

# MCC Position Bills

## Anti-Abortion

### *Abortion-Inducing Drugs Safety Act*

**Original Bill:** HB 1274    **Sponsor:** Koenig

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Establishes the Abortion-inducing Drugs Safety Act which places restrictions on abortion-inducing drugs.

**Position Statement:** Support: Legislation will discourage abortions by requiring more responsible use of medication. In its practical effect, this bill would prohibit abortion by tele-medicine. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-12-12 H Read second time

**Track Code:** DPL, MCCP, PAA

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**Original Bill:** SB 658    **Sponsor:** Rupp

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Enacts provisions regarding safety procedures for the use of abortion-inducing drugs.

**Position Statement:** Support: Legislation will discourage abortions by requiring more responsible use of medication. In its practical effect, this bill would prohibit abortion by tele-medicine. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-12-12 S Introduced and read first time

**Track Code:** DPL, MCCP, PAA

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### *Contraceptives/Hospital Mandate*

**Original Bill:** SB 495    **Sponsor:** Wright-Jones

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Requires hospitals to dispense emergency contraceptives, some of which can cause abortions.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: Legislation violates religious liberty and promotes the use of emergency contraceptives, some of which can cause abortions. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate-Health/Mental Health/Seniors&Families

**Track Code:** DPL, MCCP, PAA

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### *Pregnancy Resource Center/Tax Credit*

**Original Bill:** SB 582    **Sponsor:** Dempsey

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Reauthorizes the pregnancy resource center tax credit.

**Position Statement:** Support: Reauthorizing this credit will enable pregnancy resource centers to attract donations that are used to assist women in crisis pregnancies to carry their unborn child to term. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate-Ways and Means and Fiscal Oversight

**Track Code:** CCD, DPL, MCCP, PAA

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### ***Pregnancy Resource Centers***

**Original Bill:** HB 1357    **Sponsor:** Gatschenberger

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Establishes state preemption for the regulation of alternatives to abortion agencies.

**Position Statement:** Support: Legislation protects the right of pregnancy resource centers to offer assistance to women in crisis pregnancies.

**Last Action:** 01-19-12 H Read second time

**Track Code:** DPL, MCCP, PAA

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### ***Sex Education/Abortion Providers***

**Original Bill:** SB 496    **Sponsor:** Wright-Jones

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Revises Missouri law regarding K-12 sex education. Repeals emphasis on chastity and allows abortion providers to provide sex education in K-12 public schools.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: Legislation subverts pro-life, pro-family focus of sex education currently found in Missouri law. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate-Health/Mental Health/Seniors&Families

**Track Code:** DPL, MCCP, PAA

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## **Church Concerns**

### ***Blaine Amendment Repeal***

**Original Bill:** SJR 47    **Sponsor:** Rupp

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Removes a portion of the Missouri Constitution that prohibits distribution of public funds to religious organizations.

**Position Statement:** Support: Repeal of the Blaine Amendment will give Missouri more flexibility in serving the needs of citizens without discriminating on the basis of religion.

**Last Action:** 01-19-12 S Introduced and read first time

**Track Code:** CCD, DSO, MCCP, PCC

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## Corrections

### Chain Gangs

**Original Bill:** HB 1223    **Sponsor:** Brattin

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Changes various practices at correctional facilities, including restoring hard labor and chain gangs, and prohibiting smoking, certain entertainment, and exercise equipment.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: Bill is punitive and will not serve to rehabilitate offenders so they can successfully re-enter society. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-12-12 H Referred to House Committee on House-Crime Prevention    **Track Code:** COR, MCCP, PCO

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### Children of Incarcerated Parents

**Original Bill:** HB 1220    **Sponsor:** Hubbard

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Requires the Department of Corrections to establish a two-year pilot project to increase the access that children have to their incarcerated mothers.

**Position Statement:** Support: Allowing incarcerated parents to visit with their children will strengthen family ties. Our corrections system should seek to rehabilitate offenders and strengthening the family is a key component of this effort. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-11-12 H Read second time    **Track Code:** COR, MCCP, PCO

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### Medical Fees/Inmates

**Original Bill:** HB 1057    **Sponsor:** Brattin

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Requires all inmates receiving on-site medical examination or treatment from correctional center personnel to be charged \$1.50 per visit.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: Legislation fails to recognize the lack of financial resources of inmates and is short-sighted in not ensuring better protection from communicable diseases. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-19-12 H Referred to House Committee on House-Crime Prevention    **Track Code:** COR, MCCP, PCO

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## Criminal Justice

### Drug Court Funding

**Original Bill:** SB 446      **Sponsor:** Goodman

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Specifies that drug courts may be funded by the county law enforcement restitution fund.

**Position Statement:** Support: Legislation will allow enhanced funding for drug courts which hold drug offenders accountable through alternative to incarceration rehabilitation programs. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-23-12 S Meeting set for 6:00 PM or Upon Adj.,  
Senate Lounge, Senate-Judiciary Civil/Criminal  
Jurisprudence      **Track Code:** COR, MCCP, PCJ

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### Suspended Imposition of Sentence/Juveniles

**Original Bill:** SB 556      **Sponsor:** Curls

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Allows courts to suspend imposition of an adult criminal sentence for certain juvenile offenders.

