



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

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|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| BILL NUMBER:<br><b>HB 2309</b>   |                               | DATE:<br><b>2/12/2026</b> |  |
| COMMITTEE:<br><b>Health and Mental Health</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |                               |                           |  |
| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |                           |  |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |                           |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>AMY DECLUE</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:             |  |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                    |  |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |                           |  |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                    | ZIP:                                     |
| EMAIL:   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> |                           | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>2/12/2026 3:11 PM</b> |
| <b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>  |                               |                           |  |



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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |  |
| <b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>  |                               |  |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>BYRON KEELIN</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>314-402-0655</b>     |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:<br><b>FREEDOM PRINCIPLE</b>  |                               | TITLE:<br><b>PRESIDENT</b>               |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>PO BOX 2</b>  |                               |  |
| CITY:<br><b>BALLWIN</b>  | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>           | ZIP:<br><b>63011</b>                     |
| EMAIL:<br><b>freedomprinciplemo@protonmail.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>2/12/2026 1:20 PM</b> |

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

I am writing in strong support of House Bill 2309, the “End Organ Harvesting Act of 2026.” This legislation represents a critical step forward in ensuring that Missouri’s health insurance plans and public benefit programs do not facilitate or fund organ transplants involving organs procured under unethical and potentially inhumane circumstances. Specifically, the bill prohibits any health benefit plan, including private insurance, MO HealthNet, and the state children’s health insurance program, from providing coverage for organ transplants or posttransplant care if the transplant takes place in the People’s Republic of China or if the organ originated there, whether by sale or donation.

The inclusion of these provisions addresses well-documented and grave international concerns about the transparency, consent, and methods of organ procurement in China, where reports of involuntary organ harvesting have persisted for years. By adopting this legislation, Missouri will stand firmly against unethical medical practices and send a clear message that the state values human rights and medical integrity. This bill not only protects patients from unknowingly participating in or benefiting from questionable organ transplants, but also affirms our state’s commitment to upholding global ethical standards in healthcare. I urge all members of the General Assembly to support HB2309 and help ensure Missouri health plans are held to the highest moral and ethical standards.



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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |  |                      |
| <b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>  |                               |  |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>CHARLES GIRGIN</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:                            |                      |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:<br><b>FREEDOM PRINCIPLE MO</b>   |                               | TITLE:                                   |                      |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |  |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>BELTON</b>   |                               | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                      | ZIP:<br><b>64012</b> |
| EMAIL:<br><b>charles.girgin@proton.me</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>2/12/2026 2:37 PM</b> |                      |
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Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB2309, the End Organ Harvesting Act of 2026. This bill addresses a serious ethical concern that has been documented by human-rights organizations, medical ethicists, and international tribunals: the procurement of human organs under conditions that may lack voluntary consent, particularly in the People’s Republic of China. Missouri should not allow taxpayer-funded programs or insurance plans regulated by this state to subsidize or incentivize participation in such practices.

HB2309 takes a measured and appropriate approach. It does not criminalize patients, restrict travel, or interfere with lawful transplant care within the United States. Instead, it establishes a clear policy that Missouri health plans, including MO HealthNet, will not fund transplant procedures or related care when the organ or procedure is tied to a system widely criticized for coercive procurement practices. There are several reasons this approach is prudent:

First, it ensures that Missouri does not become financially complicit in practices that conflict with widely accepted medical ethics and human dignity.

Second, it protects the integrity of our healthcare system by reinforcing ethical standards in transplantation, an area that depends on public trust.

Third, it aligns Missouri with a growing number of jurisdictions that are taking steps to discourage transplant tourism linked to unethical organ sourcing.

Finally, the bill is narrowly tailored. It applies only to insurance coverage and does not interfere with legitimate medical treatment or organ donation programs in the United States or other countries that follow recognized ethical standards.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to give HB2309 a do-pass recommendation.

Thank you for your time and your service to the people of Missouri.  
 Respectfully submitted.



