

End of Session Report: 2021 Session of the Missouri General Assembly

This report gives the final status of MCC position bills. Bills reported as “Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed,” have been approved by the Missouri General Assembly and await action by the governor. The governor has until July 14, 2021 to sign or veto bills. After the July 14th deadline, the MCC will send a progress report detailing the governor’s actions on Truly Agreed to and Finally Passed legislation.

PROTECT HUMAN LIFE

Abortion Abolition

[SB391](#) Sponsor: Sen. Mike Moon (R)

Establishes the "Abolition of Abortion in Missouri Act".

Remarks Oppose: This legislation puts at risk pro-life legislation passed since *Roe v. Wade*, and is not legally sustainable. It eliminates all of Missouri’s statutory pro-life provisions in exchange for a ban on abortion and eliminates the alternatives to abortion program, which provides support to women facing an unplanned pregnancy. It would also subject women to possible criminal prosecution and jail time for having an abortion.

Bill History 05/05/2021 S - Voted Do Pass as substituted - Senate-Health and Pensions

Abortion Drug Mandate

[HB129](#) Sponsor: Rep. Ian Mackey (D)

Establishes the "Compassionate Assistance for Rape Emergencies (CARE) Act".

Remarks Oppose: "To refuse to take part in committing an injustice is not only a moral duty; it is a basic human right." (Evangelium Vitae, par. 74) 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House committee on Crime Prevention

Abortion Funding/Prohibition

[HB10](#) (CCS SS SCS HCS HB10) Sponsor: Rep. Cody Smith (R)

To appropriate money for the Department of Mental Health, Department of Health and Senior Services, and several divisions and programs. Section 10.725 prohibits funding for abortion services and abortion agencies.

Remarks Support in part: Support Section 10.725, which ensures state tax dollars are not used to fund abortion services. Abortion is the taking of human life and Missouri taxpayers should not be forced to pay for abortion services. Part of the effort to create a culture of life and compassion. 03/26/20

Bill History 05/07/2021 S - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed

[HB635](#) Sponsor: Rep. Nick Schroer (R)

Prohibits expenditures of public funds to any person or facility, or affiliate of such, performing or inducing an abortion.

Remarks Support: Legislation ensures state tax dollars are not used to fund abortion services. Abortion is the taking of human life and Missouri taxpayers should not be forced to pay for abortion services. Part of the effort to create a culture of life and compassion. 01/22/21

Bill History 03/04/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Emerging Issues

[SJR18](#) Sponsor: Sen. Bill Eigel (R)

Prohibits expenditures of public funds to any person or facility, or affiliate of such, performing or inducing an abortion

Remarks Support: Legislation ensures state tax dollars are not used to fund abortion services. Abortion is the taking of human life and Missouri taxpayers should not be forced to pay for abortion services. Part of the effort to create a culture of life and compassion. 01/22/21

Bill History 02/08/2021 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Health and Pensions

Abortion on Demand

[HB831](#) Sponsor: Rep. Emily Weber (D)

Establishes the "Respect Women's Abortion Decisions Act".

Remarks Oppose: Legislation cloaks the real effect of this legislation which is to overturn pro-life protections currently found in Missouri law by the use of misleading rhetoric on "reproductive choices." 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House committee on Children and Families

[HCR12](#) Sponsor: Rep. Emily Weber (D)

Resolves that abortion shall be recognized as an essential component of women's health care.

Remarks Oppose: This troubling resolution seeks to proclaim as a common good the false and misleading notion that abortion is healthcare and that it should be publicly funded and integrated into the health safety net. 01/22/21

Bill History 01/15/2021 H - Read Second Time

Abortion/Cloning Funding Prohibition

[HB852](#) Sponsor: Rep. Sara Walsh (R)

Prohibits expenditures of public funds for research projects involving abortion services, human

cloning, and prohibited human research.

Remarks Support: Support as part of an effort to create a culture of life and compassion. State tax dollars should not be used to support abortion, human cloning, or other medical research that results in the destruction of nascent human life. 01/22/21

Bill History 04/26/2021 H - Reported Do Pass - House-Rules-Legislative Oversight

[SB398](#) Sponsor: Sen. Bill Eigel (R)

Prohibits expenditures of public funds for certain purposes relating to abortion, human cloning, and prohibited human research.

Remarks Support: Support as part of an effort to create a culture of life and compassion. State tax dollars should not be used to support abortion, human cloning, or other medical research that results in the destruction of nascent human life. 01/22/21

Bill History 03/10/2021 S - Voted Do Pass - Senate-Health and Pensions

Alternatives to Abortion/Funding

[HB11](#) (CCS SS SCS HCS HB11) Sponsor: Rep. Cody Smith (R)

To appropriate money for the Department of Social Services and several divisions and programs. Section 11.160 provides \$6.4 million for the Alternatives to Abortion (ATA) program.

Remarks Support in part Support Section 11.160 that provides funds for the Alternatives to Abortion (ATA) program. Part of the effort to create a culture of life and compassion. "Thanks to the work of such centres, many unmarried mothers and couples discover new hope and find assistance and support in overcoming hardship and the fear of accepting a newly conceived life or life which has just come into the world." (Evangelium Vitae, par. 88) 03/19/21

Bill History 05/07/2021 S - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed

Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act

[HB155](#) Sponsor: Rep. Doug Richey (R)

Establishes the "Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act".

