



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</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>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-440-9000</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI STATE PUBLIC ADVOCACY</b>		TITLE: <b>STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>PO BOX 1535</b>			
CITY: <b>O'FALLON</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63366</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 12:00 AM</b>	

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



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</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>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>BYRON KEELIN</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>314-402-0655</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>FREEDOM PRINCIPLE</b>		TITLE: <b>PRESIDENT</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>PO BOX 2</b>			
CITY: <b>BALLWIN</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63022</b>
EMAIL: <b>freedomprinciplemo@protonmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 11:01 AM</b>	

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

The Freedom Principle is simple yet profound: every individual possesses inherent rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of justice—rights that no arbitrary rule of law should permanently deny. True freedom demands that victims of grave wrongs not be forever barred from accountability by procedural walls erected long after the harm was done.

House Joint Resolution No. 130 proposes a targeted, principled amendment to Article I, Section 13 of the Missouri Constitution. It preserves the general prohibition on retrospective laws—safeguarding against government overreach and capricious interference with contracts and vested rights—while carving out a narrow, morally compelled exception: retrospective laws may be enacted for civil claims involving the sexual abuse of a child or tortious conduct that caused or contributed to such abuse.

This is not an expansion of state power; it is a restoration of individual liberty. Childhood sexual abuse inflicts wounds that often remain hidden or unprocessable for decades due to trauma, grooming, fear, shame, or threats. Many survivors only gain the clarity and courage to seek justice well after conventional statutes of limitations expire. Under the current constitutional bar on retrospective operation, Missouri law effectively grants permanent immunity to perpetrators and enabling institutions—not because the claims lack merit, but because time has passed. That is not justice; it is institutionalized impunity.

The Freedom Principle rejects such outcomes. Freedom means the right to defend one's person and dignity without artificial, state-imposed expiration dates on accountability for the most heinous violations of bodily autonomy.

By allowing the legislature (and ultimately the voters through enabling statutes) to open a path for these civil claims, HJR 130 upholds the core promise of a free society: no one is above the law when it comes to protecting the most vulnerable.

This amendment is carefully limited. It applies only to civil actions for childhood sexual abuse and related torts. It does not broadly authorize retrospective laws in other areas, nor does it revive every old claim indiscriminately. It simply removes a constitutional barrier that has shielded wrongdoers at the expense of survivors' fundamental right to seek redress.

Missouri has already taken meaningful steps forward, such as voiding non-disclosure agreements that silence victims. HJR 130 represents the next logical advance: ensuring that freedom to pursue justice is not foreclosed by the calendar. I urge the House to pass this resolution, submit it to the voters, and

**let the people affirm that in Missouri, protecting children and empowering survivors is a non-negotiable expression of liberty.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</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>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CARY WELLS</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>417-569-9265</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>FREEDOMPRINCIPLEMO.ORG</b>		TITLE: <b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>5787 W STATE HWY O</b>			
CITY: <b>WILLARD</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65781</b>
EMAIL: <b>mo4ted@gmail.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 10:15 AM</b>	

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

**Freedomprinciplemo.org is in support of this bill. Personally I believe this gives Missourians a chance to restore civil Justice to the victims of heinous crimes.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</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: <b>CHRISTOPHER KEVIN OLEARY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 9:54 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**Due Process.**

Based on my experience delivering these same basic remarks to this committee two years ago — two years in which NOTHING has changed — I assume “Due Process” will be one theme the Catholic Church, Kanakuk, and their insurers and advocates hope you will leave here with.

As a survivor of the Catholic sex abuse crisis — when I was a child I was raped by a Priest, and worse; and then things got really bad — as well as a Kanakuk parent, the reality of my own abuse, and my fears for what may — or may not, I don’t know — have happened to my kids at Kanakuk, and did happen to other people I know, both in terms of sexual abuse and then, and worse, manipulation, leads me here to again make you aware of the importance of a different phrase.

