



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 Governor Kehoe to Reject SB 22

Last week, the Missouri House voted to pass [SB 22](#), which would create new provisions relating to the treatment of summary statements prepared by the Missouri General Assembly for ballot measures. It is now headed to the Governor's desk. **In short, it's a dangerous effort by lawmakers to undermine voter rights and judicial integrity.**



NCJW
ACTION
ALERT

Dubbed the "Let Politicians Lie Act" by critics, SB 22 is a dangerous effort by politicians to block impartial courts from rewriting deceptive ballot language that is meant to confuse voters. This power grab by the legislature would give partisan politicians power to veto any measure they dislike, allowing them to run out the clock during an election cycle, and prevent voters from having their voices heard. **Missouri voters value this 100+ year-old ability to have a direct say** over measures that can change their lives.

Please call Governor Kehoe today at [573-751-3222](tel:573-751-3222) and tell him to veto SB 22 and uphold the rights of voters to fair and honest elections.

Tell Congress to Restore Federal Funding for Museums and Libraries



Senator Josh Hawley
[Contact via website](#)
Phone: [202-224-6154](tel:202-224-6154)

Senator Eric Schmitt
[Contact via website](#)
Phone: [202-224-5721](tel:202-224-5721)

Find Your Representative: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

The only federal agency that funds library services - [The Institute of Museum and Library Services](#) - is being dismantled due to an Executive Order by President Trump.

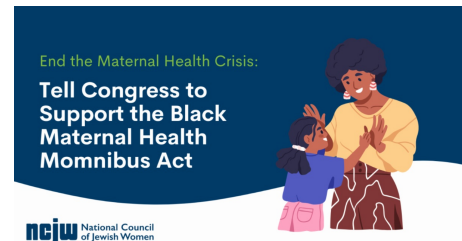
As a result, Missouri libraries are likely to lose \$3 million annually used for critical education and technology needs that benefit the community. For example, **The St. Louis Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum's** IMLS grant to digitize invaluable Holocaust survivor testimonies has been terminated. While they have received an incredibly generous anonymous donation to help restore that funding, it should not have come to this.

Library funding is less than 0.003% of the annual federal budget, yet the services it makes possible have an enormous impact on communities nationwide.

Please contact Senators Hawley and Schmitt and your Representative at the links above and demand they restore federal funding to museums and libraries.

Tell Congress to Support the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act

Our country is experiencing a maternal and reproductive health care crisis. Despite being the richest country in the world, the US has the highest maternal mortality rate among developed nations. More than 80% of pregnancy-related deaths are preventable, and tragically, Black mothers die of pregnancy complications at nearly three times the rate of white mothers.



[The Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act](#) is a package of 13 bills that seeks to comprehensively address the maternal health crisis. Because Black women are more likely to experience complications, receive inadequate care, and face systemic barriers to reproductive health due to structural and medical racism, the Momnibus works within and beyond the health care system to make birthing safer for people of color. Bills include investments in nutrition, transportation, and housing programs; expansion and diversification of the perinatal workforce; improvements to data collection processes; and support for community-based organizations.

Please [click here](#) to urge your lawmakers to support the Black Maternal Health Momnibus today!

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.



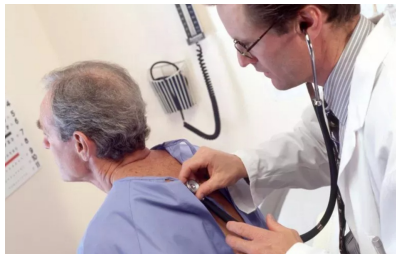
- **\$18** includes your name in the ad.
- **\$54** makes you an Advocate Plus with your name in bold.
- **\$72** makes you a sponsor with your name distinguished in color.

[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 March 27, 2025, the federal government announced major cuts to the department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Average Americans could be impacted by these changes through reduced access to early education, family planning and health care, natural disaster response, and more. But the reality of these cuts, which deserves far more attention than it has received, is the disproportionate impact they could have on older adults.

[Click here](#) to read Kristen Lees Haggerty and Scott Bane's article from Newsweek, "HHS Cuts Pose Threat to Older Americans' Health and Safety."

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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