**Position Statement:** Support: Legislation will allow juveniles to start a new life with a clean record. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate-  
Judiciary Civil/Criminal Jurisprudence      **Track Code:** COR, MCCP, PCJ

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## Death Penalty

### Death Penalty Commission

**Original Bill:** HB 1420      **Sponsor:** Colona

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Establishes a commission on the death penalty and places a moratorium on all executions until January 1, 2015.

**Position Statement:** Support: Creation of a commission on the death penalty will permit a careful study of all aspects of capital punishment, including how it contradicts respect for the sanctity and dignity of human life. 04/15/11

**Last Action:** 01-19-12 H Introduced and read first time      **Track Code:** COR, MCCP, PDP

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## Economic Justice

### Payday Loans

**Original Bill:** SB 462     **Sponsor:** Keaveny

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Amends laws relating to unsecured loans of \$500 or less.

**Position Statement:** Amend per position: As allowed under current law, payday lending exploits those least able to pay exorbitant interest rates. Like other states in the Midwest, Missouri should prohibit lenders from rolling over payday loans every two weeks. There should be a lower cap on the fees payday lenders can charge. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate-  
Financial/Gov. Org. and Elections     **Track Code:** CCD, DSC, MCCP, PEJ

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**Original Bill:** SB 476     **Sponsor:** Lamping

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Amends laws relating to unsecured loans of \$500 or less.

**Position Statement:** Amend per position: As allowed under current law, payday lending exploits those least able to pay exorbitant interest rates. Like other states in the Midwest, Missouri should prohibit lenders from rolling over payday loans every two weeks. There should be a lower cap on the fees payday lenders may charge. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate-  
Financial/Gov. Org. and Elections     **Track Code:** CCD, MCCP, PEJ

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## Education

### College Scholarships/Early High School Graduates

**Original Bill:** SB 483     **Sponsor:** Rupp

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Creates the Early High School Graduation Scholarship Program for public high school students who graduate from high school early.

**Position Statement:** Amend per position: As a matter of justice, the legislation should offer college scholarships to both public and private high school graduates. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate- Education     **Track Code:** DSO, MCCP, PED

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### Education Tax Deduction

**Original Bill:** HB 1133     **Sponsor:** Barnes

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Authorizes an income tax deduction for education expenses for educating a dependent.

**Position Statement:** Support: Legislation assists parents in choosing a school for their child that corresponds to their own moral convictions. (Catechism, par. 2229). 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 H Read second time     **Track Code:** DSO, MCCP, PED

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### Educational Opportunity/Students in Failing Districts

**Original Bill:** SB 456     **Sponsor:** Pearce

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Establishes procedures for the transfer of students from an unaccredited school district to an accredited school district in the same or an adjoining county.

**Position Statement:** Amend per position: The options offered in this legislation to students in failing public school districts should be expanded to include attendance at private and parochial schools. Parents have the right to choose a school for their child that corresponds with their own moral convictions (Catechism of the Catholic Church, par. 2229) 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate- General Laws     **Track Code:** DSO, MCCP, PED

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## Health

### Volunteer Health Services

**Original Bill:** HB 1072     **Sponsor:** Sater

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Establishes the Volunteer Health Services Act to allow certain licensed health professionals to provide services without additional licensure requirements.

**Position Statement:** Support: Legislation provides an additional method to provide health care services to the many Missouri citizens who lack health insurance. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 H Read second time     **Track Code:** CCD, MCCP, PHL

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## Immigration

### Drivers License Exams/Immigrants

**Original Bill:** HB 1147    **Sponsor:** Gatschenberger

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Requires driver's license examinations to only be administered in English.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: Lawful immigrants not proficient in English may have difficulty taking the drivers test in English even though they understand traffic signs and signals and can drive safely. The legislation will make it difficult for lawful immigrants to get to work or to attend English language classes. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-12-12 H Referred to House Committee on House-International Trade and Job Creation    **Track Code:** M CCP, PIM

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**Original Bill:** HB 1186    **Sponsor:** Parkinson

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Requires Missouri driver's license examinations to only be administered in English.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: Lawful immigrants not proficient in English may have difficulty taking the drivers test in English even though they understand traffic signs and signals and can drive safely. The legislation will make it difficult for lawful immigrants to get to work or to attend English language classes. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-11-12 H Referred to House Committee on House-International Trade and Job Creation    **Track Code:** IMM G, M CCP, PIM

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### Immigration Enforcement

**Original Bill:** SB 590    **Sponsor:** Kraus

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Modifies laws relating to immigration enforcement, including requirements for both public schools and law enforcement agencies.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: Legislation imposes a costly, unnecessary burden on public schools systems and law enforcement agencies. It will place additional requirements on all Missouri residents, even those who are lawful citizens. Finally, it will foster a climate of distrust and divisiveness not worthy of the charitable spirit so prominent among the people of our state.