**Dirty Tricks.**

Dirty Tricks employed, in my case, by the Catholic Church and designed to sow doubt and confusion in the minds of survivors — as was done to me by now Cardinal Timothy Dolan in March 2002, in the aftermath of the release of the original Boston Globe SPOTLIGHT articles — and create problems with the Statute Of Limitations.

**As happened to me.**

I filed a lawsuit in October 2015 and had to settle it due to a problem with the Statute Of Limitations created, in my case, by then Bishop and now Cardinal Dolan.

**WHY WAIT? WHY NOT TELL?**

The Catholic Church and its insurers want you to believe Catholic, and all, survivors simply CHOOSE to wait decades to report our abuse.

That’s not what happened to me, both as a child and then as an adult.

**AS A CHILD?**

I can tell you that I didn’t report what I understood and remembered, at the time — which wasn’t everything, and not the very worst stuff, but was enough to have set off alarm bells had one of my kids

told me about it — because my abuser was a Priest and he told me not to tell anyone.

So I didn't.

When a man you are told is the living embodiment of Jesus Christ on Earth — which is what Catholics are taught about priests — gives you an order, you follow it.

Then, in the years that followed, whenever I would think about, and start to question, what I did remember — a LOT of people were talking about abuse, around the country, and people had said things about my favorite priest from my childhood — one thought would always pop into me head...

Well, it's Father Valentine and he's a Priest.

So there was no way it meant anything.

**AS AN ADULT?**

My story involves — turns on — not just things I didn't remember and understand, as a child, but on ways I was manipulated by the Catholic Church.

Since I was 35 and my abuser was named by the New York Times, in 2002 in the aftermath of SPOTLIGHT, and ever since, I've been trying to first understand what happened to me and then get help, only to be thwarted, at every turn, by the Catholic Church and its allies and enablers.

By the Catholic Church's Dirty Tricks.

Perpetrated first by now Cardinal Timothy Dolan and, most recently, by former Missouri Attorneys General and now United States Senators Josh Hawley & Eric Schmitt and their SHAM "Missouri Grand Jury Report."

Catholic survivors aren't just fighting the church, but the system itself.

**CARDINAL TIMOTHY DOLAN**

In early March 2002, I went to then auxiliary bishop and now Cardinal Timothy Dolan for help understanding what my memories meant. Dolan told me nothing happened; that it was IMPOSSIBLE that anything could have happened.

So I believed him.

I just went on with my life, safe in the knowledge nothing happened.

And then I got sick.

I had also just had my fourth child so I didn't notice when Dolan removed my abuser later that month but never circled back to notify me, much less help me.

It would be a decade or more before I understood how I had been manipulated.

**2011**

I went BACK to the Archdiocese of St. Louis in 2011 to AGAIN ask them for help understanding my memories. They never informed me of the handling of the case of my abuser and blamed all the issues I was having in life on my father. When I asked them to speak to my therapist, the Archdiocese of St. Louis never contacted him hoping, I assume, I would just go away.

**2013**

In 2013, the Archdiocese of St. Louis permanently removed my abuser, Father LeRoy Valentine, but never warned me, much less helped me. As a result, I was forced to sue the Archdiocese of St. Louis in 2015, a lawsuit that was ended by a Statute Of Limitations problem created by then Bishop and now Cardinal Timothy Dolan.

**2014**

**The Archdiocese of St. Louis committed Perjury — lied to the court — in the course of civil litigation in January 2014, I suspect to protect Cardinal Timothy Dolan.**

**JOSH HAWLEY & ERIC SCHMITT**

**Catholic survivors aren't just fighting the Catholic Church, we're fighting the State of Missouri.**

**In August 2018, then Missouri Attorney General Josh Hawley, in the aftermath of the Pennsylvania Grand Jury report, began what was sold as an equivalent "Missouri Grand Jury Report." I submitted my information to Josh Hawley's team, but nobody talked to me.**

**After being harassed by a family member of First Assistant Attorney General Tom Albus, I did manage to force MO AG Eric Schmitt's team to talk to me, but they never did anything to help me and threw me out of the press conference announcing the results of the investigation.**

