



**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.

Advocacy Series Hot Topics Brunch: Trump's First 90 Days



**Sunday, March 30, 2025
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM CT**

*Sheldon Weisgrau, MHS
VP of Health Policy & Advocacy
Missouri Foundation for Health*

When: Sunday, March 30 | 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Where: NCJWSTL Office | 295 North Lindbergh Blvd.

[RSVP Here](#)

In just a couple of months, the Trump administration has come roaring out of the gates with a breathtaking flurry of activity that has raised significant questions about the scope of presidential authority and the balance of power in the federal government.

Join NCJWSTL to nosh and learn more about the first 90 days of Trump's presidency as we bring back our Hot Topics Brunch series. It's the perfect opportunity to dive into meaningful discussions about Trump's executive orders, mass layoffs, freezes on federal grants, the closure of federal agencies, and more.

For this Hot Topics Brunch, we are excited to welcome Sheldon Weisgrau, MHS, the Vice President of Health Policy and Advocacy for the Missouri Foundation for Health, who brings four decades of experience to his position leading the Foundation's health policy, advocacy, and government affairs functions. Bring your appetite for knowledge - this is one event you won't want to miss!

The Hot Topics Brunch is free of charge, but please [click here](#) to register by March

Protect Direct Democracy in MO - Urge Your State Senator to Vote NO on SB 22 Today



SB 22 is a dangerous effort to prevent courts from rewriting ballot measures that are found to be unlawful due to deceptive writing meant to confuse voters. This power grab by the legislature would give politicians (the general assembly or the Secretary of State) veto power over any measure they dislike allowing them to run out the clock on a time sensitive process. There would be zero checks and balances on misleading and unlawful summaries

leaving voters with politicized biased information. Should SCS SB22 become law, one can imagine scenarios where, once courts find summary language unlawful, politicians continue to write and rewrite biased summaries.

The non-partisan initiative petition process is hugely popular with Missouri voters having been used to propose both progressive and conservative policies. Missouri voters value this 100+ year-old ability to have a direct say over measures that can change their lives.

Please [click here](#) to urge your Senator to vote NO on SB 22.

Tell Congress: Support the Right to Contraception

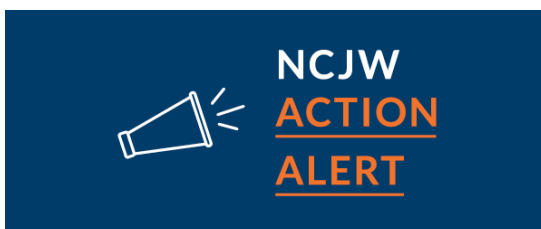
Guided by our Jewish values, NCJW has long affirmed the need for access to family planning, including contraceptives. The Right to Contraception Act ([HR 999/S 422](#)), introduced by Representative Lizzie Fletcher (D-TX) and Senator Edward Markey (D-MA), reaffirms the right to use birth control first recognized by the Supreme Court more than half a century ago in *Griswold v. Connecticut*.



This bicameral legislation would protect unrestricted access to contraception amidst growing threats by ensuring the legal right for individuals to use contraception and practitioners to provide it, along with related information. Enshrining the right to contraception into federal law would reverse steps already taken by state legislatures to restrict access and ensure that any future court rulings would not endanger access to this essential health care.

Please [click here](#) to contact your lawmakers and urge them to support and pass the Right to Contraception Act to protect birth control access for all.

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



NCJWSTL Testified in support of this bill last week. Let's keep the pressure on MOLEG to get it past the finish line this session!

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!**

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 2025! 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 2025.



- **\$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



On Nov. 5, 2024, voters in the Texas Panhandle city of Amarillo resoundingly defeated a proposition that would have declared their town a "sanctuary city for the unborn." Amarillo now enjoys the distinction of being the first city in the U.S. where voters rejected a post-Roe abortion travel ban. This marks a powerful repudiation of Mark Lee Dickson, founder of the antiabortion group Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn, and


his claims that travel bans are desperately needed to stop "baby-murdering abortion cartels" from whisking women and their fetuses across state lines to legally "kill" them.

[Click here](#) to read Shoshanna Ehrlich's article from Ms. Magazine, "Grassroots Power: How Amarillo Became the First City to Reject an Abortion Travel Ban."

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!

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Transform Our Community

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