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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |   |                      |
| <b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>  |                               |   |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>JAMES HARRIS</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:                             |                      |
| REPRESENTING:<br><b>THE J. HARRIS CO.</b>  |                               | TITLE:<br><b>PRINCIPAL</b>                |                      |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>PO BOX 74</b>   |                               |   |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>   |                               | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                       | ZIP:<br><b>65102</b> |
| EMAIL:<br><b>james@thejharrisco.com</b>  | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>2/10/2026 12:14 PM</b> |                      |
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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |  |      |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |  |      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>MARGARET WELKER</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:                            |      |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                                   |      |
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| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                                   | ZIP: |
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**Please pass this bill out of committee. I support Rep H Jobes' efforts**



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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |  |                      |
| <b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>  |                               |  |                      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>SAMUEL H. LEE</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:<br><b>314-368-4242</b>     |                      |
| REPRESENTING:<br><b>CAMPAIGN LIFE MISSOURI</b>   |                               | TITLE:<br><b>DIRECTOR</b>                |                      |
| ADDRESS:<br><b>P.O. BOX 142585</b>   |                               |  |                      |
| CITY:<br><b>SAINT LOUIS</b>  |                               | STATE:<br><b>MO</b>                      | ZIP:<br><b>63114</b> |
| EMAIL:<br><b>samuelhlee@mindspring.com</b>   | ATTENDANCE:<br><b>Written</b> | SUBMIT DATE:<br><b>2/12/2026 7:00 AM</b> |                      |

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**Communist China engages in forced organ harvesting, specifically targeting Falun Gong practitioners and Uyghur populations and other ethnic minorities in the Xinjiang region. These are crimes against humanity, and Missourians should not be forced to participate in these abhorrent practices through the payment of their health insurance premiums.**



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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |   |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |   |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>ARNIE "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>   |                               | PHONE NUMBER:                             |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                                    |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |   |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:      ZIP:                          |
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**I am Opposed to this Bill and limiting the ability of Organ Transplants any where in the world to meet the needs of Missourians. This is not good policy.**



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| <b>WITNESS NAME</b>  |                               |   |      |
| <b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>   |                               |   |      |
| WITNESS NAME:<br><b>SARAH BERRY</b>  |                               | PHONE NUMBER:                             |      |
| BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:  |                               | TITLE:                                    |      |
| ADDRESS:   |                               |   |      |
| CITY:  |                               | STATE:                                    | ZIP: |
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I submit this testimony in opposition to House Bill 2309 because it exceeds state authority, violates constitutional protections, and unlawfully conditions access to lifesaving medical care on foreign-policy determinations reserved to the federal government.

HB 2309 prohibits insurance coverage for organ transplants and post-transplant care based solely on the geographic location of a surgery or the alleged country of origin of an organ. In doing so, the bill intrudes upon the federal government’s exclusive authority over foreign affairs and international human-rights enforcement, rendering it preempted under the Supremacy Clause.[1]

The bill further violates due process by denying coverage for medically necessary care without individualized findings, evidentiary standards, or meaningful opportunity for review. Patients are penalized regardless of knowledge, intent, or fault, and without any mechanism to contest determinations regarding organ provenance.[2]

HB 2309 also raises equal-protection concerns by imposing blanket exclusions tied to national origin, resulting in disparate treatment of similarly situated insured individuals. Even well-intentioned legislation cannot survive constitutional scrutiny when it discriminates without narrow tailoring or individualized assessment.[3]

Finally, the bill unlawfully applies to Medicaid and CHIP programs, which are governed by federal coverage and comparability requirements. States may not deny medically necessary care based on non-medical criteria or foreign-policy judgments.[4]

Addressing human-rights abuses in organ transplantation is a legitimate concern. Doing so by denying patients lifesaving care is neither lawful nor ethical. HB 2309 misdirects accountability and exposes Missouri to immediate constitutional challenge.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to oppose House Bill 2309.

In closing, Missouri cannot outsource foreign policy to insurers or convert moral condemnation into medical abandonment. A statute that denies lifesaving care based on geography, assumption, and collective punishment violates the Constitution, federal law, and basic principles of justice. HB 2309 does not end organ harvesting—it ends due process.

FOOTNOTES:

[1] *Zschernig v. Miller*, 389 U.S. 429 (1968); *American Ins. Ass'n v. Garamendi*, 539 U.S. 396 (2003)  
[2] *Goldberg v. Kelly*, 397 U.S. 254 (1970); *Mathews v. Eldridge*, 424 U.S. 319 (1976)  
[3] *Graham v. Richardson*, 403 U.S. 365 (1971); Mo. Const. art. I, §2  
[4] 42 U.S.C. §1396a(a)(10), (a)(17); *Alexander v. Choate*, 469 U.S. 287 (1985)