**MO = HAVEN FOR PREDATORS**

**Finally, I've heard some say that, if Missouri doesn't get its act together, it's going to become a haven for predators. Too late. The Catholic Church in the United States houses the worst of its worst abusers in a minimally secured — there's not even a fence — facility that is just 15 minutes south of Six Flags.**

**The people — the children — of Missouri deserve better.**

**That better begins with passing House Joint Resolution 130 and letting those people and institutions who KNOWINGLY sexually sacrifice children and women and men that the good old days are over.**

**Chris O'Leary  
University City, MO**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</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: <b>ELIZABETH PHILLIPS</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 12:00 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</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>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JESSICA SEITZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-415-6228</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI NETWORK AGAINST CHILD ABUSE</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>520 DIX RD, SUITE C</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65109</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</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: <b>KENNETH M. CHACKES</b>		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE:      ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/17/2026 9:52 PM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo. February 18, 2026</b>		

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HJR 130**

**EXPANDING THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE**

**To the Chair and Members of the Missouri House Judiciary Committee:**

**My name is Ken Chackes. I am an attorney who was born and raised in Missouri. I have lived here my entire adult life, with my wife, our three children and seven grandchildren, all of whom are residents of Missouri.**

**I graduated from St. Louis University Law School in 1976. In nearly 50 years as an attorney, a substantial part of my work has been representing people who have been sexually abused. I have handled civil cases for over 200 sexual abuse survivors and have consulted with probably another 200 survivors whose cases I was forced to reject because of the statute of limitations.**

**It's important to remember why victims of sexual abuse are referred to as "survivors." It is because many do not survive. Some either succumbed to drug or alcohol abuse or have taken their own lives. I have represented the parents of children who committed suicide due to their abuse, and I have had clients commit suicide during the course of my representation.**

**My sex abuse clients were abused in schools, churches, hospitals, and residential facilities such as group homes.**

**I have come to know a lot about the impact of sexual abuse on the victims and their families, and I want to share what I've learned.**

**Many of my clients were abused as children or teenagers, but were unable to reveal what happened to them until decades later.**

**Many survivors, as adults, have told me that I was the first person they ever told of their abuse.**

Many who were abused by clergy described the fear they felt when they were being abused by a person with seemingly absolute power over them and their families.

Many were told by their clergy abusers that they were chosen because they were special – that God wanted them to do this.

Many were told that the abuse had to remain a secret and that if they told anyone, something terrible would happen - they or their parents would be punished or would wind up in hell.

Many survivors told me they thought no one would believe them and that they would get in serious trouble if they told anyone.

Many expressed reasons why they couldn't even tell their parents. When the victims were still children, they thought their parents wouldn't believe them and would punish them for lying.

As the abused children got older and more mature, many said they still couldn't tell their parents because of the emotional harm that it would cause their parents. They believed their parents would be devastated to learn what happened and might blame themselves for not being able to protect their children.

Many said they had to wait for their parents to pass away before coming forward to spare them the trauma and guilt of learning that their children were abused.

How does this information relate to the statute of limitations?

If the statute of limitations is eliminated or extended much of this trauma, shame and guilt could be reduced.

Please keep in mind the societal benefits of civil lawsuits:

- They are not simply a way to obtain compensation for injuries.
- They also hold the institutions accountable that allowed and enabled the abuse to occur.
- Civil lawsuits and the threat of civil lawsuits encourage these institutions to prevent abuse now and in the future.

I ask you to think about the effect of public disclosure on the conduct of institutions.

Shortly after the public learned about the vast extent of sexual abuse in the Catholic Church, starting with the 2002 reporting by the Spotlight team of The Boston Globe, the Church leaders in the United States met and adopted a set of policies and procedures designed to stop the abuse.

Through the extensive civil litigation that followed, even more light was shone on the institutions – and not just Catholic – that enabled known sexual abuse to occur and that actively covered it up.

