



National Council of Jewish Women



**Calling all #JewsForAbortionAccess**: This week is the **NCJW Abortion Access Week of Action**! As we prepare for our holiest days in the calendar, National Council of Jewish Women is mobilizing the Jewish Community to advance abortion access. **Click here** to sign up to stay in the loop on action alerts and opportunities to make a difference.

# Fight Back Against Crisis Pregnancy Centers and Anti-Abortion Disinformation This Wednesday



As we embark on the NCJW Abortion Access Week of Action, one of the most impactful steps you can take is to tell Congress to stop anti-abortion disinformation by supporting the <u>SAD Act</u>.

As reproductive health clinics disappear across the country — and entirely from certain states — crisis

pregnancy centers (CPCs), which spread misinformation about pregnancy and abortion, are thriving. **In Missouri, there are at least 76 crisis pregnancy centers.** And in 2019, the Missouri Legislature passed a law providing huge tax credits for these centers — a drain on state revenues that legislative oversight officials failed to forecast.

It's time to tell Congress to support the SAD Act! And we're doing it together on Wednesday, September 14.

Please <u>click here</u> to urge the House and the Senate to pass the SAD Act immediately.

**THIS WEEK! September Lunch & Learn: Legal Missouri and Other Ballot Initiatives** 



When: Thursday, September 15 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM CT Where: Zoom RSVP Here

Legal MO, the initiative that would legalize marijuana for personal use for those 21 years old or older and allow individuals convicted of non-violent marijuana-related offenses to petition to be released from incarceration and/or have their records expunged, will be on the ballot in November. What does this mean?

Recent research shows that Black people are 2.6 times more likely than whites to be arrested for marijuana possession in Missouri. And marijuana possession arrests during that same time period accounted for 50 percent of all drug arrests in Missouri, placing the state just outside the nation's Top 10 for the highest cannabis possession arrest rates.

To help illustrate the issue further, NCJWSTL is teaming up with JCRC to welcome John Payne, Campaign Manager of Legal MO, and Sharon Geuea Jones, the founding member of the Jones Advocacy Group. Payne graduated with a degree in history from Washington University in Saint Louis in 2005. In 2018, he managed the successful campaign to legalize medical marijuana in Missouri. As an attorney and lobbyist, Geuea Jones has advocated on behalf of her clients in the Missouri General Assembly, at the ballot box and in the courts since 2002. In conjunction with the Missouri NAACP and the Missouri Educational Equity Partnership, she is leading the "Let Them Learn" coalition in Jefferson City.

### *Please <u>click here</u> to register for the September Lunch and Learn. Questions? Email Jen Bernstein at <u>jbernstein@ncjwstl.org</u> or call 314.993.5181*

# Take the Pledge: Rebuild Missourians' Access to All Sexual & Reproductive Health Care

Within minutes of the U.S. Supreme Court overturning Roe v. Wade, Missouri politicians banned abortion except in cases of medical emergency. NCJWSTL, Planned Parenthood and the Missouri Family Health Council have joined forces to fight and rebuild a state where everyone can access the sexual and reproductive health care — including abortion — that they need.



Now more than ever, it's important everyone has accurate information about the health care available to them. Abortion is banned in Missouri, but **birth control is still legal & available.** Let's keep it that way.

<u>*Click here*</u> and take the pledge to fight for Missouri's reproductive future.

# **Tell Your Senators to Protect Pregnant Workers' Rights**



The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA) has made great strides in Congress. But it is still not law, and pregnant workers in the U.S. remain without critical protections in the workplace. Too many employers can fire pregnant employees – or force them to quit or take unpaid leave – instead of providing temporary and reasonable accommodations. PWFA would help put a stop to this practice and protect the health and economic

security of pregnant workers everywhere.

PWFA has been stalled for far too long, but we have a window of opportunity to get it passed. The House already passed the bill with significant bipartisan support. Now, the Senate must act and finally get this legislation to President Biden's desk. Pregnant workers shouldn't have to wait any longer.

# <u>Click here</u> to tell your senator it's time to pass PWFA now, not later. Host a DYI Roe the Vote Box Party PARTY HOST INFO WHO: You + Your Friends (10-20 people is ideal) WHAT: Send Roe Your Vote Care Packages to College Students/Friends/Relatives (1) set up evite with event info and a list of care package items guests can sign up to bring; (2) prep enough essentials for all guests including packing tape, filler, sharpies, notecards, and boxes (use flat rate boxes from your local post office) WHERE : Private home (or anywhere) 52 WHEN : Before September 30th to meet the MO voter registration deadline of October 12th (ship Rosh Hashanah themed boxes by September 19th). WHY : To give our college students/friends/relatives the knowledge and power to vote, while also providing tools for reproductive health and treats for a sweet new year. SUGGESTED CARE PACKAGE CONTENTS: condoms <u>morning after pill</u> (take within 3 days of sex) vote stickers (<u>roe, roe, roe your vote</u>) Sweet & savory snacks (swedish fish and gold fish roe theme) challah/<u>honey</u> /<u>baked apples</u>/<u>freeze dried apples</u> Emergen-C Are you looking for a way to give our college students/friends/relatives the knowledge and power to vote, while also providing tools for reproductive health and treats for a sweet new year? Then look no further - host a Roe the Vote box party!

*To learn more about hosting a Roe the Vote box party, please <u>click here</u>. For any other questions, please contact Dana Sandweiss or Vicki Singer at <u>accessmissouri@gmail.com</u>.* 

# **Take Action & Join the A-List**

Now more than ever you will want to make sure that your name is on NCJWSTL's A-List for 2022! Join us as we stand together and speak out about the issues that matter most.

#### Together we can make a difference!



A-List sponsorship ads sustain our collaborative efforts to educate the community and elected officials about issues integral to our mission. The full-page ads will run in the St. Louis Jewish Light during 2022.

\$18 includes your name in the ad.
\$54 makes you an Advocate Plus with your name in bold.
\$72 makes you a sponsor with your name distinguished in color

<u>Click here</u> to see the A-List flyer. <u>Click here</u> to see the latest A-List Ad. Join the A-list <u>here</u>.

# **Interesting Reading**



The states with the strictest abortion laws (like Missouri) are doing the least to help poor families. These states tend to rank among the lowest in the nation when it comes to maternal mortality, child wellness, food security, and access to affordable health care. Some of the states actively redistribute federal aid away from low-income parents—for which the aid was designed—and towards

crisis pregnancy centers, which are organized by the anti-abortion movement to dissuade pregnant people from having abortions, often through misinformation. What could possibly go wrong?

<u>Click here</u> to read Abby Vesoulis' article from Mother Jones, "Forced Parenthood and Failing Safety Nets: This Is Life in Post-Roe America."