Remarks Support: The state has a duty to protect human life and to prosecute those who show a reckless disregard for it. No child born alive following an abortion attempt should be denied basic life-sustaining care. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House committee on Children and Families

[HB672](#) Sponsor: Rep. Mary Elizabeth

Establishes the "Born-Alive Survivors Protection Act".

Remarks Support: The state has a duty to protect human life and to prosecute those who show a reckless disregard for it. No child born alive following an abortion attempt should be denied basic life sustaining care. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House committee on Children and Families

[SB168](#) Sponsor: Sen. Eric Burlison (R)

Establishes the "Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act".

Remarks Support: The state has a duty to protect human life and to prosecute those who show a reckless disregard for it. No child born alive following an abortion attempt should be denied basic life-sustaining care. 01/22/21

Bill History 04/15/2021 S - Placed on Informal Calendar

Death Penalty Repeal

[HB127](#) Sponsor: Rep. Ian Mackey (D)

Abolishes the death penalty and specifies that any person sentenced to death must be sentenced to life imprisonment without parole.

Remarks Support: The death penalty undermines respect for human life. Errors in the judicial system can lead to the execution of innocent people. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, par. 2267) 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Judiciary

[HB50](#) Sponsor: Rep. Sarah Unsicker (D)

Abolishes the death penalty and specifies that any person sentenced to death must be sentenced to life imprisonment without parole.

Remarks Support: The death penalty undermines respect for human life. Errors in the judicial system can lead to the execution of innocent people. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, par. 2267) 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Judiciary

Death Penalty/Jury Instructions

[HB462](#) Sponsor: Rep. Shamed Dogan (R)

Modifies provisions relating to trial procedures for murder in the first degree.

Remarks Support: Support legislation as way to scale back the use of the death penalty, a practice which undermines the sanctity and dignity of human life. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Special Committee on Criminal Justice

[SB341](#) Sponsor: Sen. Bill White (R)

Modifies provisions relating to jury instructions for the offense of murder in the first degree.

Remarks Support: Support legislation as way to scale back the use of the death penalty, a practice which undermines the sanctity and dignity of human life. 01/22/21

Bill History 02/04/2021 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

Death Penalty/Mental Illness Exemption

[HB278](#) Sponsor: Rep. Tom Hannegan (R)

Modifies provisions relating to murder in the first degree.

Remarks Support :Support this proposal to exempt the seriously mentally ill from capital punishment. The MCC supports repeal of the death penalty, but also supports incremental steps to scale back the death penalty, such as those proposed in this legislation. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Judiciary

Dismemberment Abortion/Ban

[HB468](#) Sponsor: Rep. Chris Dinkins (R)

Prohibits the performance of dismemberment abortions.

Remarks Support with amendments: Support efforts to ban all second trimester abortions. MCC supports an amendment to include a ban on all forms of second trimester abortions. Part of the effort to protect human life. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House committee on Children and Families

[SB458](#) Sponsor: Sen. Rick Brattin (R)

Establishes the "Missouri Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act".

Remarks Support with amendments: Support efforts to ban all second trimester abortions. MCC supports amendments to include a ban on all forms of second trimester abortions. Part of the effort to protect human life. 01/22/21

Bill History 03/10/2021 S - Voted Do Pass - Senate-Health and Pensions

Equal Rights Amendment

[HCR8](#) Sponsor: Rep. Ingrid Burnett (D)

Establishes Missouri's ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Remarks Oppose: While a laudable goal, equal rights for women should not come at the expense of unborn children, whose Constitutional right to life has been superseded by U.S. Supreme Court precedent recognizing abortion as a women's right to privacy protected by the Constitution. The MCC is concerned that ratifying the ERA would further embed a right to abortion in the U.S. Constitution and may undermine pro-life provisions in Missouri law. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House committee on Elections and Election Officials

Expanding WIC Program

[HB652](#) (SS/SCS/HS/HB432) Sponsor: Rep. Martha Stevens (D)

Adds WIC recipients to those eligible for vouchers for fresh produce.

Remarks Support: Support extending WIC program in this manner as part of an effort to create a culture of life and compassion. Providing women, infants, and children access to fresh produce will help in effort to promote good eating habits and healthy diets for recipients of WIC benefits. 02/19/21

Bill History 05/06/2021 H - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed as part of SS/SCS/HS/HB 432

[SB525](#) Sponsor: Sen. Lauren Arthur (D)

Provides vouchers for farmers' markets for certain pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children under 5 years of age.

Remarks Support: Support extending WIC program in this manner as part of an effort to create a culture of life and compassion. Providing women, infants, and children access to fresh produce will help in effort to promote good eating habits and healthy diets for recipients of WIC benefits. 02/19/21

Bill History 03/29/2021 S - Voted Do Pass - Senate-Agriculture, Food Production and Outdoor Resources

Maternity Homes/Tax Credits

[HB1109](#) Sponsor: Rep. Mary Elizabeth

Modifies provisions relating to tax credits for contributions to certain benevolent organizations.

