

## Defend Religious Liberty

### Breaching the Seal of the Confessional

**Original Bill:** [HB1812](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. Raychel Proudi

**Description:** Allows the reporting of a privileged communication regarding child abuse and neglect that is made to a minister or clergy person.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: In an effort to address the scourge of child sexual abuse by members of the Church in the past, the state should not infringe upon the right of priests to administer the sacrament of confession and to maintain the confidentiality of things disclosed there.  
01/24/20

**Last Action:** 01/09/2020 H - Referred to House Committee on Judiciary

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**Original Bill:** [HB2136](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. James Neely (

**Description:** Allows the reporting of a privileged communication regarding child abuse and neglect that is made to a minister or clergy person.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: In an effort to address the scourge of child sexual abuse by members of the Church in the past, the state should not infringe upon the right of priests to administer the sacrament of confession and to maintain the confidentiality of things disclosed there.  
01/24/20

**Last Action:** 01/16/2020 H - Referred to House Committee on Judiciary

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### Church Space/Gun Regulations

**Original Bill:** [HB1638](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. Jered Taylor (R

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to the concealed carrying of firearms.

**Position Statement:** 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. 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 decide whether or not to allow weapons (concealed or otherwise).  
01/24/20

**Last Action:** 02/13/2020 H - Referred to House committee on General Laws

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**Original Bill:** [HB2186](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. Jeff Shawan (R

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

**Position Statement:** 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. 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 decide whether or not to allow weapons (concealed or otherwise).  
01/24/20

**Last Action:** 02/13/2020 H - Referred to House committee on General Laws

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**Original Bill:** [SB663](#)      **Amended Bill:**      **Sponsor:** Sen. Eric Burlison (R)

**Description:** Modifies and removes provisions relating to concealed firearms.

**Position Statement:** 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. 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 decide whether or not to allow weapons (concealed or otherwise).  
01/24/20

**Last Action:** 03/12/2020 S - Voted do pass as substitute from committee

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### Immunity for Disclosure of Abuse by Employees

**Original Bill:** [HB1446](#)      **Amended Bill:**      **Sponsor:** Rep. Doug Richey (

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

**Position Statement:** 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. 01/24/20

**Last Action:** 03/10/2020 H - Public hearing completed

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### Religious Liberty Protections/Campus Organizations

**Original Bill:** [HB1926](#)      **Amended Bill:**      **Sponsor:** Rep. Hannah Kelly (

**Description:** Prohibits public institutions of higher learning from discriminating against a religious student association or denying a religious student association any benefit available to any other student association.

**Position Statement:** Support: College campus organizations should not be discriminated against and denied access to campus resources based on their religious beliefs or practices. 01/24/20

**Last Action:** 03/11/2020 H - Voted do pass as substitute from committee

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**Original Bill:** [SB761](#)      **Amended Bill:**      **Sponsor:** Sen. Eric Burlison (R)

**Description:** Prohibits institutions of higher learning from discriminating against a religious student organization.

**Position Statement:** Support: College campus organizations should not be discriminated against and denied access to campus resources based on their religious beliefs or practices. 01/24/20

**Last Action:** 02/13/2020 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Education

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### Religious Liberty/Infringements

**Original Bill:** [HB1527](#)      **Amended Bill:**      **Sponsor:** Rep. Greg Razer (D)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to complaints filed with the Missouri Commission on Human Rights regarding discrimination based upon a person's sexual orientation or gender identity.

**Position Statement:** 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. 03/26/20

**Last Action:** 01/09/2020 H - Read Second Time

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**Original Bill:** [HB1677](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. Keri Ingle (D)

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

**Position Statement:** 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. 03/26/20

**Last Action:** 01/09/2020 H - Read Second Time

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**Original Bill:** [HB1763](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Rep. Tom Hannegan

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to unlawful discriminatory practices.

**Position Statement:** 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. 03/26/20

**Last Action:** 01/09/2020 H - Read Second Time

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**Original Bill:** [SB945](#)    **Amended Bill:**    **Sponsor:** Sen. Brian Williams

**Description:** Bars discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

**Position Statement:** 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. 03/26/20

**Last Action:** 02/27/2020 S - Referred to Senate Committee on Small Business and Industry

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