



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 Lunch and Learn: Immigration Updates with Jason Baker, Ph.D.



Thursday, April 17, 2025
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT

Jason Baker, Ph.D.

When: Thursday, April 17 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Where: Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

Immigrants and refugees come to the U.S. seeking better lives for themselves and their families. Yet billions of dollars are being spent to increase immigration law enforcement and raids to detain and deport immigrants — including children — with increasing frequency, tearing families and communities apart in the process.

As NCJWSTL continues to fight back against xenophobic, anti-immigrant, and anti-refugee policies to ensure that our country continues to be a welcoming place, we are thrilled to welcome Jason Baker, Ph.D., the Executive Director of Monarch Immigrant Services to speak at our April Lunch and Learn.

[Monarch Immigrant Services](#) was founded in 2002 by stateless refugee women. Its mission is strengthening immigrant and refugee communities through equitable access to transformative services. Monarch's services are rooted in integrity, responsiveness, collaboration, inclusiveness, and joy. They are dedicated to making St. Louis a compassionate, diverse, and strong community where everyone can thrive.

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

Tell Your Senators to Vote NO on HCS #2



NCJW ACTION ALERT

Last November, Missourians voted in favor of Proposition A to raise the minimum wage to \$15 by 2026 and to guarantee earned paid sick leave for Missouri workers. Proposition A passed with nearly 58 percent of the vote, passing in 106 state house districts (52 districts represented by Democrats and 54 represented by Republicans).

The Missouri Senate is likely to bring HCS #2, which includes [HB 567](#), [HB 546](#), [HB 758](#) and [HB 958](#), to a floor debate soon. HCS #2 would completely repeal the paid sick leave provision in Proposition A.

In addition to harming Missourians economically, this will also put survivors of intimate partner violence in danger. By removing key protections that afford survivors the opportunity to seek safety and care for themselves and their children through paid leave for work, they may be forced to stay with their abuser.

Please [click here](#) to find your Missouri Senator's contact information and call them today to urge them to vote NO on HCS #2.

Save our Democracy: Stop the SAVE Act!

Equal access to the ballot box is the foundation of a just democracy. Unfortunately, some policymakers want to misuse disinformation about our elections and conspiracies about noncitizen voting to block access to the ballot for millions of Americans. [The Safeguard American Voter Eligibility \(SAVE\) Act](#) would require all voters to present a birth certificate, passport, or one of a select few other documents each time they register or re-register to vote. This bill also eliminates or upends key methods of voter registration such as registration by mail.



What could this legislation do if passed? Millions of Americans cannot easily access the documents the SAVE Act requires and without them, would not be able to register to vote — and therefore would be barred from voting entirely. This includes scores of younger voters, voters of color, elderly voters, and millions of married women who changed their legal name after getting married, meaning their name does not match their birth certificate.

The SAVE Act is dangerous. It will disenfranchise millions of citizens and will fundamentally disrupt democracy's sacred promise of ensuring every voice is heard.

Please [click here](#) to urge your members of Congress to save our democracy and vote NO on the dangerous SAVE Act!

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:

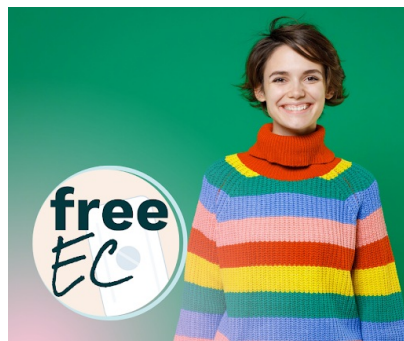
- Missouri ranked third nationally in 2023 for the number of books banned at school libraries.
- 60% of banned books in the U.S. include characters of color and discussed issues of race and racism or presented LGBTQ+ characters or themes.

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



In a move that underscores the alarming consequences of Texas' near-total abortion ban, state Attorney General Ken Paxton has announced the arrest of Maria Margarita Rojas, a midwife accused of providing illegal abortion services. The charges of illegal performance of an abortion and practicing medicine without a license could lead to decades behind bars for Rojas, making her one of the first individuals criminally prosecuted under the state's draconian anti-abortion laws.

[Click here](#) to read Giovanna DeStefanis' article from the *Feminist Majority*, "Texas Midwife's Arrest Marks a Chilling Escalation in the War on Abortion Rights."

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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