Remarks Support: The maternity home tax credit encourages charitable giving to programs that provide essential assistance to women facing crisis pregnancies. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Ways and Means

[HB1129](#) Sponsor: Rep. Willard Haley (R)

Modifies provisions relating to tax credits for contributions to certain benevolent organizations.

Remarks Support: The maternity home tax credit encourages charitable giving to programs that provide essential assistance to women facing crisis pregnancies. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Ways and Means

[SB155](#) (SS/SCS/HCS/HB 430) Sponsor: Sen. Andrew Koenig (R)

Modifies provisions relating to tax credits for contributions to certain benevolent organizations.

Remarks Support: The maternity home tax credit encourages charitable giving to programs that provide essential assistance to women facing crisis pregnancies. 01/22/21

Bill History 04/22/2021 S - Signed by Governor as part of SS/SCS/HCS/HB 430

Narcotics Control Act

[HB1149](#) Sponsor: Rep. Doug Clemens (D)

Establishes the "Narcotics Control Act".

Remarks Support: MCC supports the intent of this legislation to better regulate the use of prescription pain medications and prevent "doctor shopping" for these drugs. "The use of drugs inflicts very grave damage to human health. Their use, except on strictly therapeutic grounds, is a grave offense." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, par. 2291) 03/19/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Health and Mental Health Policy

[SB63](#) Sponsor: Sen. Holly Rehder (R)

SB63 - Modifies provisions relating to the monitoring of certain controlled substances.

Remarks Support: MCC supports the intent of this legislation to better regulate the use of prescription pain medications and prevent "doctor shopping" for these drugs. "The use of drugs inflicts very grave damage to human health. Their use, except on strictly therapeutic grounds, is a grave offense." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, par. 2291) 03/19/21

Bill History 05/11/2021 - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed

Pregnancy Resource Centers/Coercion of Speech

[HB830](#) Sponsor: Rep. Emily Weber (D)

Requires organizations that provide pregnancy-related services to provide medically accurate

information regarding reproductive health options in order to receive state funding.

Remarks Oppose: Legislation would force pregnancy resource centers to provide information about abortion options. This is contrary to the core mission of pregnancy resource centers and represents a violation of free speech. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House committee on Children and Families

[SB447](#) Sponsor: Sen. Jill Schupp (D)

Establishes the "Truth in Medicine Act".

Remarks Oppose: Legislation would force pregnancy resource centers to provide information about abortion options. This is contrary to the core mission of pregnancy resource centers and represents a violation of free speech. 01/22/21

Bill History 02/25/2021 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Health and Pensions

Prohibiting Hoarding of Fetal Remains

[HB431](#) Sponsor: Rep. Hannah Kelly (R)

Establishes the "Safeguarding All Children's Remains to Ensure Dignity Act".

Remarks Support: The grisly practice of hoarding fetal remains from abortions should be outlawed. The remains of deceased human beings should be treated with dignity and respect regardless of the cause of death. 01/22/21

Bill History 04/26/2021 H - Reported Do Pass - House-Rules-Legislative Oversight

[SB101](#) Sponsor: Sen. Andrew Koenig (R)

Modifies provisions relating to abortion.

Remarks Support: The grisly practice of hoarding fetal remains from abortions should be outlawed. The remains of deceased human beings should be treated with dignity and respect regardless of the cause of death. 01/22/21

Bill History 03/10/2021 S - Voted Do Pass - Senate-Health and Pensions

Tax Credit/Deduction for Adoption/Foster Care

[HB429](#) (SS/SCS/HCS/HB 429) Sponsor: Rep. Hannah Kelly (R)

Authorizes an income tax deduction for the provision of child foster care services.

Remarks Support: Support these tax deductions as a means of encouraging foster families to continue providing a home to minors in the state foster care system. 02/19/21

Bill History 04/22/2021 G - Signed by the Governor

[HB430](#) (SS/SCS/HCS/HB 430) Sponsor: Rep. Hannah Kelly (R)

Modifies provisions relating to tax credits for the adoption of children.

Remarks Support: Support expanding adoption tax credits as a means of encouraging families to adopt children in need of a home. 02/19/21

Bill History 04/22/2021 G - Signed by the Governor

[HB673](#) (HCS HB 673) Sponsor: Rep. Mary Elizabeth

Modifies and creates provisions relating to the protection of children.

Remarks Support: Support expanding adoption tax credits as a means of encouraging families to adopt children in need of a home. 02/19/21

Bill History 03/30/2021 H - Reported Do Pass - House-Rules-Legislative Oversight

[SB461](#) Sponsor: Sen. Andrew Koenig (R)

Modifies provisions relating to tax credits for the care of certain children.

Remarks Support: Support expanding adoption tax credits and creating a tax deduction for foster parents as a means of encouraging families to foster and adopt children in need of a home. 02/19/21

Bill History 03/30/2021 S - Voted Do Pass - Senate-Economic Development

ADVANCE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE FOR ALL

COVID Unemployment Compensation

[HB1083](#) (HCS HBs 1083, 1085, 1050, 1035, 1036, 873 & 1097) Sponsor: Rep. John Eggleston (R)

Modifies provisions relating to unemployment compensation benefit overpayments.