In a unanimous decision of the highest court in this state, the Missouri Supreme Court directly confronted the cover up by the Catholic Church. The Court recognized the relevance and admissibility of evidence that the Catholic Church developed “a code . . . for referencing a priest’s sexual abuse of children in personnel files and other records.” The Supreme Court applied the law developed in “analogous situations” including cases involving the “practices, symbols, terminology, and history of particular street gangs.” *John Doe v. Marianist Province of the United States and Chaminade College Preparatory*, 620 S.W.3d 73 (MO banc 2021) Paul C. Wilson, Judge.

Exposure of sexual abuse and how it has been allowed and covered up goes a long way toward preventing future abuse and protecting today’s children and future children and their families from suffering the trauma that has been inflicted by past abusers and their enablers.

Future trauma can be avoided if institutions are exposed and held accountable for their negligent, reckless or intentional acts that enable more abuse.

For the survivors and their family members, the ability to pursue a civil lawsuit, to expose the perpetrator and the coverup, and to be part of the effort to protect other people, has great value in itself.

**Survivors who succeed in their lawsuits may recover monetary compensation for their injuries. But most don't do it for the money. Many recover nothing.**

**I always tell my clients that filing a lawsuit will mean they will have to go through a long and difficult process that requires them and many of their friends and family members to face extensive and intrusive questioning from the lawyers for the defendants, but they do it to expose predators and to protect today's and future children.**

**And even when they lose their case because of some legal technicality, such as the statute of limitations, most of my clients are still glad they did it. They finally were able to tell their story. They finally were believed.**

**Your action in eliminating or extending the statute of limitations can help to continue the effort to let the truth be known and to allow the public to learn the full extent of sexual abuse:**

- **That the cover up was intentional**
- **More perpetrators will be exposed**
- **More survivors will be able to disclose what happened to them.**

**The cover ups will continue and more children will be abused unless we act to end it. Eliminating the arbitrary statute of limitations – not just for claims against the perpetrators but also for claims against the enabling institutions – is an extremely important tool to protect children.**

**Thank you.**

**Kenneth M. Chackes  
Ken Chackes, LLC  
230 S. Bemiston Ave., Suite 510  
St. Louis, MO 63105  
314-872-8420  
kchackes@chackes.com**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</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: <b>RYAN FRAZIER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>HAMPTON WILLIAMS</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-893-4241</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI INSURANCE COALITION</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>220 EAST HIGH STREET, SUITE 200</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 12:00 AM</b>

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



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JARED HANKINSON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-634-3511</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE &amp; INDUSTRY</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>PO BOX 149</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65102</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</b>		
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>		
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>		
WITNESS NAME: <b>JORGEN SCHLEMEIER</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-634-4876</b>
REPRESENTING: <b>AMERICAN TORT REFORM ASSOC</b>		TITLE:
ADDRESS: <b>213 E. CAPITOL AVE</b>		
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>
		ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 12:00 AM</b>
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>RICH AUBUCHON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-616-1845</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MO CIVIL JUSTICE REFORM COALITION, INC</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>112 E. HIGH STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/18/2026 12:00 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HJR 130</b>		DATE: <b>2/18/2026</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Judiciary</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SARAH BERRY</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/17/2026 9:41 AM</b>	
<b>THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.</b>			

**Policy vs. Constitutional**

**This debate is not about whether childhood sexual abuse is grave. It is.**

**The constitutional question is whether Missouri should permanently alter its foundational prohibition on retrospective laws to create a carve-out category.**

**That decision carries structural consequences beyond the emotional gravity of the underlying subject.**

**Litigation Risk Assessment**

**If adopted:**

**Expect immediate constitutional challenge on federal due process grounds.**

**Expect litigation concerning scope and limits.**

**Expect disputes over revived institutional liability and insurance coverage.**

**Expect challenges regarding contractual impairments.**

**Legislative Notice:**

**The General Assembly is placed on notice that authorizing retrospective civil legislation through constitutional amendment materially alters vested rights doctrine in Missouri and will invite federal due process litigation. Any implementing statute must be narrowly tailored, procedurally structured, and clearly bounded to withstand constitutional scrutiny.**

**We reject folded justice, we reject backroom bargains that erase testimony. We call for full light, full truth, and full weight of accountability.**