



ADVOCACY IN ACTION

NCJW

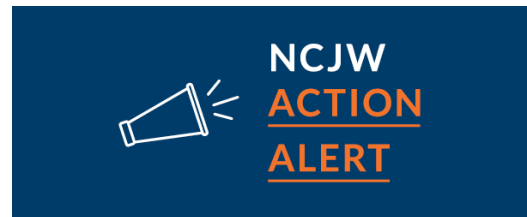
ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

At NCJWSTL, we are dedicated to tracking these legislative developments closely, focusing on bills that align with our mission of improving the lives of women, children and families.

Please [click here](#) to view the bills NCJWSTL is following and whether we are in support or in opposition. The list will be continuously updated throughout session.

Urge the Missouri Legislature to Pass the Bipartisan Women's Health Bill Now!

While we know there will be no shortage of attacks on women's health this session, the Missouri legislature also has an opportunity to pass a positive healthcare bill quickly - the Bipartisan Women's Health Bill ([SB 178](#) and [HB 398](#)).



Last year, a critical women's health bill was just one vote from final passage, but despite wide bipartisan support - including from House leadership - the bill failed to pass due to dysfunction in the Senate. Both sides of the aisle strongly support this legislation that would treat and prevent disease, including congenital syphilis; increase access to contraception; and improve Missourians' health and wellbeing.

Please [click here](#) to tell our lawmakers to **prioritize and pass the Bipartisan Women's Health Bill now!**

Tell Congress to do Something About Gun Violence

Add your voice:
America has a gun violence problem.
Congress has the power to do something about it.



Firearms are the leading cause of death for American kids and teens. Yet, legislation to save their lives — and the lives of everyone who could fall victim to gun violence — has been stalled in Congress.

We can protect our children and keep Americans safe by passing commonsense gun violence legislation that would ban ghost guns, assault weapons, high-capacity magazines, and bump stocks; require gun buyers to pass a criminal background check; close the private sale loophole; ensure safe firearm storage; temporarily prevent gun access to someone in crises; and criminalize gun trafficking.

It is a moral failure that we have not ended the gun violence epidemic plaguing our schools and our streets. It is long past time for Congress to do something about it.

[Click here](#) to call your lawmakers today and urge them to pass gun safety legislation to reduce the devastation of daily firearm violence in America.

Missouri Voting Rights Legislative Day

When: Tuesday, January 25, 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Where: Missouri State Capitol

[RSVP Here](#)

We invite you to join Missouri Voter Advocates for the 2025 Voting Rights Legislative Day at the Missouri State Capitol! This is a wonderful opportunity to delve into the critical legislation that affects our democracy and to engage directly with lawmakers.

Together, we will advocate for the protection of direct democracy through Missouri's citizen initiative process, support our dedicated election workers, and ensure that voting remains accessible for all Missourians. This nonpartisan Pro-Democracy Day at the Capitol is a chance for advocates from all over Missouri to come together, understand the stakes surrounding voting rights, and express our gratitude to lawmakers who have championed our freedom to vote. Your voice matters, and we would love for you to stand with us.

For more information or to register, please **[click here](#)**.



Save the Date: What's Happened Since Amendment 3 Passed? A Legal and Legislative Update



Senator Tracy McCreery

Legislative and Legal Update
Thursday, February 20, 2025
5:30 - 6:00 PM



Tori Schaffer



When: Thursday, February 20, 5:30 - 6:00 PM

Where: Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

Please join us on February 20th for an update on the reproductive healthcare legal and legislative landscape in Missouri. We are excited to have two dynamic speakers, Missouri State Senator Tracy McCreery and ACLU-MO's Director of Policy & Campaigns, Tori Schaffer, as they brief us on everything happening regarding Amendment 3's implementation and other repro rights happenings in the Missouri Legislature.

Please **[click here](#)** to register. There is no cost, but you must be signed up to attend. The Zoom link will be sent out the day of the event. This event is being hosted by ACCESSMO, NCJWSTL and Missouri Healthcare Professionals for Reproductive Rights.



Reproductive freedom is a Jewish value, and we're going to celebrate it!

NCJWSTL is excited to once again partner with local synagogues for our annual Shabbat celebration that honors the Jewish value of reproductive freedom. It takes place annually on *Parshat Mishpatim*, the reading of which contains the verses commonly referenced as the foundation of Judaism's approach to reproductive health, rights and justice.

Please [click here](#) for more information. If you would like your congregation to participate, please contact Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org and she will be happy to reach out to them.

ADD YOUR NAME and Help Us Oppose Censorship of Our Public Libraries

Protect Missouri's Libraries! Join the Right to Read Coalition by [clicking here](#).

For those who have already joined, thank you! Check our member list to see who supports us...and if you've already joined by [clicking here](#).

Right to Read is a statewide coalition of 1,000 individuals and nearly 100 organizations. The coalition opposes legislative, state policy or other efforts to restrict access to materials at public and school libraries.



Censorship denies our First Amendment rights to access books that reflect our diverse community:

- Missouri ranked third nationally in 2023 for the number of books banned at school libraries.
- 60% of banned books in the U.S. include characters of color and discussed issues of race and racism or presented LGBTQ+ characters or themes.

Laws and policies enacted recently have led to book bans and harmful regulations on our libraries. **We expect more censorship efforts in Missouri in 2025.**

Add your voice to thousands of Missourians to fight censorship and book bans!

Please [click here](#) to add your name as an individual member of the coalition. For more information, please e-mail the coalition at righttoreadcoalition@gmail.com.

Get FREE Emergency Contraception at NCJWSTL!

NCJWSTL is thrilled to announce that we have partnered with the [Missouri Family Health Council](#) (MFHC) to distribute **FREE emergency contraception kits!** This effort is vitally important in the wake of last year's Supreme Court decision overturning *Roe vs. Wade*,



especially in states like Missouri where abortion is illegal. Everyone should have the right to determine when and if they wish to start a family, and emergency contraception is vital in preventing unwanted pregnancies.

Also known as the morning-after pill, or by the brand name Plan B, the emergency contraception pill is an over-the-counter form of birth control that can be taken up to five days after unprotected sex to avoid pregnancy. The goal of this effort is to reduce geographic and financial barriers Missourians face in accessing emergency

contraception pills.

While supplies last, MFHC, NCJWSTL, and other partner organizations are offering free EC kits to anyone of any age. **Feel free to stop by the NCJWSTL office to pick up your kit - for you or a loved one.**

If you have any questions, please contact Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org. You can also order an emergency contraception kit by mail by [clicking here](#).

Take Action & Join the A-List

Now more than ever you will want to ensure that your name is on NCJWSTL's A-List for 2024! 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 2024.



- **\$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



For decades, research has indicated that mifepristone may be a safe and effective contraceptive. Still, no one has conducted a large clinical trial to produce the evidence required to form the basis for government approval of the drug for this use—until now.

Pioneering reproductive health advocate Dr. Rebecca Gomperts announced on Dec. 24 preliminary results of a large clinical trial in Moldova showing that a 50 mg dose of mifepristone is as effective as a weekly contraceptive pill.

[Click here](#) to read Carrie N. Baker's article from Ms. Magazine, "Mifepristone as Weekly Contraceptive Performs 'Beyond Expectations' in Clinical Trials."

Not yet a member of NCJWSTL? [Click here](#) to become part of a growing network of courageous and compassionate individuals who improve the lives of women, children, and families every day. You don't have to be a woman or Jewish to join!

Donate to Support NCJWSTL &
Transform Our Community

NCJWSTL

National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis



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