Remarks Support: Forgiving non-fraudulent receipt of federal unemployment benefits during the COVID pandemic is a means of economic justice and will help to allay the financial impact of the health crisis on people in need. 02/19/21

Bill History 05/03/2021 S - Placed on Informal Calendar

[SB481](#) Sponsor: Sen. Lincoln Hough (R)

Creates new provisions relating to the recovery of overpaid unemployment benefits.

Remarks Support: Forgiving non-fraudulent receipt of federal unemployment benefits during the COVID pandemic is a means of economic justice and will help to allay the financial impact of the health crisis on people in need. 02/19/21

Bill History 04/15/2021 S - Placed on Informal Calendar

[SB482](#) Sponsor: Sen. Doug Beck (D)

Creates new provisions relating to the recovery of unemployment benefits.

Remarks Support: Forgiving non-fraudulent receipt of federal unemployment benefits during the COVID pandemic is a means of economic justice and will help to allay the financial impact of the health crisis on people in need. 02/19/21

Bill History 03/04/2021 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Small Business and Industry

Denouncing Racial Injustice

[HCR4](#) (HCS HCRs 4 & 5) Sponsor: Rep. Raychel Proudie (D)

Formally denounces the infamous Dred Scott decision.

Remarks Support: This resolution is a means of acknowledging the injustice done to persons of African descent through this court decision and the inhospitable social and legal climate it fostered. 02/19/21

Bill History 04/29/2021 S - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed

[HCR5](#) Sponsor: Rep. Dottie Bailey (R)

Formally denounces the infamous Dred Scott decision.

Remarks Support: This resolution is a means of acknowledging the injustice done to persons of African descent through this court decision and the inhospitable social and legal climate it fostered. 02/19/21

Bill History 02/23/2021 H - Superseded by HCR 4

[SCR3](#) (SCS SCR 3) Sponsor: Sen. Steven Roberts (D)

Condemns the Missouri Supreme Court's Dred Scott decision.

Remarks Support: This resolution is a means of acknowledging the injustice done to persons of African descent through this court decision and the inhospitable social and legal climate it fostered. 02/19/21

Bill History 04/28/2021 H - Reported Do Pass - House-Rules-Administrative Oversight

Earned Income Tax Credit

[SB248](#) (CCS/HCS/SS/SCS SBs 153 & 97) Sponsor: Sen. Lauren Arthur (D)

Authorizes an earned income tax credit in Missouri.

Remarks Support: By creating a state earned income tax credit, Missouri can assist the working poor and their families. Part of the effort to uphold the dignity of work and workers. (Laborem Excerens, par. 9,10,17-19) 01/25/19

Bill History 05/14/2021 - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed as part of CCS/HCS/SS/SCS SBs 153 & 97

Food Stamps/Work Requirements

[HB217](#) (HCS HB 217) Sponsor: Rep. Chad Perkins (R)

Modifies provisions relating to work requirements for the supplemental nutrition assistance program.

Remarks Oppose: In the zeal to get people to work, sanctions should not be imposed that deny basic food allowances to children. There are better ways to encourage work. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/03/2021 H - Placed on Informal Calendar

[SB138](#) (SCS SB 138) Sponsor: Sen. Rick Brattin (R)

Modifies the law relating to work requirements for participants in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Remarks Oppose: In the zeal to get people to work, sanctions should not be imposed that deny basic food allowances to children. There are better ways to encourage work. 01/22/21

Bill History 04/15/2021 S - Placed on Informal Calendar

Housing

[SB85](#) Sponsor: Sen. Dan Hegeman (R)

Modifies provisions relating to low-income housing tax credits.

Remarks Support: Establishing a state low-income housing tax credit will help encourage developers to build housing for the poor and underserved communities. 01/22/21

Bill History 03/23/2021 S - Voted Do Pass - Senate-Economic Development

Medicaid Work Requirements

[HJR64](#) Sponsor: Rep. Cody Smith (R)

Proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Missouri relating to health care.

Remarks Oppose: Work requirements for Medicaid recipients put them at risk of losing coverage, resulting in the inconsistent delivery of care over time, and poor health outcomes for those with chronic conditions. Part of the effort to ensure access to affordable health care for all. (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, par. 166) 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Health and Mental Health Policy

[SB224](#) Sponsor: Sen. Bob Onder (R)

Requires certain MO HealthNet participants to comply with work and community engagement requirements.

Remarks Oppose: Work requirements for Medicaid recipients put them at risk of losing coverage, resulting in the inconsistent delivery of care over time, and poor health outcomes for those with chronic conditions. Part of the effort to ensure access to affordable health care for all. (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, par. 166) 01/22/21

Bill History 03/24/2021 S - Voted Do Pass - Senate-Health and Pensions

Minimum Wage/Repeal

[HB726](#) Sponsor: Rep. Cody Smith (R)

Modifies provisions relating to the state minimum wage rate.

