



**ADVOCACY
IN ACTION**
ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

Legislation Watch - Take Action Today!

NCJWSTL is closely monitoring the following legislation this week and we are asking you to take action:

HJR 43 - This bill would attack our citizen initiative process by making it harder to get a citizen initiative on the ballot and more difficult for measures to pass once on the ballot.



**NCJW
ACTION
ALERT**

HJR 43 passed the Senate last Thursday. Because there were so many amendments added to the bill, it must go back to the house for another vote.

Please call your Missouri House representative and tell them you oppose all changes to the initiative petition process and to vote **NO** on HJR 43. Please [click here](#) to find your representative's contact information.

SB 39 - This bill would bar transgender athletes from kindergarten through college in private, public and charter schools from participating in team sports.

SB 49 - This bill would revoke access to puberty blockers and hormone replacement therapy for transgender youth who are not already on a medical care plan for four years.

These bills both aim to take away the ability for trans youth to thrive and simply exist. Lawmakers know the harm they are causing and still continue to use trans youth as political pawns to score political points with their base.

Please call your Missouri House representative and tell them you oppose all changes to the initiative petition process and to vote **NO** on SB 39 and SB 49. Please [click here](#) to find your representative's contact information.

TOMORROW! Missouri 2023 Voting Rights Day at the Capitol

When: Tuesday, May 2 | 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM CT

Where: Missouri Capitol | 201 W Capitol Ave.

[RSVP Here](#)

Missouri voter advocates will hold a Voting Rights Day at the Missouri State Capitol Rotunda to draw attention to pending voting bills in Missouri - including moving proactive voter access measures as well as continue to



call on lawmakers to stop the attacks on the citizen initiative process. Join advocates from across Missouri in a nonpartisan Pro-Democracy Day at the Capitol to hear what's at stake for voting rights in Missouri, get engaged, and thank lawmakers who have stood up for our freedom to vote.

NCJWSTL will be there and we would love for you to join us!

Please [click here](#) to register. If you are interested in going with NCJWSTL, please contact Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org.

Urge Missouri Senators To Stop Senate Bill 684



Protesting is as American as apple pie. Our parents and grandparents used protests to build the labor movement, expand suffrage, fight segregation and end child labor. Today we continue the tradition of protest to fight racism, protect workers and to try and save our democracy. But some politicians in Jefferson City want to silence us.

ACT NOW to stop [Senate Bill 684](#)! This dangerous bill would restrict our freedom to join together and demand justice for our communities!

Under Senate Bill 684, taking to the streets for actions like union picket lines, rallies for abortion access or marches for gun violence prevention could result in severe penalties. Senate Bill 684 is an attempt to silence our voices and criminalize democracy.

Please [click here](#) to urge your Missouri senator to vote NO on SB 684 if and when it comes up for a vote.

May Lunch and Learn - Legislative Session Wrapup with Amy Kuo Hammerman and Mandy Hagseth



Amy Kuo Hammerman
NCJWSTL State Policy
Advocacy Chair



Thursday, May 18, 2023
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT



Mandy Hagseth
The Missouri Family Health
Council's Director of Policy
& External Affairs

When: Thursday, May 18 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM CT

Where: Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

The 2023 Missouri legislative session will come to an end on May 12th. It became evident early in the session that as usual, NCJWSTL would be in the position of defending against a slew of legislation designed to harm women, children and families in our state. From the relentless attacks on trans kids to the attempts to undermine the initiative petition process, it has certainly been a doozy of a session. It can often be very difficult for the layperson to navigate its intricacies.

For our May Lunch and Learn, we are absolutely thrilled to welcome NCJWSTL State Policy Advocacy Chair Amy Kuo Hammerman and The Missouri Family Health Council's Director of Policy and External Affairs Mandy Hagseth. Both have been a constant presence in Jefferson City this session and will provide an insider's view on everything that happened in the Capitol this year.

Please [click here](#) to register for the May Lunch and Learn. Questions? Email Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org or call 314.993.5181

Disarming Antisemitism With ADL's Cheryl Drazin



When: Thursday, June 1 | 10:30 - 11:30 AM

Where: NCJWSTL Office | 295 N. Lindbergh Blvd. or via Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

As hate crimes and mass shootings continue to spread across the US with little legislative reform, it becomes increasingly important to stay informed and connected with others. June is Gun Violence Awareness Month, and NCJWSTL is honored to host Cheryl Drazin from the Anti-Defamation League to speak on the connection between antisemitism and gun violence.

As Vice President of ADL's Central Division, Cheryl Drazin and her team work daily to fight antisemitism and all forms of hate in the Austin, Heartland, Michigan, Midwest, Mountain States, Plains States/CRC, Southwest and Texoma regional offices.

As a Texan, she closely watched last year when an armed man, making antisemitic statements, entered the Congregation Beth Israel synagogue in Colleyville, TX while members celebrated Shabbat morning services. This terrifying attack certainly wasn't the first act of violence based in antisemitism; and, as many experts warn, it might not be the last.

Please join us for a special program to learn more about how we can push back against this violence. There is a direct connection between antisemitism and gun violence and Cheryl will share her perspectives based on the work that ADL had done throughout the Midwest.

Please RSVP to attend either in person or on zoom - both options are available - by [clicking here](#). Space at the NCJWSTL office is limited so make your reservation today. If you have any questions, please contact Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org or call the NCJWSTL offices at 314-993-5181.

We are pleased to offer this opportunity to the community at no cost in partnership with ADL Heartland.

Donate Your Banned Books to NCJWSTL!



Did you know? NCJWSTL has a **Little Social Justice Library** in our office front vestibule where our members have the ability to check out books on a variety of social justice issues. It has been a wonderful resource for those interested in learning more about our advocacy priority issues.

Because fighting censorship and book banning is always the right thing to do, we are excited to announce that we are creating a **Little Banned Books Library** as well. As a Jewish organization, we are well aware of the ramifications of banning books. The vast majority of current banned books deal with "uncomfortable" issues like race, LGBTQ+ themes and the Holocaust.

To do our part in making banned books available, **we need your donations**. You can find a list of some of the most commonly banned books by [clicking here](#). We are happy to take donations of both new and used books. Just bring them to the NCJWSTL office!

For more information, please contact Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org.

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 2023! 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, such as birth control access and voting rights. The full-page ads will run in the St. Louis Jewish Light during 2023.

- **\$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

[Click here](#) to see the A-List flyer.

[Click here](#) to see the latest A-List Ad.

Join the A-list [here](#).

Interesting Reading



If you've eaten a burger and fries recently, there's a chance that the potatoes were picked by middle schoolers, working through the school day in a field in Idaho. The steer that became the beef patty may well have been killed at a slaughterhouse where teenagers work, and the bone saws used to process the meat could easily have been cleaned by a 13-year-old, wearing a bulky hard hat and oversized gloves. It's also

quite possible that the burger was grilled, flipped and assembled by a child working at McDonald's on a school night, far later than federal law allows.

[Click here](#) to read Teresa Cotsirilos's article from Mother Jones Magazine, "Is Your Dinner Brought to You by Child Labor?"

Transform Our Community

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CREATING CHANGE AND IMPACTING LIVES SINCE 1895



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