**Last Action:** 01-17-12 S Hearing conducted    **Track Code:** CCD, M CCP, PIM

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## Life Ethics

### Adult Health Care Consent

**Original Bill:** HB 1087    **Sponsor:** White

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Establishes the Adult Health Care Consent Act which provides for a priority of person who can make health care decisions for persons unable to consent.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: Legislation fails to include adequate protections for incapacitated individuals. All individuals at all stages of life should be treated with dignity and concern. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 H Read second time    **Track Code:** DIA, DPL, M CCP, PLE

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## Taxation/Revenue

### "Fair Tax"

**Original Bill:** SJR 34      **Sponsor:** Purgason

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Replaces all taxes on income with a sales and use tax.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: At a time of great economic hardship, the legislation proposes to raise taxes on the poor. If enacted, the new tax will reduce state revenue leading to major funding cuts in programs that assist Missouri's most vulnerable citizens. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-04-12 S Read first time

**Track Code:** CCD, MCCP, PTRV

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**Original Bill:** SJR 35      **Sponsor:** Ridgeway

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Replaces all taxes on income with a sales and use taxes that are capped at certain rates.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: At a time of great economic hardship, the legislation proposes to raise taxes on the poor. If enacted, the new tax will reduce state revenue leading to major funding cuts in programs that assist Missouri's most vulnerable citizens. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-04-12 S Read first time

**Track Code:** CCD, MCCP, PTRV

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### Constitutional Revenue Limit

**Original Bill:** HJR 43      **Sponsor:** Burlison

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Proposes a constitutional amendment prohibiting state appropriations in any fiscal year from exceeding certain limits.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: Legislation denies elected officials the opportunity to appropriate funds based on the circumstances and priorities present in each budget year thereby limiting government's ability to uphold common good, as understood in Catholic teaching. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-19-12 S Reported to the Senate and first read

**Track Code:** CCD, MCCP, PTRV

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### Internet Sales Tax

**Original Bill:** HB 1197      **Sponsor:** Kelly

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Requires the Department of Revenue to establish the necessary rules to implement the compliance provisions of the multistate Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement.

**Position Statement:** Support: Legislation merits support because it will raise revenue for vital state services that assist the poor and level the competitive playing field between out-of-state and state-based businesses. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-10-12 H Read second time

**Track Code:** CCD, MCCP, PTRV

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## Tax Credit Reform

**Original Bill:** SB 436      **Sponsor:** Crowell

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Subjects all state tax credits to appropriation.

**Position Statement:** Oppose: The best way to reform Missouri's tax credits is by establishing annual caps and requiring each program to be reauthorized periodically. Requiring credits to be appropriated every year could jeopardize pro-life credits, such as those for pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate-  
Ways and Means and Fiscal Oversight      **Track Code:** CCD, DSC, M CCP, PTRV

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## Welfare

### Food Pantry Credit

**Original Bill:** HB 1154    **Sponsor:** Brandom

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Reduces the annual cumulative amount of tax credits that can be authorized for donations to a food pantry from \$2 million to \$1 million and extends the expiration date to December 31, 2020.

**Position Statement:** Support: Extending the authorization for this credit will continue to encourage donations to food pantries. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-12-12 H Referred to House Committee on House-    **Track Code:** CCD, MCCP, PWEL  
Economic Development

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**Original Bill:** HB 1233    **Sponsor:** McManus

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Re-establishes the tax credit for donations to food pantries.

**Position Statement:** Support: Legislation will encourage more donations to food pantries thereby making more food available to the hungry. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-11-12 H Read second time    **Track Code:** CCD, MCCP, PWEL

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**Original Bill:** SB 532    **Sponsor:** Schaefer

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Extends the tax credit for donations to food pantries until August 2022.

**Position Statement:** Support: Legislation will encourage more donations to food pantries thereby making more food available to the hungry. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate-    **Track Code:** CCD, MCCP, PWEL  
Ways and Means and Fiscal Oversight

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### Food Stamps/Felony Convictions

**Original Bill:** HB 1238    **Sponsor:** Nance

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Specifies that certain felons must be eligible for food stamp program benefits.

**Position Statement:** Support: Prohibiting former drug offenders from receiving food stamp assistance is a form of double punishment not experienced by other offenders. This legislation corrects this injustice while ensuring former offenders are receiving (or have received) substance abuse treatment. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-11-12 H Read second time    **Track Code:** COR, MCCP, PWEL

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**Original Bill:** SB 522    **Sponsor:** Curls

**Amended Bill:**

**Description:** Modifies the eligibility requirements for food stamp assistance.

**Position Statement:** Support: Prohibiting former drug offenders from receiving food stamp assistance is a form of double punishment not experienced by other offenders. This legislation corrects this injustice while ensuring former offenders are receiving (or have received) substance abuse treatment. 01/13/12

**Last Action:** 01-05-12 S Referred to Senate Committee on Senate-    **Track Code:** CCD, MCCP, PWEL  
General Laws

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