Remarks Oppose: All workers deserve a just wage in order to support themselves and their families. A just wage is one way to uphold the dignity of work and workers. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, par. 2434) 03/19/21

Bill History 03/23/2021 - Public hearing completed

Reduced Water and Sewer Rates for Low-income Earners

[HB1038](#) Sponsor: Rep. Jeff Knight (R)

Allows the Public Service Commission to authorize a low income rate for water and sewer service.

Remarks Support: The Public Service Commission should have the authority to set a reduced rate for water and sewer utilities for low-income customers as a means of making these utilities more affordable for those customers. Part of the effort to uphold the dignity of work and workers. (Laborem Excercens, par. 9, 10, 17-19) 02/19/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Utilities

Show-Me Healthy Babies

[HB11](#) (CCS SS SCS HCS HB11) Sponsor: Rep. Cody Smith (R)

To appropriate money for the Department of Social Services and several divisions and programs. Section 11.805 provides \$62 million for the Show-Me Healthy Babies program. This includes funding for prenatal care and related services for pregnant women and their unborn children.

Remarks Support in part: Support Section 11.805 that provides funds for Show-Me Healthy Babies program, which is designed to provide improved access to prenatal care for expectant mothers and their unborn children. 03/19/21

Bill History 05/07/2021 S - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed

UPHOLD AND STRENGTHEN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

"Marriage" Removed from Statute

[HB1282](#) Sponsor: Rep. Adam Schnelting (R)

Changes the laws regarding marriage and replaces marriage licenses with contracts of domestic union.

Remarks Oppose: "Although the dignity of this institution [marriage] is not transparent everywhere with the same clarity, some sense of the greatness of the matrimonial union exists in all cultures. 'The well-being of the individual person and of both human and Christian society is closely bound up with the healthy state of conjugal and family life.'" (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, par. 1603) This legislation represents a retreat from the effort to revitalize the institution of marriage, an institution essential to the preservation of society. 03/19/21

Bill History 03/10/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Rules-Administrative Oversight

Gender Reassignment Treatment Ban

[HB33](#) Sponsor: Rep. Suzie Pollock (R)

Prohibits medical providers from administering any medical or surgical treatment for the purpose of gender reassignment for anyone under the age of eighteen.

Remarks Support: Medical and surgical treatment for gender dysphoria denies the fundamental truth about the human person being created male and female in the image and likeness of God. "[l]earning to accept our body, to care for it, and to respect its fullest meaning, is an essential element of any genuine human ecology." Laudato Si, No. 15. Minors are not capable of giving informed consent to experimental treatment that could lead to irreversible changes to their bodies, and their sexual and reproductive faculties. 03/19/21

Bill History 05/12/2021 H - Voted Do Not Pass - House-Children and Families

Healthy Marriage/Fatherhood Initiative

[HB11](#) (CCS SS SCS HCS HB11) Sponsor: Rep. Cody Smith (R)

To appropriate money for the Department of Social Services and several divisions and programs. Section 11.160 provides \$2.5 million for the Healthy Marriage and Fatherhood Initiative program.

Remarks Support in part Support Section 11.160 that provides funds for the Healthy Marriage and Fatherhood Initiative program, which encourages stronger marriages and assists absent

fathers in reconnecting with their families and children. 03/19/21

Bill History 05/07/2021 S - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed

Internet Filters for Adult Content

[HB919](#) Sponsor: Rep. Doug Richey (R)

Establishes the Protect Young Minds Online Act, which requires internet service providers to authenticate access to obscene websites.

Remarks Support: Modern technology provides unprecedented access to adult content for both adults and minors. Restricting access to adult content for adults will help keep this offensive and damaging material from reaching children. 02/19/21

Bill History 04/07/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Rules-Legislative Oversight

[SB336](#) Sponsor: Sen. Rick Brattin (R)

Requires internet service providers to authenticate access to obscene websites and provide subscribers the ability to create an authentication to access such websites.

Remarks Support: Modern technology provides unprecedented access to adult content for both adults and minors. Restricting access to adult content for adults will help keep this offensive and damaging material from reaching children. 02/19/21

Bill History 03/03/2021 S - Voted Do Pass - Senate-Commerce, Consumer Protection, Energy and the Environment

Non-Licensed Residential Care Facilities

[HB557](#) (HCS HBs 557 & 560) Sponsor: Rep. Rudy Veit (R)

Establishes provisions relating to the protection of children.

Remarks Support: Non-licensed residential child care facilities should be held to the same safety standard as licensed facilities as a means of protecting vulnerable youth and adolescents. 03/19/21

Bill History 05/13/2021 H - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed

Recreational Marijuana

[HJR30](#) Sponsor: Rep. Shamed Dogan (R)

Proposes a constitutional amendment legalizing marijuana for adult use.

Remarks Oppose: Legalizing the use of marijuana for recreational purposes poses risks to public

safety and to the well-being of Missouri employees and youth. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that the "use of drugs inflicts very grave damage on human health and life. Their use, except on strictly therapeutic grounds, is a grave offense." (CCC No. 2291) The MCC is concerned that legalizing marijuana in this manner will harm the working poor disproportionately and send a message to youth that marijuana use is safe and socially acceptable for recreational purposes. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House committee on General Laws

Sex Ed Opt Out

[HB786](#) Sponsor: Rep. Chuck Basye (R)

Changes provisions relating to instruction in human sexuality in schools.

