at 636-893-8065

Elizabeth Kayser, Esq.
Attorney/AI policy analyst
Host of talkshow "Straight Lines". NewstalkSTL



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WITNESS NAME		
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WITNESS NAME: KELLSY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
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CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 9:47 PM
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I am in support of this bill. We have historically taken a very long time to regulate newer technologies and I appreciate the proactive nature of defining AI as non-sentient. The sections about marriage, managerial replacements, and corporate shielding from responsibility are paramount in today's age of scapegoating responsibility and heavily reliance on untrustworthy technology. Thank you for protecting people and duplicating the bill to ensure its passage.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RILEY MCEVOY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
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Thank you for working to regulate AI. With the, what feels like, rapid implementation of this new technology, it is good to know our lawmakers are working to protect our interests. My only criticism is that this law feels very broad and perhaps leaves many problems unresolved and works to address problems that haven't come up. If for example the issue of AI being made an administrator for a company is happen I am glad it is being regulated. However I have not heard of such things, I have mostly heard about the layoffs caused by an AI efficiency increase.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TIMOTHY FABER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/2/2026 9:49 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH BERRY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/1/2026 8:46 AM	

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HB 1746 is legally unnecessary and constitutionally careless. Existing Missouri and federal law already treat artificial intelligence as a tool, not a legal actor, and already assign liability to human owners, operators, developers, and manufacturers.

This bill does not fill a legal gap—it repackages settled law while quietly altering it.

By inserting vague, open-ended mandates such as “proper oversight,” “prioritize safety,” and “regular evaluations may be required,” HB 1746 replaces established common-law standards with indeterminate statutory duties that lack objective benchmarks. That ambiguity invites arbitrary enforcement, retroactive liability disputes, and selective application—raising serious due process concerns.

More troubling, the bill attempts to pre-legislate veil-piercing and fault allocation, functions traditionally reserved to courts applying case-specific facts.

That intrusion into judicial authority implicates separation-of-powers principles.

The real violation is structural: the General Assembly is codifying speculative fears about future technology without evidence, necessity, or constitutional analysis, destabilizing settled liability doctrine in the process. HB 1746 should be rejected.

Footnotes (HB 1746)

INS v. Chadha, 462 U.S. 919 (1983).

(Legislatures may not alter constitutional structure or redistribute powers among branches by statute; efficiency or policy preference does not excuse structural violations.)

County of Sacramento v. Lewis, 523 U.S. 833 (1998).

(Due process forbids vague standards that permit arbitrary or unpredictable enforcement; liability rules must provide fair notice and objective criteria.)

Pierce v. Society of Sisters, 268 U.S. 510 (1925).

(The state may not impose sweeping regulatory controls absent necessity; speculative future harms are insufficient to justify intrusive statutory schemes.)

State ex rel. Diehl v. O’Malley, 95 S.W.3d 82 (Mo. 2003).

(Missouri separation-of-powers doctrine: the legislature may not encroach upon judicial authority to apply and develop common-law doctrines case by case.)