Remarks Support: Legislation affirms the right of parents to direct the education of their children, especially as it relates to the sensitive and challenging issue of human sexuality. 02/19/21

Bill History 03/04/2021 H - Referred to House committee on Elementary and Secondary Education

Sex Separated Sports

[HJR53](#) (HCS HJR 53) Sponsor: Rep. Chuck Basye (R)

Proposes a constitutional amendment to protect the integrity of interscholastic athletic contests.

Remarks Support: This proposed constitutional amendment would ensure fundamental fairness and safety for female athletes seeking to participate in interscholastic sports. Allowing biological males to compete against biological females cooperates with and advances an ideology at odds with proper pedagogy and the dignity of females and female athletes. 3/19/21

Bill History 04/08/2021 H - Reported Do Pass - House-Rules-Administrative Oversight

DEFEND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Church Space/Gun Regulations

[HB359](#) (SCS/HCS/HB 944) Sponsor: Rep. Ben Baker (R)

Changes the law regarding concealed carrying of weapons by allowing firearms in churches and other places of worship with a concealed carry permit.

Remarks Oppose: Bill eliminates prohibition of carrying weapon(s) into church and eliminates requirement that concealed carry permit holder obtain consent of minister to carry a concealed firearm, requiring church to post signage. As part of principle of religious liberty, churches should continue to have the right to regulate their sacred spaces and decide

whether or not to allow weapons (concealed or otherwise). 01/22/21

Bill History 05/07/2021 S - Voted Do Pass as substituted - Senate-General Laws as part of SCS/HCS/HB 944

[HB634](#) Sponsor: Rep. Nick Schroer (R)

Changes the law regarding concealed carrying of weapons by allowing firearms in churches and other places of worship with a concealed carry permit.

Remarks Oppose: Bill eliminates prohibition of carrying weapon(s) into church and eliminates requirement that concealed carry permit holder obtain consent of minister to carry a concealed firearm, requiring church to post signage. As part of principle of religious liberty, churches should continue to have the right to regulate their sacred spaces and decide whether or not to allow weapons (concealed or otherwise). 01/22/21

Bill History 03/01/2021 H - Superseded by HB 359

[HB86](#) (HCS HB 86) Sponsor: Rep. Jered Taylor (R)

Modifies provisions relating to the concealed carrying of firearms.

Remarks Oppose: Bill eliminates prohibition of carrying weapon(s) into church and private schools and eliminates requirement that concealed carry permit holder obtain consent of minister to carry a concealed firearm, requiring church to post signage. Bill allows lifetime permit holders to carry in a church without permission of pastor, even if church posts signage. As part of principle of religious liberty, churches should continue to have the right to regulate their sacred spaces and schools and decide whether or not to allow weapons (concealed or otherwise) without posting signs. 01/22/21

Bill History 04/14/2021 H - Reported Do Pass - House-Rules-Legislative Oversight

[SB117](#) Sponsor: Sen. Eric Burlison (R)

Modifies and removes provisions relating to concealed firearms.

Remarks Oppose: Bill eliminates prohibition of carrying weapon(s) into church and private schools and eliminates requirement that concealed carry permit holder obtain consent of minister to carry a concealed firearm, requiring church to post signage. Bill allows lifetime permit holders to carry in a church without permission of pastor, even if church posts signage. As part of principle of religious liberty, churches should continue to have the right to regulate their sacred spaces and schools and decide whether or not to allow weapons (concealed or otherwise) without posting signs. 01/22/21

Bill History 01/21/2021 S - Referred to Senate Committee on General Laws

Immunity for Disclosure of Abuse by Employees

[HB141](#) Sponsor: Rep. Doug Richey (R)

Provides immunity from civil liability for disclosures by a charity, nonprofit organization, religious organization, or church of allegations of sexual misconduct.

Remarks Support: Non-profits should be immune from civil liability when disclosing to other non-profits incidents of abuse previously reported to the state, as required by law, about which the non-profit is a mandatory reporter. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Judiciary

Religious Liberty Protections/Campus Organizations

[SB332](#) Sponsor: Sen. Eric Burlison (R)

Prohibits public institutions of higher learning from taking certain adverse actions against belief-based student associations based on such association's belief-related leadership requirements.

Remarks Support: College campus organizations should not be discriminated against and denied access to campus resources based on their religious beliefs or practices. 02/19/21

Bill History 02/04/2021 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Education

Religious Liberty/Infringements

[HB275](#) Sponsor: Rep. Tom Hannegan (R)

Modifies provisions relating to unlawful discriminatory practices.

Remarks Oppose: No one should face unjust discrimination, including discrimination for same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria; however, the proposed legislation has potential negative implications for religious liberty, privacy rights, and rights of conscience. This bill would penalize those who believe we are created male and female, violate the privacy and safety rights of women and girls, and the conscience rights of doctors and other medical professionals. 01/22/21

Bill History 04/19/2021 H - Relieved from Committee - House-Children and Families

[HB327](#) Sponsor: Rep. Keri Ingle (D)

Prohibits a child placing agency contracting with the state to provide foster care services from discriminating against a family because of the sexual orientation or gender identity of any family member.

Remarks Oppose: This bill would penalize faith-based adoption and foster care agencies for their beliefs about the nature and purpose of marriage, infringing upon the free exercise of their religion. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House committee on Children and Families

[HB984](#) Sponsor: Rep. Rasheen Aldridge

Modifies provisions relating to unlawful discriminatory practices.

Remarks Oppose: No one should face unjust discrimination, including discrimination for same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria; however, the proposed legislation has potential negative implications for religious liberty, privacy rights, and rights of conscience. This bill would penalize those who believe we are created male and female, violate the privacy and safety rights of women and girls, and the conscience rights of doctors and other medical professionals. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House committee on Children and Families

[SB81](#) Sponsor: Sen. Greg Razer (D)

Modifies provisions governing unlawful discriminatory practices.

Remarks Oppose: No one should face unjust discrimination, including discrimination for same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria; however, the proposed legislation has potential negative implications for religious liberty, privacy rights, and rights of conscience. This bill would penalize those who believe we are created male and female, violate the privacy and safety rights of women and girls, and the conscience rights of doctors and other medical professionals. 01/22/21

Bill History 01/14/2021 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Small Business and Industry

SUPPORT EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Education Tax Deduction

[HB528](#) Sponsor: Rep. Mike Haffner (R)

Authorizes a tax deduction for certain families of children attending private school or a home school.

Remarks Support: Legislation assists parents in choosing a school for their child that corresponds to their own moral convictions. (Catechism, par. 2229) 01/22/21

Bill History 04/28/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Rules-Legislative Oversight

Empowerment Scholarships

[HB349](#) (HCS HB 349) Sponsor: Rep. Phil Christofanelli (R)

Establishes the "Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program."

Remarks Support: Support intent of legislation to expand educational opportunities to children in need of alternative educational opportunities. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/06/2021 S - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed

[SB23](#) Sponsor: Sen. Andrew Koenig (R)

Establishes the Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program.

Remarks Support: Support intent of legislation to expand educational opportunities to children in need of alternative educational opportunities. 01/22/21

Bill History 01/21/2021 S - Superseded by SB 55 SB55

Immunization Opt Out for Public Schools

[HB37](#) Sponsor: Representative Suzie Pollock (R)

Modifies provisions relating to immunizations.

Remarks Oppose: Expanding the exemption to immunization requirements for public school attendance is counter to the common good. Public schools should be free to decline matriculating students who refuse vaccination on the basis of conscientious belief, because matriculating unvaccinated students potentially puts other students at risk. Those choosing to remain unvaccinated have a duty not to become “vehicles for the transmission of” infection diseases, and “must avoid any risk to the health of those who cannot be vaccinated for medical or other reasons, and who are most vulnerable.” (Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Note on the morality of using some anti-COVID-19 vaccines, December 21, 2020.)

Bill History 05/03/2021 - Placed on the Informal Perfection Calendar (H)

Show Me A Brighter Future Scholarships

[HB540](#) Sponsor: Rep. Travis Fitzwater (R)

Establishes the "Show Me A Brighter Future Scholarship Program".

Remarks Support: Support intent of legislation to expand educational opportunities to children in need of alternative educational opportunities. 01/22/21

Bill History 02/02/2021 H - Executive Session postponed

[SB25](#) Sponsor: Sen. Bill Eigel (R)

Establishes the Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program and modifies provisions related to charter schools.

Remarks Support: Support intent of legislation to expand educational opportunities to children in need of alternative educational opportunities. 01/22/21

Bill History 01/21/2021 S - Superseded by SB 55 SB55

[SB251](#) Sponsor: Sen. Bob Onder (R)

Establishes the Missouri Empowerment Scholarship Accounts Program.

Remarks Support: Support intent of legislation to expand educational opportunities to children in need of alternative educational opportunities. 01/22/21

Bill History 01/28/2021 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Education

[SB296](#) Sponsor: Sen. Rick Brattin (R)

Establishes the Education Savings Account Program.

Remarks Support: Support intent of legislation to expand educational opportunities to children in need of alternative educational opportunities. 01/22/21

Bill History 03/02/2021 S - Voted Do Pass as substituted - Senate-Education

[SB30](#) Sponsor: Sen. Mike Cierpiot (R)

Establishes the "Show Me a Brighter Future Scholarship Act".

Remarks Support: Support intent of legislation to expand educational opportunities to children in need of alternative educational opportunities. 01/22/21

Bill History 04/15/2021 S - Placed on Informal Calendar

REFORM CRIMINAL JUSTICE

"Raise the Age"/Juvenile Court Jurisdiction

[HB1242](#) (CCS HCS SS SCS SB 53 and SB 60) Sponsor: Rep. David Evans (R)

Modifies provisions relating to juvenile court proceedings.

Remarks Support: In their 2000 statement, Responsibility, Rehabilitation and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice, the U.S. Bishops state: "We bishops cannot support policies that treat young offenders as though they are adults...society must never respond to children who have committed crimes as though they are adults - fully formed in conscience and fully aware of their actions. Placing children in adult jails is a sign of failure, not a solution." 02/19/21

Bill History 05/13/2021 S - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed as part of CCS HCS SS SCS SB53 and SB60

[HB1293](#) Sponsor: Rep. Shamed Dogan (R)

Modifies provisions relating to the certification of juveniles for trial as an adult.

Remarks Support: In their 2000 statement, Responsibility, Rehabilitation and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice, the U.S. Bishops state: "We bishops cannot support policies that treat young offenders as though they are adults...society must never respond to children who have committed crimes as though they are adults - fully formed in conscience and fully aware of their actions. Placing children in adult jails is a sign of failure, not a solution." 02/19/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Judiciary

[SB440](#) (CCS HCS SS SCS SB 53 and SB 60) Sponsor: Sen. Barbara Washington

Modifies provisions relating to juvenile detention.

Remarks Support: In their 2000 statement, Responsibility, Rehabilitation and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice, the U.S. Bishops state: "We bishops cannot support policies that treat young offenders as though they are adults...society must never respond to children who have committed crimes as though they are adults - fully formed in conscience and fully aware of their actions. Placing children in adult jails is a sign of failure, not a solution." 02/19/21

Bill History 04/06/2021 S - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed as part of CCS HCS SS SCS SB53 and SB60

[SB446](#) Sponsor: Sen. Barbara Washington

Modifies provisions relating to the certification of juveniles for trial as an adult.

Remarks Support: In their 2000 statement, Responsibility, Rehabilitation and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice, the U.S. Bishops state: "We bishops cannot support policies that treat young offenders as though they are adults...society must never respond to children who have committed crimes as though they are adults - fully formed in conscience and fully aware of their actions. Placing children in adult jails is a sign of failure, not a solution." 02/19/21

Bill History 02/25/2021 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

Alternative Sentencing for Caregivers

[HB531](#) (CCS/HCS/SS/SCS/SBs 53 & 60) Sponsor: Rep. David Evans (R)

Changes the law regarding probation.

Remarks Support: In keeping with the principle of subsidiarity, judges should have discretion to sentence nonviolent offenders to local programs that allow offenders to remain in the

community and care for their children rather than prison terms that result in children being placed in foster care. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/13/2021 H - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed as part of CCS/HCS/SS/SCS/SBs 53 &60

Early Parole/Older Inmates

[HB277](#) (HCS HB 277) Sponsor: Rep. Tom Hannegan (R)

Authorizes the early parole of certain offenders over the age of sixty-five.

Remarks Support: Older inmates who have served much of their sentence merit a parole hearing to see if they are rehabilitated and can re-enter society. In A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice (2000), the Catholic Bishops state: "We believe that both victims and offender are children of God. Despite their very different claims on society, their lives and dignity should be protected and respected. We seek justice, not vengeance. We believe punishment must have clear purposes: protecting society and rehabilitating those who violate the law." 01/22/21

Bill History 02/24/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Rules-Administrative Oversight

Juvenile Sentence Review

[HB1131](#) Sponsor: Rep. Peter Merideth (D)

Specifies the calculation for parole eligibility of minors.

Remarks Support: Juvenile offenders sentenced as adults to prison should be afforded a reasonable opportunity for parole after a term of years that recognizes their immature developmental state at the time of the offense. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Judiciary

[HB636](#) (CCS#2/HCS/SS/SCS/SB 26) Sponsor: Rep. Nick Schroer (R)

Modifies provisions relating to sentence review for certain persons.

Remarks Support: Juvenile offenders sentenced as adults to prison should be afforded a reasonable opportunity for parole after a term of years that recognizes their immature developmental state at the time of the offense. 01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed as part of CCS#2/HCS/SS/SCS/SB 26

Requiring Mandatory Minimums

[HB1194](#) Sponsor: Rep. Bennie Cook (R)

Modifies provisions relating to minimum prison terms.

Remarks Oppose: Mandatory minimum sentences replace a judge's discretion in sentencing with rigid formulas, which do not always serve the purposes of punishment for crimes. Adding additional offenses for which minimum sentences must be given moves Missouri in the wrong direction and places additional pressure on Missouri's already overcrowded prisons.
01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Referred to House Committee on Judiciary

[SB75](#) Sponsor: Sen. Jason Bean (R)

Modifies provisions relating to minimum prison terms.

Remarks Oppose: Mandatory minimum sentences replace a judge's discretion in sentencing with rigid formulas, which do not always serve the purposes of punishment for crimes. Adding additional offenses for which minimum sentences must be given moves Missouri in the wrong direction and places additional pressure on Missouri's already overcrowded prisons.
01/22/21

Bill History 01/14/2021 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

Work Opportunities for Prior Offenders

[HB316](#) (CCS#2 HCS SS SCS SB 26) Sponsor: Rep. Cheri Toalson

Modifies provisions relating to certain persons found guilty of criminal offenses.

Remarks Support: Offenders should be given a fair opportunity for work after serving their sentences without being burdened by limitations on employment opportunities upon release.
01/22/21

Bill History 05/14/2021 H - Truly Agreed and Finally Passed as part of CCS#2/HCS/SS/SCS/SB 26